

“member” for purposes of the exemption status and unrelated business income would be expanded to include “ancestors or lineal descendants of the member” (i.e. past or present member of the Armed Services meeting the Congressional charter definition).

We believe this change is not only fair, but recognizes the original intent of Congress, and the fact that more distant relatives of the member will come into existence over time. We hope our colleagues will join us in cosponsoring this legislation. Thank you.

HONORING KENTUCKY NURSES

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the thousands of men and women in Kentucky who have dedicated themselves to that most noble of endeavors: nursing. Every day, nurses—both in Kentucky and across the nation—sacrifice themselves to the causes of caring, of healing, and of loving. By tending to the sick and easing suffering, nurses play a tremendously vital role in the medical profession and our society at large.

We can all recall a time when a nurse became a crucial figure in our lives. When any one of us has been ill or trying to care for a sick loved one, nurses have always been there to provide help. Whether in a strictly medical capacity—mending a bone or administering medicines—or to offer reassurance, a shoulder to cry on, or an anchor of calm in the chaos and upheaval that we all know illness can cause, it seems that nurses perform a thousand and one duties to ensure that pain and suffering are washed away.

Since time immemorial, nurses have been on the front lines of the fight against sickness, but today that fight grows harder. Newly discovered illnesses, an increasing population, and an explosion in the demand for emergency care have all come together to force nurses to assume more and more responsibilities, while, at the same time, they must continue to strive to gain ground in the war against suffering. I understand these issues, and want to give my thanks to nurses across America for maintaining the same unflagging generosity that has characterized the profession in the past. During National Nurses Week this May, I want to especially recognize Kentucky Nurses, those men and women who, day after day, give of themselves to so many people in the Bluegrass State. I hope you will join me in honoring nurses for their commitment to helping others feel better.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING HOMER
MAYOR MARY ALICE BELLARDINI

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the work of a tireless village mayor in New York’s 25th Congressional District, Mayor Mary Alice Bellardini of the Village of Homer. Mayor Bellardini retired as Mayor on

March 31st after fourteen years at the village’s helm. Prior to her initial election as mayor in March 1987, she served as a Cortland County Legislator for almost seven years.

During her tenure, the Village of Homer prospered. She is credited with renewing the village’s historical preservation and planning efforts, improving its public water system, expanding economic development efforts and beautifying the Main Street corridor, establishing weekly summer band concerts on the village green, improving public safety operations, and reopening the Water Street bridge as a pedestrian walkway.

I have always regarded Mayor Bellardini as a strong partner in my work in Cortland County. Married to Harry Bellardini, the former Cortland County Republican Party Chairman, Mayor Bellardini is a proud Republican though always anxious to work in a bipartisan manner on behalf of her constituents. She has worked especially close with Democratic Village Trustee Virginia “Ginny” Swartwout—a twenty-six year veteran of village government, who also deserves special recognition for service to her community as she retires from her post this year.

Besides her work on behalf of the people of Homer, Mayor Bellardini is committed to community service. She served as President of the New York State Conference of Mayors from 1995 through 1996. She still holds positions on the Boards of Directors for numerous organizations, including Alliance Bank, Central New York Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Excellus, Inc., the Home Store, and the Cortland County Business Development Corporation. Last year, Governor George Pataki named Mayor Bellardini to serve on a select Advisory Committee to the Quality Communities Interagency Task Force for New York State.

A lifelong Cortland County area resident, Mayor Bellardini has three children and five grandchildren. Though Mary Alice believes that it’s time for “a fresh face and new blood” in the village Mayor’s Office, I am certain that her accomplishments and dedication as Mayor of Homer will live on for generations to come.

I congratulate her on her retirement from public life, thank her for her over twenty years of service as an elected official, and wish her well in all of life’s future pursuits. Her daily presence and involvement at village offices will certainly be missed.

THE SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL
COMMUNICATORS (SPC)

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to recognize and honor the 50th anniversary of the Society of Professional Communicators (SPC).

The Society of Professional Communicators began in 1951 as the Worcester County Editor’s Council. The original purpose of this group was to improve their internal publications by sharing ideas with one another. They also intended to promote the benefits of the free enterprise system. As the media, technology, and the roles of its members began to change, so did the organization’s name. Today SPC consists of a variety of profes-

sionals including photographers, freelance writers, graphic designers, and web managers. This energetic and dynamic organization joins together to exchange ideas and information while keeping pace with new trends. The organization has also expanded its role through community service projects, which include book collections for homeless children, food drives for the community pantry, and journal-writing workshops for women in recovery.

As the SPC celebrates its anniversary on May 8, this organization will be looking forward to the next 50 years of energy and growth both personally and professionally. Mr. Speaker, the Society of Professional Communicators should be celebrated for its years of dedication to improve society and its communities.

HONORING JAN DOETS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jan Doets for his lifetime commitment to the tourism industry and his role as a goodwill ambassador for America.

Jan Doets has been a leader and innovator in the tourism industry throughout his 40 year career, making him an invaluable resource to his colleagues and a strong force in the tourism community. Jan has a wide variety of talents, but has specialized exclusively in American travel arrangements for the last 20 years. He has been responsible for sending over 150,000 people to California to appreciate the beauty of our state.

Jan Doets is truly the epitome of an entrepreneur. Already a successful member of the tourism community in the Netherlands, he was the first direct seller of tours from the Netherlands to the United States. It comes as no surprise then that after the American component of his business was founded, he and his wife Sietske watched their business flourish. Jan was so successful that in 1983 he was known as Mr. America #1 in the tourism community.

In 1990, Jan renamed his business Jan Doets American Tours and it has continued to grow as he constantly adds new services and tours of the United States. Jan and his daughter Elske have traveled thousands of miles experiencing the country so that he might share his knowledge with others who wish to explore America. He has sent over a quarter billion dollars to the United States in business, and has been a frequent visitor to Mariposa County and Yosemite National Park. Throughout Jan’s career he has shown deep ties, commitment and partnership with our country, communities and individual county visitor bureaus. He has made it his lifetime goal to share the best that America has to offer with his fellow citizens of the Netherlands. Jan has truly been a significant force in bringing the United States and the Netherlands closer together.

As Jan Doets retires we not only honor his lifetime commitment to the tourism industry, but also his unparalleled generosity, strength and dedication to his work and loved ones. Jan Doets has truly left his mark on our community forever.

HONORING RABBI LEONARD S.
CAHAN

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and celebrate Rabbi Leonard Cahan, Senior Rabbi of Congregation Har Shalom of Potomac, Maryland who is retiring the summer after 27 years of service. Rabbi Cahan and his wife Elizabeth have lived in Potomac during this time, and raised their four children in this community.

Under Rabbi Cahan's leadership, Har Shalom has grown four-fold, to become a leading congregation in Montgomery County, Maryland and in the Conservative movement nationwide. He has guided Har Shalom to the forefront of egalitarianism, family, and adult education, participatory worship, community service, and interfaith activities. Har Shalom's worship services have been a model for the creation of a new conservative prayer book, *Siddur Sim Shalom*. Har Shalom was honored to have Rabbi Cahan serve as the senior editor of this prayer book, which has now been adopted by much of the Conservative Jewish movement.

Several years ago, the Good Morning America television program chose Rabbi Cahan as one of the nation's outstanding clergy. He appeared on the show, along with a minister and priest, discussing the religious, spiritual, and communal nature of their lives as clergymen, and their role in their communities.

Rabbi Cahan has deeply touched the lives of many members of Har Shalom, as well as others in the community. He has officiated numerous life cycle events such as baby namings, funerals, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, marriages, and other times of family joy and sorrow. He has taught numerous courses to Har Shalom's congregants of all ages, as well as in interfaith settings in the community. Rabbi Cahan has no doubt been the inspiration to a growing number of Har Shalom's youth, who are or will become the rabbis of the next generation.

Rabbi Cahan will continue to serve as Rabbi Emeritus at Congregation Har Shalom following his retirement. He will continue to teach, officiate at High Holy Day services, and serve the spiritual needs of the Jewish community of Montgomery County.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I join today with many of my colleagues in remembering the victims of the Armenian Genocide.

From 1915 to 1923, the world witnessed the first genocide of the 20th Century. This was clearly one of the world's greatest tragedies—the deliberate and systematic Ottoman annihilation of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children.

Furthermore, another 500,000 refugees fled and escaped to various points around the world—effectively eliminating the Armenian population of the Ottoman Empire.

From these ashes arose hope and promise in 1991—and I was blessed to see it. I was one of the four international observers from the United States Congress to monitor Armenia's independence referendum. I went to the communities in the northern part of Armenia, and I watched in awe as 95 percent of the people over the age of 18 went out and voted.

The Armenian people had been denied freedom for so many years and, clearly, they were very excited about this new opportunity. Almost no one stayed home. They were all out in the streets going to the polling places. I watched in amazement as people stood in line for hours to get into these small polling places and vote.

Then, after they voted, the other interesting thing was that they did not go home. They had brought covered dishes with them, and all of these polling places had little banquets afterward to celebrate what had just happened.

What a great thrill it was to join them the next day in the streets of Yerevan when they were celebrating their great victory. Ninety-eight percent of the people cast their ballots in favor of independence. It was a wonderful experience to be there with them when they danced and sang and shouted, "Ketse azat ankakh Hayastan"—long live free and independent Armenia! That should be the cry of freedom-loving people everywhere.

CELEBRATING SAUK PRAIRIE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AS ONE OF THE 100 TOP HOSPITALS

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital and Clinics of Praire du Sac, Wisconsin, being selected as one of the 100 Top Hospitals in the nation by the 100 Top Hospitals™: Benchmarks for Success study. This outstanding achievement is marked by the Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital's excellent quality of care, efficiency of operations, and sustainability of overall performance.

The extraordinary dedication of hospital staff and the superior performance of the management team have earned Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital this first-time award. In a time when rural hospitals are facing special challenges, this achievement is particularly noteworthy. The hospital's ability to perform well under adverse conditions and to face trials in the health care system today do indeed set a benchmark for success.

The quality health care that Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital provides can be attributed not only to its doctors and nurses, but to all of the employees, board members, volunteers and medical staff. Without the generosity of those who have worked countless hours and donated hard-earned dollars, this accomplishment may not have been possible.

I applaud the Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital for this truly prestigious award and I look

forward to hearing about future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN R. GARRISON

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John R. Garrison, Chief Executive Officer of the American Lung Association. This July, Mr. Garrison is retiring after eleven years of leading the American Lung Association, this nation's oldest voluntary health agency.

Over the last two decades, Mr. Garrison's work has made a vital contribution to public health and a significant difference in shaping national policy. Millions of Americans live in a safer, cleaner, and healthier world because of his work. He has been a national leader in the battle against the tobacco industry, the efforts to eliminate tuberculosis, the quest to curb asthma, and the continuing fight for cleaner air.

Throughout his career, Mr. Garrison has been in the vanguard of public health efforts. When the tobacco industry proposed a weak tobacco settlement with state attorneys general in 1997, Mr. Garrison was the first leader of a major health organization to step forward and oppose giving the tobacco industry immunity. Mr. Garrison also served on a tobacco advisory commission chaired by former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and former FDA Commissioner David Kessler, playing a pivotal role in crafting the commission's final report, which remains a visionary blueprint of the policy changes needed to protect the public health from tobacco.

Under Mr. Garrison's leadership, the American Lung Association led the recent battle for tougher ozone and particulate matter standards under the Clean Air Act. In addition, he expanded the American Lung Association's commitment to lung disease research. These efforts led to the development of the Asthma Clinical Research Center program, a nationwide network of 19 clinical research centers designed to conduct a broad range of clinical studies on asthma.

From building a formal alliance with the Canadian Lung Association to assuming a leadership role in the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, Mr. Garrison has worked tirelessly to reduce the impact of lung disease around the world. This work continues with the American Lung Association's advocacy for a strong, enforceable global tobacco control treaty, the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

From asthma to air pollution, from tobacco control to the elimination of tuberculosis, Mr. Garrison has been a leader. Millions of people around the globe breathe easier because of his efforts. It is my distinct pleasure to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting John Garrison for his outstanding achievements and thank him for his service to the American Lung Association and the nation in fighting lung disease and promoting lung health.