

students who are qualified to go to college, and may boost a student's motivation to succeed in high school so they are ready for the test. We feel that this is an important issue that is worth looking into.

ON BEHALF OF ANGELA DEBLASIO AND LYNNE CLOUGH—REGARDING "RICH MAN'S RETURN" ON BUSH'S TAX CUT, MAY 7, 2001

Angela DeBlasio. President Bush has proposed a very large federal tax cut as the centerpiece of his campaign. The \$1.9 trillion ten-year cost of the plan would use up more than all the projected surpluses over the next ten years. Most of the proposed tax cuts will go to the upper-income taxpayers, with 43 percent of the tax cut targeted to the top 1 percent.

Lynne Clough. The cost of President George W. Bush's plan is enormous. Based on the official projections from the Congressional Budget Office and the Joint Committee on Taxation, the Bush tax cut would use up slightly more than all of the projected surpluses over the first ten years. Over the fiscal period 2002 to 2011, the Bush tax cut would cost \$1.9 trillion, while the projected surpluses are \$1.8 trillion. In fact, the Bush tax cuts' effects on the surpluses are even greater than that. Besides, the official surplus projections are substantially overstated because of other factors, such as the adjustment for federal appropriations and inflation, and without adjustment for population growth or real wage growth. Thus, in far likelihood, the Bush tax cuts would use up far more than the likely surpluses over the next decade. That would require dipping more heavily into social security and the Medicare trust funds to cover the cost of the tax cuts.

Angela DeBlasio. The proposed tax cut by President Bush is not only grossly unfair, fiscally irresponsible, and economically ineffective, it would also do substantial harm to long-term financial needs of Vermont. Under the Bush proposal, a millionaire family would receive \$40,000 in tax break, while the average Vermont citizen making \$40,000 will receive only \$600. Despite a \$5 trillion national debt and the possibility of a recession around the corner, Republicans are proposing radical and permanent changes in our tax code, which will go into effect regardless of the future condition of the economy and whether projected federal surpluses ever materialize. While the Bush plan is bad for the nation, it is also bad for Vermont. That is because our income tax code is piggybacked on the federal tax code. It is projected that Vermont would lose about \$300 million over a ten-year period if Bush's plans were enacted. That would translate into higher property taxes, substantial cuts in education and police protection, not to mention other needs.

Lynne Clough. The President argues that his plan would act as a stimulus in the event of an economic downturn. Congressman Sanders, this is not so. The Bush plan provides most of the tax breaks in later years, which means they have only a minor impact, if any, on the health of today's economy. Furthermore, most economists believe a tax break for the middle class are more likely to spend the money immediately. This would have a greater impact on economy than a tax break for the rich.

Angela DeBlasio. Congressman Sanders, we must not enact a tax cut, especially one that is so incredibly large, jeopardizes the funding of other important policies, and that would return us to the days of deficit spending.

Lynne Clough. We also must not provide tax cuts that are little more than welfare for the rich, as President Bush would have us do.

Therefore, we should not allow any form of such a tax cut. Congressman Sanders, how can we even think about a tax cut when President Bush is foolishly planing to build a missile defense system, when we already have a failing social security system, as well as a deteriorating education system, which needs American tax dollars? Please agree with us that there shouldn't be any form of a tax cut.

Angela DeBlasio. Democratic National Committee Chairman Terry McGoffrey said a tax cut should be one that's fair to all Americans, and must be part of a responsible, honest budget that balances all of our priorities important to American families. While Bush is predicting a recession to sell his giant tax cut, he is simultaneously proposing to slash the very initiatives that American families will need if the economy does slow down. Bush's backward talk on the economy and retrograde budget is a recipe for disaster.

Lynne Clough. Thank you, Congressman Sanders.

H.R.—A BILL TO ENSURE A UNIFORM STANDARD FOR THE SECURITY, USE AND PROTECTION OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL INFORMATION

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce a bill to ensure a single uniform standard for the security, use and protection of consumer financial information. This bill will temporarily establish the standard set forth in the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act as the uniform standard for financial privacy. This provides the Congress and the Administration the necessary time to evaluate the potentially negative impacts of multiple, uncoordinated state regulatory schemes on consumers, intelligence gathering, law enforcement, and our economy.

The Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act's provisions on the use of consumer financial information, which went into effect on July 1 of this year, establish a national standard on the use and security of such financial information. Private financial institutions have undertaken great efforts to retool and restructure their information management systems to comply with this important national standard. Across the nation, however, some state legislatures are poised to consider state legislation that would establish different standards for the use and security of consumer financial information. While the consideration is permitted under Gramm-Leach-Bliley, I am urging my colleagues to join me in imposing a temporary moratorium on state laws that would undermine the uniform national standard under Gramm-Leach-Bliley.

As my colleagues know, I am a very strong advocate for the protection of private personal information. I have aggressively pursued the enactment of federal legislation, such as Title V of Gramm-Leach-Bliley, to protect consumer financial information. As we all know, the Internet, information technology systems, and the development of electronic commerce, have reshaped our society and have presented special risks for the protection of privacy of personal financial information.

At the time Gramm-Leach-Bliley was originally enacted, it was thought that the

states could, over time, provide enhancements to the federal protections set forth in the Act. However, at this time, as the Congress and the Administration are investigating how to streamline intelligence gathering procedures that do not undermine the underlying protections in the law for the privacy of law-abiding citizens, the prospect of the creation of a fragmented "patchwork quilt" of potentially fifty different state laws represents a great threat to the security of customer financial information and to our need to establish a coordinated intelligence gathering and law enforcement effort.

The Attorney General has testified that: "We need speed in identifying and tracking down terrorists. Time is of the essence. The ability of law enforcement to trace communications into different jurisdictions without obtaining an additional court order can be the difference between life and death for American citizens." This is particularly true of financial information. A recent GAO Report that analyzed current risks to the Nation's infrastructure arising from cyber terrorism states that "Information sharing and coordination among private-sector and government organizations are essential to thoroughly understanding cyber threats and quickly identifying and mitigating attacks."

Varying laws from state to state would require financial institutions to fragment their financial records into several databases, requiring literally thousands of information technology specialists to create very complex computer and network systems to comply with each different standard of each different state. This process, by itself, would expose private financial information to increased risks of security breaches. Reduced privacy protection due to more human access through IT professionals, and more complex fragmented data management systems, risk leaving more "backdoors" that may be exploited by those who would seek to abuse the systems and hide illegal transactions.

This "patchworking" process threatens to be at odds with efforts of law enforcement. Placing the burden of complying with varying state-imposed regimes at this time would severely hinder the ability of financial institutions to respond to law enforcement subpoenas to search and retrieve financial information. The resulting delay could spell failure of time-sensitive investigations involving the tracking of assets passing through criminal and terrorist networks and could require the duplication of law enforcement efforts across 50 jurisdictions with differing standards and statutes. Finally, a lack of uniformity would impair market efficiencies that rely on the free flow of information and would harm consumers.

Specifically, this bill would impose a three-year moratorium on additional state laws that would affect the security, use and protection of consumer financial information, giving time for Congress, the Executive Branch, and the Judicial Branch to develop and implement appropriate measures to streamline and improve intelligence gathering procedures. During this time, the previously agreed to national standard set forth in the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, which already has been implemented throughout our economy, would govern the protection of consumer financial information.

The bill would also establish a Commission to study the issues raised by laws relating to use and security of consumer information and their impact on the economy, consumers and

intelligence gathering procedures. Congress and the states will then be able to adequately study the benefits of a uniform financial information protection law and balance the needs of national security and the benefits of the free flow of information against the appropriate level of protection for consumers.

I ask my colleagues to support this bill to ensure a national standard to preserve the uniform treatment and protection of consumer financial information during this critical time.

HONORING EVONNE STEPHENSON

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Evonne Stephenson for her public service in California's Madera County. After many years of dedicated service in various clerical positions, Mrs. Stephenson is retiring as Madera City Clerk.

Mrs. Stephenson graduated from California State University, Fresno, with a degree in Secretarial Science. Her career began with the Madera County District Attorney's Office, where she served two years as a secretary. From there she went into private industry at such businesses as IADCO, Anderson Clayton and FMC Corporation. She returned to public service in 1990 as an Administrative Secretary for the City of Madera. In 1992, she became Deputy City Clerk for Madera before being appointed to City Clerk in 1993.

As an Administrative Secretary, Stephenson arranged and attended all Planning Commission meetings, prepared minutes, did follow-up work in connection with the meetings, as well as maintained department files and provided information to the public. As Deputy City Clerk, she performed such duties as administering oaths of office and elections, preparation and distribution of public notices, declarations, ordinances, and resolutions, as well as maintaining files of official city documents. After being appointed to City Clerk, she received her Certified Municipal Clerk title in 1996.

Mrs. Stephenson will officially retire on November 9, 2001. A retirement dinner is scheduled for the same date to be held at Madera's Municipal Golf Course.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Evonne Stephenson for her years of public service to Madera County. I wish Mrs. Stephenson continued success in the years to come.

A BIRTHDAY SALUTE TO MADALE WATSON

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2001

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged today to ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to my friend, Madale Watson, who celebrated her 90th birthday last week.

Madale has been a fixture in Democratic politics in the state of California since her service in James Harvey Brown's Assembly

campaigns in 1948 and 1950. Born into a political family, her father was the District Coordinator for Congressman Jerry Voorhes.

A pioneer and strong advocate for the participation of women in politics and governance, she twice was a candidate herself for the California Assembly. Building on her own political experience, she served as the treasurer of numerous campaigns for Democratic candidates.

She was appointed to the Democratic State Central Committee in the 1950s and served as its Vice Chair. She was the treasurer of the California Democratic Party's Southern Division from 1971 to 1977. Coordinator of far too many political dinners to count, she won special notice for her work for President John F. Kennedy in 1962.

She attended five national party conventions.

This remarkable woman didn't confine herself to politics. She was also Chair of the California State Board of Registered Nursing and a Member of the Board of the California Public Employees Retirement System.

Friend to innumerable political figures, none of them dared be self-important around Madale Watson. She knew exactly how to cut a person down to size. Her irrepressible personality, her endless energy and her quick wit made her much beloved by all privileged to know her.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in birthday greetings to a California legend—Madale Watson.

HONORING CAL RIPKEN, JR.

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to pay tribute to one of America's great role models, both on and off the field. For those of us in the Metropolitan Washington area still yearning for a team of our own, the Baltimore Orioles are our home team, and Cal Ripken the long time leader of the pack.

On June 18, at age 41, Cal Ripken announced he was leaving the game he loved after 21 seasons to spend more time with his family and devote more energy to his youth baseball endeavors in his home town of Aberdeen, Maryland.

"It's inevitable that you can't play forever," he said. "I've maximized my window of opportunity as well as anyone. Baseball has given me a lot of joy and happiness and satisfaction. I'm proud of what I've been able to do."

Cal's place in baseball history would have been secure even without The Streak of 2,632 straight games. He came to the Baltimore Orioles as a rookie on August 10, 1981, 14 days shy of his 21st birthday. He won the American League's Rookie of the Year award in 1982 and its Most Valuable Player award in 1983 and again in 1991; set the American League record for assists by a short stop for single season in 1984; became only the second player in major league history to be named the league's Most Valuable Player, Major League Player of the Year, All-Star Game MVP, and winner of a Gold Glove in the same season in 1991; led AL Shortstops in assists for 7

straight seasons, setting the new league record in 1993; became the Orioles all-time leader with 819 extra base hits in 1996; hit his 400th home run in 1999, and recorded his 3,000th hit in 2000.

Cal's history of community involvement mirrors the type of dedication and commitment he's famous for on the field. Cal actively supports his community in a variety of ways, including the establishment of The Kelly and Cal Ripken, Jr. Foundation, which supports community adult and family literacy in the greater Baltimore area. Additionally, the Cal Ripken, Jr./Lou Gehrig ALS Research Fund at Johns Hopkins was established in September 1995 in commemoration of Cal's record-breaking feat.

Cal Ripken came to be identified strongly with the city in which he played, his work ethic reflecting Baltimore's working class pride. He grew up outside Baltimore and played his entire professional career in the Orioles' organization. That, unfortunately, is all-too-rare an occurrence today.

In closing Mr. Speaker, three words sum up Cal Ripken Jr. as both player and citizen—excellence, dependability and consistency.

HONORING THE MONROE BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 75th ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2001

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Monroe Business and Professional Women (BPW) on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary. The Monroe County Chapter of the BPW was founded in 1926 with Lydia Schmeising presiding as the first president.

It would be hard to understate the success of the Monroe BPW in advocating on behalf of all women. The formal and informal networking, mentoring and resources the BPW provides its members has helped promote and advance the careers of hundreds of women throughout its 75 year history. The leadership the BPW has provided on issues such as gender and pay equity are but two examples of its effectiveness as a forum for advocating women's issues.

One of the more subtle accomplishments of the BPW is the manner in which it has quietly persisted throughout its history. No one needs to be reminded of the difficult times in which we live or through which we have come during the past 75 years. And yet the Monroe BPW has continued on as both an anchor in times of turbulence and as a guiding light during times of prosperity for the women of the Monroe community.

It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge and commend to your attention the enduring contributions the BPW has made to the greater Monroe community on the occasion of their 75th Anniversary, celebrated October 10, 2001. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting the accomplishments and the 75th anniversary of the Monroe Business and Professional Women.