

legislation brought before the House since being elected to Congress. My record on trade is clear—I support free trade. This Rule today, however, is not about trade and I cannot support moves that undermine our body's rules and ideals in the name of expediency and process. Again, I hope to vote later this year on legislation granting the President Trade Promotion Authority and hope House and Senate negotiators can expeditiously develop a conference report for which I can soon vote.

HONORING REVEREND JOHN J. HURLEY

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Reverend John J. Hurley, OSFS for his most recent achievements as the Moderator of the Model United Nations Program at both Father Judge and Northeast Catholic High Schools located in my Congressional District. Since January of this year, Fr. Hurley has been awarded three distinct honors for his work in advancing the understanding of international relations on the high school level. He is truly a beacon of diplomacy and deserves great acclaim for his dedication to the younger generation of Americans.

For the second time in the last three years, The International Relations Association of Georgetown University has named Fr. John J. Hurley, OSFS as the National Coach-Moderator of the Year. This award was presented to Fr. Hurley, OSFS on February 17, 2002 at the closing ceremonies of the 39th Annual North American Invitational Model United Nations Conference (NAIMUN XXXIX). Over 3,000 high school students from three hundred high schools in the United States of America, Canada, Brazil, Germany, Japan, The Netherlands, and Oman participated in NAIMUN XXXIX.

Additionally, on March 15, 2002, the Middle States Council for Social Studies awarded its 2001–2002 Distinguished Service Award to Fr. Hurley, OSFS. In making the presentation, Frances Warren, award chairperson, noted Father Hurley's significant service and support for the advancement of social studies in the Middle States area.

On May 4, 2002, the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA) presented its highest award for the best delegation at its annual International Academic Competition to a Joint Team of Students from Northeast Catholic and Father Judge High Schools. Seven hundred students from around the globe participated in this international convention at UN Headquarters in New York City, which was co-hosted by the United Nations and Columbia University. Fr. Hurley served as the coach of this team.

Mr. Speaker, what will be next for Fr. Hurley in the remaining six months of this year? This noted scholar and advisor has worked tirelessly since 1954 in the pursuit of advancing the awareness and understanding of international relations. Let it be known that Fr. Hurley's work in international relations is in addition to his leadership position as the National Director of the Foreign Mission of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales. Mr. Speaker, I agree

with The Reverend Joseph G. Morrissey's, OSFS, the Provincial of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, statement; "Fr. Hurley is a positive role model and leader to so many young men and women in the various schools. He invites, draws, and attracts them to a knowledge of world affairs in a Salesian tradition that will remain with them for the rest of their days."

#### TIME FOR A CAREER CHANGE

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I have been blessed with the honor and privilege of representing the people of Western New York for thirty-two years: two in the New York State Senate, two in the New York State Assembly, and twenty-eight in the U.S. House of Representatives. For eight of my years in the House, I served as Chairman of the important Small Business Committee. For the last five years, I have served as Ranking Democrat on another major committee of even broader reach and import, the House Financial Services Committee.

I am extremely grateful for the honor the citizens of Western New York have given to me and most especially for the trust they have imparted to me over the course of those thirty-two years. During all that time, I have tried my best to serve the people of Western New York honestly, diligently, faithfully and intelligently and have worked hard to honor, earn, and deserve their trust.

In that span of three decades, I have met and worked with some of the most talented and noble men and women in this country. I shall treasure each and every one of those relationships.

But there comes a time to seek new horizons. And, for me, this is the right time. So I announce today that I will not be seeking another term in Congress.

I pondered very seriously whether to seek new horizons in 1992, at the time of the last redistricting, when my two closest friends in Congress, Henry Nowak and Matt McHugh, decided to leave. For many years now, I have been thinking about what I should do subsequent to the 2002 redistricting. I very much want to see the Democrats regain a majority in the House. Had the court-imposed plan not been withdrawn today, I might well have decided to run and be part of that effort.

But I have every confidence that a Democrat will win in the new 28th Congressional district and there are many talented Democrats who could represent it well: Congresswoman LOUISE SLAUGHTER, Mayor Bill Johnson of Rochester, Mayor Anthony Masiello of Buffalo, State Senator Byron Brown, State Senator Richard Dollinger, many Assemblymen and women, including Robin Schimming, Sam Hoyt, Arthur Eve, Francine DelMonte, David Gantt. There are others who are also equally well qualified, including former Erie County Legislative Chairmen Len Lenihan and Chuck Swanick, Niagara Falls Councilman Paul Dyster, Niagara County District Attorney Matt Murphy, County Legislator Lynn Marinelli, etc.—the list goes on and on.

Engaging in a contest against other talented and honorable Democrats such as these is not

something I choose to do. Instead, I choose to pursue new horizons.

Until this very day, I have been making contingency plans to run, not knowing what the Court would ultimately decide. And the information I have been receiving, including polling data, has made it clear that I would win both a primary and a general election. The primary election because of the historic Democratic primary voter turnout in Erie, Niagara and Orleans Counties, which has always been far higher than the turnout in Monroe County (approximately 3 to 1); and the general because the new 28th has a significant Democratic voter registration advantage—the first time I would have had such an advantage.

But winning has never been the issue. The issue has been whether I wanted to seek new horizons within the new 28th District by getting to know and seeking to serve the 410,000 of the 654,000 residents who would be new constituents for me, or whether I wanted to seek new horizons elsewhere.

And so this time, this year, I have decided to pursue those new horizons elsewhere rather than seek re-election. I have no plans to retire. I am doing what so many in this country now do at my point in life—changing careers. Whether this career change will take me back to the law, or a career in social justice, academia, corporate governance or other public service, I simply do not know. But I am excited and enthusiastic at the prospect of exploring this vast range of new opportunities.

I am pleased to have been able to assist the citizens of Western New York and to help our local communities over the past three decades. While I have decided not to seek another term, I plan to continue working hard on behalf of my district and country for the balance of this year and beyond.

I have often been asked why I chose to be in public service. The answer is simple: there is no greater satisfaction than to serve one's community. I have consistently believed and said that public service gives one a unique opportunity not only to serve one's fellow citizens, but to be engaged in, and apply one's mind and heart to, the great issues of our day, to be fully involved in the action and passion of our time. My experience has underscored that perspective. I am grateful to the citizens of Western New York for giving me that privilege, and most especially, for the trust they have placed in me.

HONORING DR. PAUL PRIESZ OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Paul Priesz, Principal of Valencia High School which is located in the Santa Clarita Valley. Recently, the Association of California School Administrators named him the top secondary principal in the state of California.

As June comes to an end and the school year closes, it is a fitting time to reflect upon the capable leadership of Dr. Priesz. He was assigned the formidable responsibility of planning and opening a new high school and has been the guiding influence at Valencia High

School since it opened in 1993. Today, the school is one of the premier high schools in Los Angeles County.

High school administration requires many qualities—including vision, dedication, patience, strength, energy, creativity, the competence to balance an impossibly busy schedule, a willingness to allow people to experiment, the expertise to support a wide variety of school programs and reforms, and the ability to understand the complexity of teens for whom each day presents a new crisis. Possessing all of the traits, Dr. Priesz is an exemplary high school principal.

A dynamic educator who is committed to educational quality and academic excellence, Dr. Priesz has developed programs to meet the scholastic and social needs of all students. He gives abundant support to the handicapped and underrepresented population and avidly endorses extra-curricular programs to foster student growth and achievement. "What is best for kids" is the guiding doctrine for all decisions made at Valencia High School.

Dr. Priesz is a dedicated leader who believes in his staff and students. He manages school programs by focusing attention on the importance of building collaborative relationships yet at the same time allowing everyone the creative freedom needed to accomplish their job. Dr. Priesz asks nothing of his staff that he is not willing to do himself, and he continually displays a sincere, caring demeanor. He is highly supportive of professional development and school reform initiatives in order to perpetuate a vigorous learning environment.

Mr. Speaker, Valencia High School is fortunate to have such an extraordinary principal. I want to thank Dr. Paul Priesz for his leadership, inspiration and high standards. He has made a positive impact on thousands of students. In turn, Dr. Priesz is making our great nation a better place to live.

#### H. RES. 467: INDEPENDENCE FOR KOSOVA

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 27, 2002*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, since the cessation of NATO's 1999 conflict with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in Kosova remains under a United Nations mandate. But progress in Kosova is being held up by its lack of independence and its inability to determine its own fate. For that reason, I am introducing, together with the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States should declare its support for the independence of Kosova.

The Kosovars, the United Nations, NATO and the international community are now making efforts to rebuild Kosova, revitalize its economy, establish democratic institutions of self-government, and heal the scars of war.

Under President Slobodan Milosevic, the Yugoslav government dismantled Kosova's political structures, replaced ethnic Albanians with Serbs in most jobs, enabled Serb-owned firms to take over Albanian-owned companies, and forbade Albanians from purchasing or improving property.

As a result of this systematic persecution and discrimination, today the unemployment rate in Kosova is currently between 60 and 70 percent, increasing the likelihood of Kosovars either entering criminal networks or working abroad in order to survive. The perpetuation of these economic difficulties heightens the potential for continued instability in the region.

The only way to address the problem of the chronic instability that plagues the region, and the way towards a genuine, long-term political and economic stability of Kosova and the region, lies not only in the physical and social reconstruction of Kosova, but in considering Kosovar independence as a solution. Unless massive job creation is facilitated by guaranteeing the security of foreign investments through an independent Kosova, the impact of these economic difficulties could prove detrimental to U.S. interests in the region.

Three years after the war's end, Kosova is already responsible for 93 percent of its budget, with 7 percent supplied by foreign donors, underscoring its commitment to growing a market economy, not an aid economy. Under the Yugoslav constitution of 1974, Kosova was equivalent in most ways to Slovenia, Croatia, and the other republics. In its position as an "autonomous province," Kosova, in practice, exercised the same powers as a republic. It has its own parliament, high courts, central bank, police service, and defense force. Through its definition in 1968 as a part of the Yugoslav Federal System, it gained representation at the federal level.

When Slovenia and Croatia demanded independence, similar arguments were made by Western governments against recognizing those countries. However, eventually the same Western governments did recognize not only the independence of Slovenia and Croatia, but Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia as well, having discovered that independence for those nations involved not so much a change of borders as a change in the status of existing borders. The lines on the map remained the same, but their status was upgraded from republican to national. It is fitting that the Kosovars are allowed to follow the same path towards independence.

Accordingly, it is time for the United States to abide by its recognition that a right to self-determination exists as a fundamental right of all people through declaring its support for the independence of Kosova.

Mr. Speaker, for the information of my colleagues, I insert a copy of H. Res. 467 at this point in the RECORD.

#### H. RES. 467

Whereas the United States and the international community recognize that a right to self-determination exists as a fundamental right of all people;

Whereas Kosova was constitutionally defined as a sovereign territory in the First National Liberation Conference for Kosova on January 2, 1944, and this status was confirmed in the Constitution of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia adopted in 1946, and the amended Yugoslav constitution adopted in 1974 preserved the autonomous status of Kosova as a de facto republic,

Whereas prior to the disintegration of the former Yugoslavia, Kosova was a separate political and legal entity with separate and distinct financial institutions, police force, municipal and national government, school system, judicial and legal system, hospitals and other independent organizations;

Whereas Serbian dictator Slobodan Milosevic rose to power in 1987 on a platform

of ultranationalism and anti-Albanian racism, advocating violence and hatred against all non-Slavs and specifically targeting the Albanians of Kosova,

Whereas Slobodan Milosevic subsequently stripped Kosova of its self-rule, without the consent of the people of Kosova;

Whereas the elected Assembly of Kosova, faced with these intolerable acts, adopted a Declaration of Independence on July 2, 1990, proclaimed the Republic of Kosova, and adopted a constitution on September 7, 1990, based on the international legal principles of self-determination, equality, and sovereignty;

Whereas in recognition of the de facto dissolution of the Yugoslav federation, the European community established principles for the recognition of the independence and sovereignty of the republics of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Kosova fully satisfied those principles as a de facto republic within the federation;

Whereas a popular referendum was held in Kosova from September 26-30, 1991, in which 87 percent of all eligible voters cast ballots and 99.87 percent voted in favor of declaring Kosova independent of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Whereas, from the occupation of Kosova in 1989 until the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) military action against the Milosevic regime in 1999, the Albanians of Kosova were subjected to the most brutal treatment in the heart of Europe since the Nazi era, forcing approximately 400,000 Albanians to flee to Western Europe and the United States;

Whereas in the spring of 1999 almost 1,000,000 Kosovar Albanians were driven out of Kosova and at least 10,000 were murdered by the Serbian paramilitary and military;

Whereas Slobodan Milosevic was indicted by the International War Crimes Tribunal and extradited to The Hague in June 2001 to stand trial for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide in Kosova, Bosnia, and Croatia;

Whereas the United Nations established Kosova as a protectorate under Resolution 1244, ending the decade long Serbian occupation of Kosova and Milosevic's genocidal war in Kosova;

Whereas Kosovar Albanians, together with representatives of the Serb, Turkish, Roma, Bosniak, and Ashkali minorities in Kosova, have held free and fair municipal and general elections in 2000 and 2001 and successfully, established a parliament in 2002, which in turn elected a president and prime minister;

Whereas 50 percent of the population in Kosova is under the age of 25 and the unemployment rate is currently between 60 and 70 percent, increasing the likelihood of young people entering criminal networks, the source of which lies outside of Kosova, or working abroad in order to survive unless massive job creation is facilitated by guaranteeing the security of foreign investments through an orderly transition to the independence of Kosova;

Whereas the Kosova parliament is committed to developing a western-style democracy in which all citizens, regardless of ethnicity, are granted full human and civil rights and are committed to the return of all noncriminal Serbs who fled Kosova during and after the war; and

Whereas there is every reason to believe that independence from Serbia is the only viable option for Kosova, after autonomy has failed time and time again: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States should—

(1) publicly support the independence of Kosova and the establishment of Kosova as a