

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF PETER T. MILLER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Peter T. Miller, the chief photographer for WKYC Channel 3 in Cleveland, Ohio and winner of eight Emmy awards.

A graduate of Kent State University in the 1950's, Mr. Miller began his 42-year career as a television cameraman in Cleveland with WJW Channel 8 in 1959. During his time there, he received Emmy awards from the Cleveland regional chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for documentaries about the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus and the Hattie Larlham Foundation and for an entertainment feature about the Singing Angels. In 1985, Mr. Miller began his work at Channel 3, where in 1986 he received honors for Individual Achievement in News Videography for a Halloween series. In 1998 he was part of the WKYC team that took first place honors for its report, "On Schindler's List", from the Association for Women in Communications.

Fellow photographers marveled at Mr. Miller's work ethic, sense of teamwork, understanding of a story and artful eye. Traveling tirelessly in order to document the day's happenings, he was often seen locally attending football games, visiting nursing homes, observing school board meetings, or covering urban riots. He even took his camera abroad, showing Greater Clevelanders sites from around the world from music concerts to the Persian Gulf War.

My fellow colleagues, please join me today in honoring the memory of Peter T. Miller, a gifted television photographer whose dedication and passion for his life's work provided Clevelanders with valuable images of important events from around the world.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARY JANE GARDNER

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2001

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today and honor Ms. Mary Jane Gardner of my 34th Congressional District in Pico Rivera, California. Later this month, Ms. Gardner will be awarded the "Club Woman of the Year" award by the Pio Pico Woman's Club for her invaluable public service to her community.

Mary Jane was born on December 30, 1921 in Walla Walla, Washington. After finishing high school and a year of business college, she went to work at a local bank in Walla Walla. During World War II, Mary Jane met a young aviator named Garth Gardner who was

in Walla Walla for training at the local air base. The two married upon his return from the South Pacific in 1945.

After the marriage ceremony, Garth was discharged from the service and the two settled in Pico Rivera in 1950. They raised three sons, John, Gregory and Jeffrey, and became active in local community affairs. Mary Jane was PTA President and helped Garth establish his political career. She served as first lady of Pico Rivera eight times while her husband served as mayor. She helped organize various political functions and gave much of her time to different causes and organizations in and around Pico Rivera.

Mary Jane has shown true commitment to public service while also raising a family. All of Pico Rivera's citizens are grateful for her service and dedication to her community and wish her many more future successes.

IN HONOR OF THE NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES ON MARCH 2, 2001

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2001

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, this past Saturday, 21 National Guardsmen lost their lives when their C-23 transport plane crashed. The guard members were returning from a training mission in Florida—one of the pilots lived in my district.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of these soldiers, and this tragedy serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made by those who serve and protect our country.

Mr. Speaker, last week, both the House and Senate passed resolutions honoring the life of NASCAR great, Dale Earnhardt, who was killed in the Daytona 500. I, of course share in the admiration of his life and the remorse in his death.

I do want to make the point, however, that the guardsmen who lost their lives on Saturday were no less dedicated to their jobs, their families, or their communities. The men and women in our armed services place their lives on the line daily, where even routine training missions can carry the same risk as actual combat.

So I ask my colleagues to remember those who serve our Nation. They may not have the notoriety, but their service is immeasurable.

IN MEMORY OF MATTHEW "MACK" ROBINSON

HON. ADAM SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2001

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, the Pasadena branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is celebrating its

18th Annual Ruby McKnight Williams Awards Banquet on March 8, 2001 and I would like to join in honoring the memory of a famed Pasadena native son, Matthew "Mack" Robinson.

Mack Robinson was a world-class athlete. Competing in the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin, Germany, he won a silver medal in the 200-meter run, crossing the finish line just a step behind that great Olympian, Jesse Owens. Mack's roots in Pasadena ran deep. He was a track star at Pasadena City College in 1938, the same year his younger brother, future Dodgers' great Jackie Robinson, lettered there in four sports. Mack set national junior college records in the 100- and 200-meter runs and in the long jump. When the Olympic games were held in Los Angeles in 1984, Mack helped carry the Olympic flag into Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. He cared deeply for his community and, later in life, was renowned for leading the fight against street crime in Pasadena.

One of Mack's great causes was ensuring a monument was built in his hometown to honor his brother, the man who in 1947 broke major league baseball's color barrier. The Pasadena Robinson Memorial, honoring both brothers, was dedicated in 1997. Pasadena City College last year renamed its stadium to honor the pioneering brothers and Congress last year approved naming the post office at 600 Lincoln Avenue in Pasadena, California, as the "Matthew 'Mack' Robinson Post Office Building."

Sadly, Mack died at the age of 88 in Pasadena on March 12, 2000.

Mr. Speaker, I join the Pasadena NAACP in saluting Mack Robinson for the shining example he presented in sports and in life. Mack Robinson was truly a champion in all he did.

IN HONOR OF DOROTHY OLIVIA GREENWOOD TOLLIVER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Dorothy Olivia Greenwood Tolliver. Dorothy was a great servant of the people of Cleveland and leader of the African-American community. Her recent death, at the age of 80, is a sorrowful event for the entire Cleveland, Ohio community.

After graduating from Kent State and pursuing further studies at The Julliard School of Music in New York, she returned to Cleveland and began working for the U.S. Government making maps to use during World War II. After the war, Dorothy taught briefly in Medina, and in 1948 she returned to Cleveland to become a part of the Cleveland School System where she remained until her retirement in 1986.

As a young child, Dorothy was blessed with the gift of musical ability. With her long-lasting passion of music and the arts, she performed

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

in several productions. Her love for music was planted in her many students as a music teacher. While in the Cleveland Public School System, Dorothy directed numerous performances.

Dorothy Olivia Greenwood Tolliver was a life long member of the NAACP, and the National Council of Negro Women. Her civic activities included the Phyllis Wheatley Association, juvenile justice, Project Friendship, Volunteer Guardianship Program, Upward Bound, City Club, and the League of Women Voters. One of her noted prestigious movements was opening the Neighborhood Book Shoppe, the first book store in Ohio that featured books about African-American history by African-American authors, the only store of its kind between New York City and Chicago.

After her career as a teacher ended, Dorothy spent her remaining years supporting her husband's efforts while serving on the Cleveland School Board and continuing his civil rights law practice.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me today in honoring the memory of this great community leader and role model.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BERT CORONA

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2001

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the Latino community's most devout civil rights and labor leaders. Mr. Bert Corona passed away January 15, 2001 in Los Angeles following a series of recent health problems. His death was a watershed in Latino and labor history.

Born on May 29, 1918 in El Paso, Texas, Mr. Corona spent his childhood moving back and forth between El Paso and the Mexican city of Chihuahua. As a student at the University of Southern California, he became involved in the labor ferment of the 1930's. He was elected President of Local 26 of the International Longshoreman and Warehouse Union where he was a close political ally of Harry Bridges, one of labor's most progressive leaders.

During World War II, Bert served in the United States Army Air Corps as a paratrooper and a surgical assistant. Following the war, Mr. Corona returned to his activist role founding organizations that promoted the empowerment of Latinos and working with great determination to end discrimination among minorities. In the 1960's he founded CASA and Hermandad Mexican, housing and immigrants rights organizations. Bert also helped found the Mexican American Political Association, one of California's oldest Latino political organizations.

In 1993, Corona published "Memories of Chicano History," his autobiography written with Mario T. Garcia. The book has become a staple in Chicano and ethnic studies courses at universities throughout the country. Throughout his life, Bert himself taught at several universities including Stanford and the California State campuses of San Diego, Northridge, Fullerton and Los Angeles.

It was Bert Corona's vision that helped build the foundation to pave the way for Latino advancement in our society. Many Latino leaders

of today, including myself, are the beneficiaries of his pioneering efforts. His life offers an invaluable lesson about Latino leadership in the past and provides an inspiring guide for future empowerment and contributions to the American social fabric.

I extend my heartfelt sympathies to his wife Angelina, daughter Margo De Ley, sons David, Frank and Ernesto Corona and grandchildren Baltazar De Ley, Lisa and Clarity Corona.

H.R. 860, THE MULTIDISTRICT, MULTIPARTY, MULTIFORUM TRIAL JURISDICTION ACT OF 2001

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2001

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Multidistrict, Multiparty, Multiforum Trial Jurisdiction Act of 2001.

This legislation addresses two important issues in the world of complex, multidistrict litigation. Section 2 of the bill would reverse the effects of the 1998 Supreme Court decision in the so-called *Lexecon* case. It would simply amend the multidistrict litigation statute by explicitly allowing a transferee court to retain jurisdiction over referred cases for trial, or refer them to other districts, as it sees fit. In fact, section 2 only codifies what had constituted ongoing judicial practice for nearly 30 years prior to the *Lexecon* decision.

Section 3 addresses a particular specie of complex litigation—so-called "disaster" cases, such as those involving airline accidents. The language set forth in my bill is a revised version of a concept which, beginning in the 101st Congress, has been supported by the Department of Justice, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, two previous Democratic Congresses, and one previous Republican Congress. Section 3 will help to reduce litigation costs as well as the likelihood of forum shopping in single-accident mass tort cases. All plaintiffs in these cases will ordinarily be situated identically, making the case for consolidation of their actions especially compelling. These types of disasters—with their hundreds of thousands of plaintiffs and numerous defendants—have the potential to impair the orderly administration of justice in federal courts for an extended period of time.

Mr. Speaker, during the eleventh-hour negotiations with the Senate last term, I offered to make three changes in an effort to generate greater support for the bill. As a show of good faith, I incorporate those changes in the bill I am introducing today. They consist of the following:

First, a plaintiff must allege at least \$150,000 in damages (up from \$75,000) to file in U.S. district court.

Second, an exception to the minimum diversity rule is created: A U.S. district court may not hear any case in which a "substantial majority" of plaintiffs and the "primary" defendants are citizens of the same state; and in which the claims asserted are governed "primarily" by the laws of that same state. In other words, only state courts may hear such cases.

Third, the choice-of-law section will be stricken. It confers too much discretionary au-

thority on a federal judge to select the relevant law that will apply in a given case.

In sum, Mr. Speaker, this legislation speaks to process, fairness, and judicial efficiency. It will not interfere with jury verdicts or compensation rates for litigators. I therefore urge my colleagues to join me in a bipartisan effort to support the Multidistrict, Multiparty, Multiforum Jurisdiction Act of 2001.

THE "CHILD SUPPORT FAIRNESS AND FEDERAL TAX REFUND INTERCEPTION ACT OF 2001"

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2001

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Child Support Fairness and Federal Tax Refund Interception Act of 2001." This legislation expands the eligibility of one of our most effective means of enforcing child support orders—intercepting the Federal tax refunds of parents delinquent in paying their court-ordered financial support for their children. Under current law, the Federal tax refund offset program operated by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is limited to cases where the child is either a minor or a disabled adult.

It goes without saying that a parent who brings a child into this world is responsible for providing for that child's physical needs regardless of any conflict with the child's custodial parent. In July 1999, I received a letter from Lisa McCave of Wilmington, Delaware. She wanted to know where the justice was in the IRS allowing her husband to collect a \$2,426 tax refund when he still owed her nearly \$7,000 in back child support just because her son is no longer a minor and is not disabled.

Since her son was three, Ms. McCave has had to work two jobs to make up for child support installments that were never paid. She has spent the better part of her time away from work tracking down her former husband, who has often quit his job as soon as his wages were garnished to repay this debt. Now, she is trying to pay off \$55,000 in parent loans she incurred to send her son to college. Mr. Speaker, we all know the answer to Lisa McCave's question. Under the current law, there is no justice in limiting the eligibility for this tax intercept program to minors and disabled adults.

The good news is that we can correct this injustice. Improving our child support enforcement programs in neither a Republican nor a Democrat issue—it is an issue that should concern all of us. According to recent government statistics, there are approximately 12 million active cases where a child support order requires a noncustodial parent to contribute towards the support of his/her child. Of the \$22 billion owed pursuant to these orders in 1999, only half have been paid. I am confident we can all agree to fix this injustice in our Federal tax refund offset program and help some of our most needy constituents receive the financial relief they are owed.

I would like to clarify for everyone's benefit that this legislation does not create a cause of action for a custodial parent to seek additional child support. The existing program merely