

that, "The motto's primary effect is not to advance religion; instead, it is a form of 'ceremonial deism' which through historical usage and ubiquity cannot be reasonably understood to convey government approval of religious belief."

As neat a package as that creates for concluding the controversy, that is simply not the history of the motto "In God we Trust" or how it found its way onto American coinage. That story goes back to the bleak days of the Civil War, when the nation's constitutional mettle was being tested on the battlefields that left hundreds of thousands of Americans dead.

From the records of the Treasury Department, it appears that the first suggestion of the recognition of the deity on the coins of the United States was contained in a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, Hon. S.P. Chase, by the Rev. M.R. Watkinson, Minister of the Gospel, Ridleyville, Pa., under date of Nov. 13, 1861.

"One fact touching our currency has hitherto been seriously overlooked, I mean the recognition of the Almighty God in some form in our coins," Watkinson wrote to Secretary Chase.

"You are probably a Christian. What if our Republic were now shattered beyond reconstruction? Would not the antiquaries of succeeding centuries rightly reason from our past that we were a heathen nation? What I propose is that instead of the goddess of liberty we shall have next inside the 13 stars a ring inscribed with the words 'perpetual union'; within this ring the all-seeing eye, crowned with a halo; beneath this eye the American flag, bearing in its field stars equal to the number of the States united; in the folds of the bars the words 'God, liberty, law.'

"This would make a beautiful coin, to which no possible citizens could object. This would relieve us from the ignominy of heathenism. This would place us openly under the Divine protection we have personally claimed.

"From my heart I have felt our national shame in disowning God as not the least of our present national disasters. To you first I address a subject that must be agitated," he concluded.

A week later, on Nov. 20, 1861, Chase wrote to James Pollock, the director of the Mint, "No nation can be strong except in the strength of God, or safe except in His defense. The trust of our people in God should be declared on our national coins."

He concluded with a mandate: "You will cause a device to be prepared without unnecessary delay with a motto expressing in the fewest and terset words possible this national recognition."

In December 1863, the director of the Mint submitted to the secretary of the Treasury for approval designs for new one-, two- and three-cent pieces, on which it was proposed that one of the following mottoes should appear: "Our country; our God"; "God, our Trust." (Patterns for the two-cent pieces of this are found in Pollack 370-383.)

Dec. 9, 1863, saw this reply from Chase: "I approve your mottoes, only suggesting that on that with the Washington obverse the motto should begin with the word 'Our' so as to read: 'Our God and our country.' And on that with the shield, it should be changed so as to read: 'In God we trust.'"

The Act of April 22, 1864, created the two-cent piece and Secretary Chase exercised his rights to make sure the motto was in the design. By 1866 it had been added to the gold \$5, \$10 and \$20, and the silver dollar, half dollar, quarter and nickel.

As Augustus Saint-Gaudens designed the new gold coinage of 1907 at the instigation of his friend President Theodore Roosevelt, the

motto was removed for the reason that "Teddy" thought it blasphemous. Congress responded by legislatively directing its continuation.

Where all this leads in the 21st century remains an unknown—but an interesting hypothesis can be derived. The 9th Circuit's "Pledge of Allegiance" case will be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, and likely as not, the "In God we Trust" elimination suit will progress in the U.S. district court.

As Justice William O. Douglas noted in a concurring opinion in the 1962 Supreme Court case *Engel v. Vitale*, 370 U.S. 421 (1962), "Our Crier has from the beginning announced the convening of the Court and then added 'God save the United States and this Honorable Court.' That utterance is a supplication, a prayer in which we, the judges, are free to join."

Justice Douglas, one of the most liberal in first amendment views, saw little the matter with it. Indeed, he said, "What New York does on the opening of its public schools is what each House of Congress does at the opening of each day's business."

The 9th Circuit, by contrast, says "The Pledge, as currently codified, is an impermissible government endorsement of religion because it sends a message to unbelievers 'that they are outsiders, not full members of the political community, and an accompanying message to adherents that they are insiders, favored members of the political community.'"

An earlier 9th Circuit case in 1970 which dealt with a direct attack on the motto on the coinage was briefly discussed in a footnote of the lengthy opinion. "In Aronow v. United States, 432 F.2d 242 (9th Cir. 1970), this court, without reaching the question of standing, upheld the inscription of the phrase 'In God We Trust' on our coins and currency. But cf. *Wooley v. Maryland*, 430 U.S. 705, 722 (1977) (Rehnquist, J., dissenting) (stating that the majority's holding leads logically to the conclusion that 'In God We Trust' is an unconstitutional affirmation of belief.)"

Notwithstanding Justice Rehnquist's dissent, a more contemporary analysis of his views are more apparent in later cases since his becoming Chief Justice, and they suggest strongly that he has no issue with the pledge or the national motto on coinage.

Most likely, the next several months will see a hardening of positions and a wending process in which the lawsuit, and appeals, move toward highest court resolution. That could come in 2003 or 2004, in time for it to have impact on the next presidential election.

For now, until a stay is issued, the pledge is out in California and the 9th Circuit; God remains on our coinage, so long as we trust.

HONORING WESTERN NEW YORK GROUND ZERO VOLUNTEERS

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, during his State of the Union Address, President George W. Bush said, "none of us would ever wish the evil that was done on September the 11th. Yet after America was attacked, it was as if our entire country looked into a mirror and saw our better selves. We were reminded that we are citizens, with obligations to each other, to our country, and to history. We began to think less of the goods we can accumulate, and more about the good we can do."

In Western New York, as in communities across this great nation, we witnessed first hand our better selves: as Americans from all backgrounds and walks of life came together to show their love of country and of their neighbor. We saw it in countless acts of selflessness and heroism; from those brave patriots aboard United Airlines Flight 93 to our police and firefighters, medical and emergency crews, and countless volunteers—who showed us and the world the true strength of America's heart and America's character.

One such group of volunteers will be honored for their work at Ground Zero during a Liberty Day Awards Ceremony on Thursday, August 1, 2002. These dedicated and courageous men and women left their jobs, their homes, and their families to give of themselves in relief and recovery efforts, and I ask that this Congress join me in saluting their hard work, their commitment, and their patriotism. They are:

Mr. Wesley Rehwaldt, Mr. Woody Seufert, Mr. David Albone, Ms. Karen Russo, Ms. Ann Riegler, Mr. Scott Schmidt, Mr. Jesse Babcock, Mr. Harold Suitor; Mr. Marc Lussier, Ms. Ann Riester, Mr. James Riester, Mr. William Drexler, Mr. Russell Genco, Mr. H.T. Braunscheidel, Mr. Fred Drahms, Ms. Connie Kearns, Mr. Darren Burdick, Ms. Margaret Blake, Mr. Scott Blake, Mr. Chad Shepherd, Ms. Wendi Walker, Ms. Amanda Sparks, Ms. Sherri Reichel, Mr. Michael Owens, Mr. Chris Lane, Mr. Anthony Kostyo, Mr. Thomas FitzRandolph, Mr. Kevin Dillot, Mr. Charles Huntington, Mr. Mark Gilson, and Mr. Mark Gerstung.

Also, Mr. Mark Maefs, Mr. Ray Catanesi, Mr. Kevin Baker, Mr. Ross Johnson, Jr., Mr. James Carbin, Jr., Mr. Dan Hosie, Mr. Scott Then, Mr. Robert Jasper, Jr., Mr. Robert Jasper, Sr., Mr. Wayne N. Seguin, Mr. Wayne E. Seguin, Mr. Samuel Ricotta, Mr. Richard Bilson, Mr. Richard Silvaroll, Mr. Michael Kiff, Mr. Herbert Meyer, Mr. Chris Hillman, Ms. Victoria Baker, Mr. Ralph Salvagni, Mr. Richard Wayner, Mr. Robert Conn, Mr. James Volkosh and Mr. Barry Kobrin.

TRIBUTE TO GLENN J. WINUK

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Glenn J. Winuk, a heroic citizen who sacrificed his life on September 11th to save the lives of others. Glenn served the Jericho community for 19 years as an attorney, an EMT, and commissioner of the Jericho Fire District.

Immediately after the World Trade Center Towers were attacked on September 11th, Glenn, a partner in the law firm of Holland & Knight LLP, helped evacuate tenants of his office building at 195 Broadway, about a block away from Ground Zero. He then identified himself as a rescue professional to other rescue workers on the scene, borrowed a mask, gloves, and First Response medic bag to assist others as the South Tower fell minutes later. His remains were recovered, medic bag by his side on Wednesday, March 30th, 2002.

Glenn Winuk was an attorney, but his real passion was firefighting. His passion and bravery were displayed on many occasions, such

as rendering aid in 1993 when terrorists bombed the World Trade Center and in 1990 at the Avianca plane crash on Long Island.

On September 11th, Glenn ran to Ground Zero as a volunteer firefighter and EMT worker. He acted quickly and without regard for his own life, only for those in trouble. It was not Glenn's responsibility to put his life on the line for others that terrible day. But he had the training to help and was in the position to do so. Glenn Winuk paid the ultimate price while saving the lives of others, and his memory will serve as a testament to his bravery. Let us honor the life he gave, and the heroic legacy he left behind.

THE CONTRACTOR
ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2002

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation that will fortify the current Federal debarment system. The United States is the largest consumer in the world and invests over \$215 billion in goods and services annually.

Yet the Federal government's watchdogs, the Federal suspension and debarment officials, currently lack the information they need to protect our business interests. We have no central way of accounting for the performance of our purchases. Beyond a listing of currently debarred or suspended persons, officials are limited to their individual agency's knowledge of an entity's track record, press reports and personal contacts with other agencies. The American public's knowledge is limited even further. Often times this allows Federal contractors and assistance recipients to repeatedly violate Federal law yet still receive millions of dollars from the Federal government. In a time when corporate accounting scandals are being revealed at an unprecedented pace, isn't it wise to have a full accounting of the Federal government's investments?

A recent report conducted by the Project on Government Oversight (POGO) discovered that 16 of the 43 top Federal contractors (based on total contract dollars received) have a total of 28 criminal convictions. The top 4 contractors have at least 2 criminal convictions since 1990.

The Contractors Accountability Act of 2002 establishes a centralized database on actions taken against Federal contractors and assistance participants, requiring a description of each of these actions. This will provide debarring officials with the information they need to protect the business interests of the United States. It places the burden of proving responsibility and subsequent eligibility for contracts or assistance on the person seeking contracts or assistance should they have been previously convicted of two exact or similar violations that constitutes a charge for debarment. Additionally, it improves/clarifies the role of the Interagency Committee on Debarments and Suspension and provides for retention by the prosecuting Federal agency of fines paid by offender for reimbursement of costs associated with suspension and debarment activities.

LATINO CHILDREN AND HEALTH DISPARITIES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call to the attention of my colleagues the growing health problems of Latino children.

The Journal of the American Medical Association reports that Latino children have suffered from "a disproportionate number of health problems that have been poorly studied." Diabetes, obesity, and asthma are disproportionately prevalent in the Latino community. Additionally, about 30% of the Latino population are uninsured and of those that do have health insurance, many have problems gaining proper access to medical attention.

Language barriers often continue to exist despite the executive order issued by President Clinton in August 2000 "mandating that physicians who receive Medicaid and Medicare funds provide interpreter services for patients who do not speak English." Yet citing cost, national medical associations are opposed to implementing these services.

Far too little health research has been conducted within minority populations. This fosters a lack of clarity in the etiology of common diseases among minority communities.

As a result, medical practitioners are hampered in developing culturally sound intervention that promotes the well-being of minority individuals. For example, why do Latino children tend to receive less pain medication than white or African-American children while hospitalized for limb fractures?

Access to health care, quality of care, health insurance coverage, environment, and lifestyle are most likely the contributing factors, but we do not understand the dynamics of why minorities, especially children, are not benefiting from our health care system.

Eliminating health disparities in minority communities has been a major goal since the year 2000. In that year, the Office of Research on Minority Health (ORMH), originally established in 1990, was elevated to the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD). This effort was encouraged by Congress to "promote minority health and to lead, coordinate, support, and assess the NIH effort to reduce and ultimately eliminate health disparities" and to "reach out to minority and other health disparity communities."

It is imperative that we begin to envision this country as a place where all populations have equal opportunity to live long, healthy, and productive lives. More research on health disparities in minority populations must be conducted and doctors, health officials, and the American people must recognize that these disparities are a very real problem.

We must take a stand to seriously address the health disparities within Latino children and other minority populations.

[From the New York Times, July 26, 2002]

HEALTH PROBLEMS OF LATINO CHILDREN

One in every six American children is Hispanic, but it's hard to find them in the research on child health. According to the Journal of the American Medical Association, Latino children suffer from a disproportionate number of health problems that have been poorly studied. Diabetes is on the rise,

and Latino boys have the highest rates of obesity among young people, but researchers don't know why. They also don't know why Puerto Rican children have rates of asthma higher than those in any other region.

Many of the statistics pose mysteries that go beyond the fact that Hispanic children are less likely to be covered by health insurance than are children in other ethnic groups. For instance, Latino children who are hospitalized with limb fractures receive less pain medication than do white or African-American youths. No one seems to know why, and data is hard to collect because Hispanic children are often included in the categories of white, black or "other" in medical research. Many researchers also ignore these children and their parents by excluding non-English-speakers from their studies.

Much more research is clearly necessary. Meanwhile one obvious place to start narrowing the health gap for Latino children is the language barriers. President Bill Clinton issued an executive order in August 2000 mandating that physicians who receive Medicaid and Medicare funds provide interpreter services for patients who do not speak English. The rules are flexible, but the national medical associations have opposed them as being too costly. Given the disturbing data on the state of Latino children's health, their objections send the wrong message.

CELEBRATING SALVADORAN DAY

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the California State Legislature for its efforts to recognize a day that celebrates the contributions of the Salvadoran community in the State of California. On August 6, 2002, the State of California will officially celebrate El Dia del Salvador (Salvadoran Day) for the first time. There are more than 275,000 Salvadorans in California, the majority of whom reside in Los Angeles County. Many of these individuals have actively participated in the professional and political arenas, as well as many other fields. It is my hope that the strengths, struggles and triumphs of this culturally-rich community can be remembered and passed on for generations to come.

Salvadoran communities throughout California and El Salvador currently celebrate Salvadoran Day on August 6 as an act of remembrance and celebration. This year's celebration is expected to draw up to thirty thousand people. Historically speaking, the official founding of Villa de San Salvador occurred on August 6, 1525, in the Valle de las Hamacas (Valley of the Hammocks). In this place, the indigenous peoples of Central America fought historic battles against the Spanish conquistadors. The spirit of those indigenous warriors lives on in the Salvadoran people today and is evident in their will to survive and fight to better the lives of their families and communities.

The Salvadoran American National Association (SANA) should be commended as well for its actions on behalf of Salvadoran communities across the country. SANA is a multi-ethnic peace and reconstruction organization founded by Salvadoran-American citizens who have been involved in the community for over 25 years.