

sovereign and democratic state in which human rights are respected, including the rights of ethnic and religious minorities, as the only way to lasting peace and stability in the Balkans;

(2) recognize the danger that delay in the resolution of Kosovo's final status poses for the political and economic viability of Kosovo and the future of Southeast Europe;

(3) work in conjunction with the United Nations, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and other multilateral organizations to facilitate an orderly transition to the independence of Kosovo; and

(4) provide its share of assistance, trade, and other programs to support the government of an independent Kosovo and to encourage the further development of democracy and a free market economic system.

HONORING THE WORK OF GLORIA BURKE

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who has dedicated her life to the safety and well being of the children and families in Weymouth, Massachusetts. She is an individual with a noble sense of compassion and integrity, who is being honored today on the occasion of her retirement from Weymouth Youth & Family Services after 30 years of devoted service.

After receiving her Bachelor's Degree at the University of Massachusetts Boston, Gloria earned a Master's degree in Counseling Psychology from Cambridge College. As a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Family Therapist, Gloria came to the aid of countless struggling families to overcome the challenges associated with poverty, substance abuse, child abuse, domestic violence, and other social ills.

In 1971, Gloria was hired as the Community Education Director and Therapist for Weymouth Youth and Family Services. After ten dedicated years, Gloria's talents were recognized and she was asked to serve as the organization's Director, the position in which she has excelled in for two decades. Under Gloria's direction, Weymouth Youth and Family Services has provided food to the hungry, shelter to the homeless, financial assistance to the poor, and counseling to those in crisis. For several years, I have been a proud participant in the Weymouth Youth & Family Services' Annual Christmas Celebration, which Gloria founded and has raised thousands of dollars each year to benefit families in need during the holiday season.

During her tenure with the Weymouth Youth & Families Services office, Gloria has faced head-on the difficult challenges facing the youth in the community—from suicide to drug use, from racism and to violence. Her work as part of the Teen Facility Development Committee, which converted the shuttered police station into a thriving teen center, stands as a testament to Gloria's commitment to providing a promising future for the youth in the Town.

Gloria Burke is Weymouth's own in the truest sense. Born in the Town, she was educated in its public school system, and continues to live there today with her husband Jack, with whom she raised four children.

I am honored today to call Gloria Burke one of my closest friends. She has been a role model for me and the many thousands of those in Weymouth who have been touched by her genuine giving and caring nature. I know that her legacy will continue to be a lasting inspiration to future generations who wish to serve the community.

INTRODUCTION OF BELARUS DEMOCRACY ACT

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing today the Belarus Democracy Act of 2002, which is intended to help promote democratic development, human rights and the rule of law in the Republic of Belarus, as well as encourage the consolidation and strengthening of Belarus' sovereignty and independence. When measured against other European countries, the state of human rights in Belarus is abysmal—it has the worst record of any European state.

Through an illegitimate 1996 referendum, Alexander Lukashenka usurped power, while suppressing the duly-elected legislature and the judiciary. His regime has blatantly and repeatedly violated basic freedoms of speech, expression, assembly, association and religion. The fledgling democratic opposition, non-governmental organizations and independent media have all faced harassment. There are credible allegations of Lukashenka regime involvement in the disappearances—in 1999 and 2000—of opposition members and a journalist. There is growing evidence that Belarus is a leading supplier of lethal military equipment to rogue states. A draft bill is making its way in the Belarusian legislature that would restrict non-traditional religious groups. Several days ago, on June 24, two leading journalists were sentenced to two and 2½ years, respectively, of "restricted freedom" for allegedly slandering the Belarusian President.

Despite efforts by Members of Congress, the Helsinki Commission which I co-chair, the State Department, various American NGOs, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and other European organizations, the regime of Alexander Lukashenka continues its hold onto power with impunity and to the detriment of the Belarusian people.

One of the primary purposes of this bill is to demonstrate U.S. support for those struggling to promote democracy and respect for human rights in Belarus despite the formidable pressures they face from the anti-democratic regime. The bill authorizes increases in assistance for democracy-building activities such as support for non-governmental organizations, independent media—including radio and television broadcasting to Belarus, and international exchanges. The bill also encourages free and fair parliamentary elections, conducted in a manner consistent with international standards—in sharp contrast to recent parliamentary and presidential elections in Belarus which most assuredly did not meet democratic standards. As a result of these elections, Belarus has the distinction of lacking legitimate presidential and parliamentary leadership, which contributes to that country's self-imposed isolation.

In addition, this bill would impose sanctions against the Lukashenka regime, and deny high-ranking officials of the regime entry into the United States. Strategic exports to the Belarusian Government would be prohibited, as well as U.S. Government financing, except for humanitarian goods and agricultural or medical products. The U.S. Executive Directors of the international financial institutions would be encouraged to vote against financial assistance to the Government of Belarus except for loans and assistance that serve humanitarian needs.

The bill would require reports from the President concerning the sale or delivery of weapons or weapons-related technologies from Belarus to rogue states.

Mr. Speaker, finally, it is my hope that this bill will help put an end to the pattern of clear, gross and uncorrected violations of OSCE commitments by the Lukashenka regime and will serve as a catalyst to facilitate Belarus' integration into democratic Europe in which democratic principles and human rights are respected and the rule of law prevails.

LTC RICHARD WANDKE ARMY RANGER HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and to pay tribute to U.S. Army Ranger LTC Richard "Tex" Wandke (Ret) of Cypress, CA, on his induction into the Ranger Hall of Fame for exceptional valor and honor throughout his distinguished 25-year military career.

In 1963, LTC Wandke graduated as the Distinguished Military Student from the University of Maine, then went on to complete Ranger school and was assigned as a platoon leader for the Fourth Infantry Division. He then volunteered to serve his country in Vietnam, and was assigned as an advisor to the 43rd Vietnamese Ranger Battalion.

During his service, LTC Wandke earned various honors for his actions in combat, including two Silver Stars, the Legion of Merit, Three Bronze Stars and Three Purple Hearts. He also earned the Distinguished Service Cross through his valorous conduct in commanding his company on a search and destroy mission in Vietnam on May 27, 1969. When one of the rifle squads under his command surprised seven enemy soldiers and opened fire, hostile reinforcements soon arrived in huge numbers and unleashed tremendous firepower on his company's perimeter. LTC Wandke rallied his men to break the enemy assault, and then directed all of the able men under his command to establish a landing zone to evacuate the wounded. Although wounded himself, LTC Wandke stayed behind to protect the dead and critically wounded, and prevented the enemy from overrunning his position.

Since retiring from active service in 1988, LTC Wandke has been teaching high school ROTC. He is also active in several veterans organizations and was the National commander of the Legion of Valor from 1995–1996. Through his service both on the battlefield and off, he has exemplified the Ranger Creed: Rangers Lead the Way!

Mr. Speaker, I can think of no individual more deserving of inclusion in the Ranger Hall of Fame than LTC Richard "Tex" Wandke. I believe that every American owes LTC Wandke a debt of gratitude, and that he is a singularly excellent role model for all Rangers. I congratulate him on his impressive accomplishment and encourage him to continue his service to the community.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO STACEY
ANNE YOUNG

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish Stacey Anne Young congratulations upon her acceptance into the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. She is a hard working individual who has worked with me for the past three years. Her presence will be greatly missed by all.

As a 1999 graduate of James Madison College at Michigan State University, Stacey began working for me shortly thereafter in the Michigan Senate as my Executive Assistant. She was the Committee Clerk for the Senate Human Resources, Labor, Senior Citizens, and Veterans Affairs Committee along with being the scheduler of my day-to-day activities. At all times, Stacey presented herself with professionalism to all of those with whom she came in contact.

Most recently, Stacey played an integral role in my office in the United States House of Representatives. As my office manager, she was responsible for setting up the office, for managing a million dollar office budget, and for supervising several key members of my staff. She also was an asset as my scheduler and coordinated all of my events and appointments in Washington, DC and in Michigan.

I am extremely impressed with Stacey's positive attitude and dedication. Her sensitivity, diligence, energy, and sense of humor made working with her a joy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Stacey Anne Young for her acceptance to law school where I know she will achieve the highest commendation. I wish her much success in all of her future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF KEN PETERSON

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a friend and fellow public servant from my Congressional district, Kern County Supervisor Ken Peterson.

Ken was committed to his family, his faith, and his community. Becky, his wife, their eight children and three grandchildren, were Ken's inspiration, support structure and compass. They knew well Ken's motto, "working quietly and effectively." It exemplified the life he led.

The Petersons moved to Bakersfield in the 1970s from Orange County, California. Before dedicating his career to serving his community

in public office, he owned and operated a local family business, contributing to the growth and development of the area. In the process, gaining a better understanding of the needs of the people he would later serve.

In 1992, Ken was elected to the Kern County Board of Supervisors and was re-elected to subsequent terms in 1996 and 2000. Previously, Ken served as a member of the Bakersfield City Council, including 2 years as Vice-Mayor. He served as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors in 1995 and 2000 and ably represented Kern County before the United States Senate and House Subcommittees, testifying on the issue of Endangered Species Act Reform.

Ken and I worked together on a number of issues over the years: hospital funding, oil and energy production, land use, private property rights, along with other local concerns of the people who live and work in Bakersfield and Kern County.

A strong advocate for local control and personal responsibility, Ken believed in welfare reform that empowers individuals so that they could take control of their lives. He was also committed to making government more business friendly. He was an ardent protector of free speech and a defender of the Boy Scouts of America. An avid outdoorsman, he enjoyed golf, hunting, hiking and camping with his family.

Ken Peterson was an original. I was honored to know him and work with him. Ken will be missed.

RELATING TO CONSIDERATION OF
SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R.
3009, ANDEAN TRADE PROMOTION
AND DRUG ERADICATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2002

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose H. Res. 450, an unprecedented and undemocratic "bill-in-a-rule" on our nation's trade policy.

Normally, the House passes a "rule" to specify the procedures for consideration of a bill. A "rule" for the consideration of a trade bill would determine how many amendments will be allowed and how long the debate will last before a final vote on the bill. H. Res. 450, however, is a "rule" that actually provides for the automatic passage of a 191-page trade bill. The Republican leadership is trying to force the Congress to pass a 191-page trade bill with no opportunity for amendments, no final vote on the bill and virtually no time for debate.

This 191-page "bill-in-a-rule" includes the text of H.R. 3005, the Republican Fast Track trade bill that was passed by the House on December 6, 2001, by a one-vote margin. H.R. 3005 is a trade bill that would sacrifice labor and environmental protection in the name of free trade.

H.R. 3005 would not require our trade negotiators to promote labor rights or protect the environment. It would not even require our trading partners to prohibit sweatshops, forced labor, child labor or slavery. Instead, it would allow our trading partners to weaken their en-

vironmental standards in order to gain a competitive advantage over the United States. It would also require our trade negotiators to expand the rights of foreign investors to sue governments and demand compensation for the impacts of public interest, food safety and environmental regulations. Clearly, H.R. 3005 would do more to promote corporate power than trade.

The Republican leadership's "bill-in-a-rule" also includes several trade provisions that have never been considered by Members of the House of Representatives. This "bill-in-a-rule" cannot be amended and has never been considered by any House committee with jurisdiction over any aspect of our nation's trade policy.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this "bill-in-a-rule" that attempts to expand corporate power without committee hearings, markups or amendments and only one hour of debate on the Floor of the people's House.

UPON THE OCCASION OF COST OF
GOVERNMENT DAY

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, this year Cost of Government Day falls on June 29. This date represents the day on which the average American worker has earned enough gross income to pay off his or her share of the tax and regulatory burdens imposed by all levels of government—federal, state and local.

The largest component of the Cost of Government is federal taxes, which account for 44 percent of your total cost of government. Federal regulation, state and local taxes each account for another 21 percent, with state and local regulation accounting for 13 percent.

Cost of Government Day is 2 days earlier than it was last year and lower than it has been in 5 years, since 1997. This is primarily due to the two tax cuts passed by Congress and championed by President George W. Bush. The Economic Growth and Tax Reform Reconciliation Act of 2001 (EGTRRA), enacted in May 2001, and the Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act of 2002, enacted in March 2002 have moved Cost of Government Day in the right direction.

This decline is all the more remarkable because the United States is involved in a major military conflict, the war on terrorism, and is emerging from an economic slump. The economic downturn, which was almost certainly exacerbated by the September 11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, could have had a more negative effect on our recovery. Through the swift action of Congress and President Bush, appropriate policies to encourage economic growth, including reducing interest rates and taxes were implemented. Through the partnership of President Bush and Congress, America's workers, entrepreneurs and investors were given the means to put our economy on the road to recovery.

The Cost of Government is still substantially higher than during the 1980s, when President Reagan led the nation in bringing Cost of Government Day down to mid-June—returning to that level should be our goal.

A lower Cost of Government means more of the money produced by workers, investors