

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM RECHLIN

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. William Rechlin upon his retirement from his position of City Manager of Berkley, Michigan.

Mr. Rechlin has been a public servant in Michigan for the past four decades. Beginning as a police officer in Dearborn in 1958, he then served as lieutenant, sergeant and police chief of Westland.

Mr. Rechlin came to Berkley after his Westland service, and assumed the position of Director of Public Safety. After ten years, he was named City Manager, a position he held for four and one-half years. William is highly respected throughout law enforcement and by his peers as a City Manager.

Throughout his career, Bill has been an effective worker, diligent, caring, and a man "in charge." Mayor John Mark Mooney said, "Rechlin has filled the job so thoroughly the last four years, it will be difficult to choose a replacement."

Mr. Speaker, I have enjoyed my many opportunities to work with Bill Rechlin, a truly fine gentleman and a consummate professional. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing William Rechlin a happy and healthy retirement. He will be missed.

KEEPING OUR PROMISE TO SPECIAL EDUCATION ACT OF 2001

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, or IDEA.

Improving special education is on the minds of millions of Americans. Our Governors, school boards, education professionals, and families of children with disabilities identify full funding for special education as their number-one priority.

The nearly six-and-a-half million students with disabilities have a right to a free and appropriate public education. They deserve to participate in the American dream.

Today this Congress has an opportunity to help these students fulfill that dream. I am pleased to introduce the "Keeping Our Promise to Special Education Act of 2001" to provide for mandatory increases in special education funding each of the next ten years. My effort sets the course to achieve full funding for Part B of IDEA by fiscal year 2011.

The enactment of this bill will give relief to school districts, resources to teachers, hope to parents, and opportunities to children with disabilities. It will free up State and local funds to be spent on such things as better pay for teachers, more professional development, richer and more diverse curricula, smaller class sizes, making needed renovations to buildings, and addressing other needs of individual schools. To me, fully funding IDEA will provide the ultimate in local educational flexibility.

I am proud to say that the Keeping Our Promise to Special Education Act has received the support of the National Education Association, the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents and the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Incorporated.

Mr. Speaker, twenty-six years ago, Congress made a commitment to fully fund the Federal Government's share of special education costs. If in this era of economic prosperity and unprecedented budgetary surpluses we cannot meet this commitment, when will we keep this pledge?

School districts in the Second District of Connecticut and other congressional districts are demanding financial relief. Children's needs must be met. Parents expect accountability. There is no better way to touch a school, help a child, or support a family than to commit more spending for special education.

It is time to fulfill our promise. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the Keeping Our Promise to Special Education Act.

CONGRATULATION ON TAIWAN PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY IN OFFICE

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, the people in the Republic of China on Taiwan will be celebrating President Chen Shui-bian's first anniversary in office on May 20, 2001.

President Chen Shui-bian won his presidential election last year and in the last 12 months, he has shown the world his steady leadership at home and abroad. He has continued the social and economic programs of his predecessor and convinced the world of his intention to seek better relations with the Chinese mainland and maintain good relations with allies and friends abroad. He has done an excellent job for the people of Taiwan.

Taiwan has become one of our nation's largest trading partners and continues to grow in that capacity to the benefit of both the people of the United States of America and Taiwan. Trade between the United States and Taiwan totaled \$64.9 billion in 2000, up 19.4 percent from 1999. Last year, Taiwan's imports from the United States grew by 27.4 percent to \$24.2 billion. It is hard to believe that just fifty years ago, the per capita GNP in Taiwan was \$150. Today, Taiwan is the world's 17th largest economy and Taiwan's vigorous trade with foreign countries has given the people of Taiwan a much higher standard of living. The great strides Taiwan has made economically are an admirable tribute to Taiwanese people and their democratic leaders. I particularly thank President Chen Shui-bian in continuing to lead Taiwan in that tradition.

On his first anniversary in office, I wish President Chen Shui-bian every success in leading his country and his people to ever greater economic heights at home and international recognition abroad. Also, I am delighted to see that as he travels to Central America this month, he will be making a transit stop in New York City. I welcome President

Chen to the United States and wish him the best in leading Taiwan in continued prosperity.

IN HONOR OF JAMES LARGE, JR.

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor James Large Jr., who has served as Acting President of the Wildlife Conservation Society and distinguished himself as a virtuous leader in business and philanthropy and, most importantly, as a citizen dedicated to conserving the natural heritage of his local as well as global communities.

For more than a year, and, for what was offered as a temporary and part-time assignment, James Large has devoted 12-hour work days, restless nights, early mornings along with the whole of his intellect, heart and spirit to leading the Wildlife Conservation Society into the 21st century. Under his stewardship, the Wildlife Conservation Society's celebrated wildlife parks inspired more than 4.5 million visitors to care about wildlife and wild lands and to participate in their conservation, managed field projects in living landscapes around the world, and developed award-winning environmental education programs for schools across the United States and abroad.

Jim's role as Acting President will soon be coming to an end. I congratulate him on a job well done, and wish him and his wife, Carol, well on the journey that lies ahead. He will no doubt continue to serve his community with diligence, honesty and devotion and remain steadfast to his commitment to conserve the beauty, bounty, and wonder of nature.

RAILROAD HEROES

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents in the Fourth Congressional District, I want to honor the heroes who stopped the runaway train in northwestern Ohio on Tuesday.

The entire nation saw the courage of Jon Hosfeld, Jess Knowlton, and Terry Forson as they slowed and then stopped a 47-car train whose cargo included a dangerous chemical. This train, which got loose near Toledo, traveled unmanned through communities at speeds approaching 46 miles an hour.

The television images of how the train was finally stopped riveted a nation. Knowlton and Forson maneuvered a second locomotive and coupled up with the runaway train, bringing it down to a speed that allowed Jon Hosfeld to leap on and finally bring this drama to an end.

Jumping onto a moving train is something you only see in the movies. But we witnessed every bit of the trainmaster's 31 years of experience with CSX as he surmounted the risk. Amazingly, what we later learned is that Hosfeld, who lives in my hometown of Findlay, had been in a car pursuing the train nearly from the start. Jon Hosfeld's moment to be a hero had arrived.

I salute Jon Hosfeld, Jess Knowlton, Terry Forson and the other skilled railroad workers who responded so nobly and professionally. Thanks to them, what could have been a disaster was averted. I also commend the law enforcement and emergency management teams along the line who secured rail crossings and kept citizens away from harm.

While it appears that this incident began as a result of a human error—an error, it seems now, the first engineer tried to correct by vainly trying to climb onto a moving train—what we saw unfold during a dramatic afternoon in Ohio was a testament to professional skill and personal courage. Jon Hosfeld, the feat that you and your colleagues performed will go down in railroad lore.

TRIBUTE TO MARY BETH CAROZZA

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding person whom it has been my privilege to know and work with for more than 10 years.

Mary Beth Carozza has been my Chief of Staff since I became a Member of Congress in 1990. I knew that to have a successful Congressional office I would have to have someone serving as my Chief of Staff who could get the things done that I might tend to overlook, and who had strengths in areas where I sometimes needed assistance. I never have regretted my decision to make Mary Beth my top aide, and I fully realize the deep impact her experienced leadership has had in helping me try to meet the expectations of my constituents as a member of this distinguished body.

Before coming to work for me, Mary Beth worked for then Senator William Cohen and served as the press secretary for then Congressman Mike DeWine. My first personal involvement with her came during an event at a dairy farm in my district, when I was directly told by a young woman with a commanding voice to move quickly over to a group of Ohio State legislators for a photograph. Little did I realize that same young woman so at ease with giving orders to a State Senator, would soon become the most important member of my team and one of my closest friends.

Mary Beth has been a successful leader not only in the way she has led the staff of Ohio's 7th Congressional District, but in the way she has been successful in helping the Ohio Congressional delegation work together. She has fought very hard on numerous issues, never swayed from her personal convictions, and successfully directed hundreds of important projects that would not have been accomplished without her direct involvement.

Mary Beth shares my belief that the best investment is an investment in good people. She always has been a supportive Chief of Staff, deeply committed to helping staff develop their creative abilities and best use their talents. Her success in this can be seen in our current outstanding office staff, and in the levels of achievement reached by former staff members who have gone on to become leaders in government and the private sector.

While keeping the 7th District Congressional office running smoothly, Mary Beth has also

been generous with her time to help new chiefs of staff develop their leadership skills. She has served with distinction as a member and past vice president of the House Administrative Assistants Association which provides management training for Administrative Assistants in conjunction with the Congressional Management Foundation.

As a result of her tireless efforts, Mary Beth has become a trusted and valuable resource for staff and Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle and across the country. Mary Beth has demonstrated time and again the selfless service and dedication to ideals which guide her actions, and reflect positively on all who are around her. She will undoubtedly be a tremendous asset as the new Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for House Affairs and I am truly thankful for our time together and what we were able to accomplish.

Mary Beth has achieved a great deal through hard work and determination, but she also knows the value of maintaining close ties with her family. I have had the pleasure of meeting Tony and Mary Pat Carozza on several memorable occasions. They exemplify the traditional values of hard work and integrity, and instilled those same attributes in Mary Beth which have served her well.

As Ohio's Seventh District Representative to the Congress of the United States, I take this opportunity to join with members of my staff, the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the thousands of Ohioans who have benefited from knowing and working with her to honor the efforts and the achievements of Mary Beth Carozza. Her many contributions to the people of Ohio and the U.S. House of Representatives are greatly appreciated by all and I thank her for her service.

SALUTE TO PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, May 20 marks the one-year anniversary of the inauguration of Chen Shui-bian as President of the Republic of China on Taiwan. It was the first peaceful transition of power in Chinese history and a day that will long be remembered by people and nations of the world who believe in and value democracy and all that it stands for.

I honor President Chen for his many accomplishments in leading his country economically and politically. I admire the goals he has set for his government to increase the visibility of Taiwan on the world stage through trade and international organizations. And I applaud his efforts in extending the olive branch of peace across the Taiwan Strait to Mainland China.

In a few short days President Chen will be traveling to Central America and during the course of that trip he will make a brief stop in New York. While his time in New York will be short it will be a major first step toward easing the Clinton Administration restrictions governing the ability of Taiwan leaders to travel freely between the United States and Taiwan.

The United States and Taiwan have arisen from the desire to live freely, born from the hearts of the people who dwell within their

borders. President Chen's leadership continues to advance the cause of freedom and democracy so it is with great honor that I salute President Chen Shui-bian and look forward to the continued strengthening of the relationship between the United States of America and the Republic of China on Taiwan.

THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents, I wish to extend to President Chen Shui-bian of the Republic of China on Taiwan my congratulations on the occasion of his first anniversary in office on May 20, 2001.

In his inaugural address, the president mentioned two key points: his hope that Taiwan and the Chinese mainland could resume their dialogue on reunification and that Taiwan would continue to strengthen its good relationship with the United States.

Twelve months later, while President Chen continues to hope for a breakthrough in Taiwan's evolving relationship with the Chinese mainland, Taiwan's relationship with the United States is certainly becoming ever stronger. Bilateral trade between Taiwan and the United States topped \$64.8 billion last year, and Taiwan was the United States' eighth largest trading partner. Last year, nearly 30,000 students from Taiwan were enrolled in United States colleges and universities. And the United States, outside of Asia, is the number one destination for Taiwan travelers. Clearly, Taiwan's people like the United States, as Taiwan and the United States share many values in common such as attachment to freedom, democracy, and human rights.

To President Chen Shui-bian of the Republic of China, I say "Good luck and good fortune. You have done a good job for your country." Last but not least, America welcomes President Chen to make a brief stop-over in New York City as he travels to Central America.

TAIWANESE—AMERICAN HERITAGE WEEK

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, This week Taiwanese Americans all over the nation celebrate "Taiwanese-American Heritage Week." The week of May 13-May 20 honors the diverse contributions of over 500,000 Taiwanese-Americans in the United States. These Americans have contributed significantly to our social fabric, making notable contributions as doctors, scientists, small business professionals, entertainers, human rights activists, public servants and captains of business and industry.

It is important to recognize the achievements of Taiwanese-Americans in the United States. This week also gives us the opportunity to celebrate the success of democracy