

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, September 10, I was unavoidably detained due to my involvement in the Maryland primary. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: "Aye," on rollcall No. 378, on motion to close portions of the conference on H.R. 5010; "Aye," on rollcall No. 379, on motion that the House instruct conferees on H.R. 3210; "Aye," on rollcall No. 380, on agreeing to the Journal; "Aye," on rollcall No. 381, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 513; "Aye," on rollcall No. 382, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H.R. 3880; and "Aye," on rollcall No. 383, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Con. Res. 320.

STATUE DONATED IN REMEMBRANCE OF SEPTEMBER 11TH

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the city of Leidschendam-Voorburg in the Netherlands for their act of friendship towards their sister city, Temecula, California.

As a way to express their sentiments of sorrow and sympathy for the events that occurred on September 11th, the citizens of Voorburg have graciously donated the statue "Singing in the Rain," by Frans Kokshoorn to the city of Temecula. The residents of Voorburg donated thousands of dollars to have this statue built and shipped to Temecula for its installation on this day of remembrance.

Mr. Speaker, as we reflect on the events of one year ago, I would like to join the city of Temecula in thanking the city and citizens of Leidschendam-Voorburg for this genuine gesture of kindness during a difficult time for every American.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH SECURITY ACT

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge support for The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Security Act.

The National Institutes of Health, founded in 1887, is one of the world's foremost medical research centers, and the Federal focal point for medical research in the U.S. Comprised of 27 separate components, mainly Institutes and Centers, NIH has in excess of 75 buildings on more than 300 acres in Bethesda, Maryland.

The research centers at NIH study some of the most infectious diseases in the world, including anthrax, smallpox and West Nile virus, as well as nuclear waste and radioactive material. Unfortunately, because of the work NIH

does, they present a prime target for terrorists that wish to do America harm. Therefore, it must be a paramount goal of this Congress to ensure that NIH can protect itself against an attack. Presently, NIH does not have the ability to do so.

After September 11, Congress authorized the 322-acre biomedical research facility to bolster its security by doubling its police ranks from 64 officers to 108. This decision was made by U.S. intelligence experts who determined that the NIH campus is vulnerable and a potential target for terrorist attack and/or infiltration and theft of protected materials and research. Unfortunately, the force has never reached such heights due to its current pay and retirement system.

NIH police are one of the lowest paid in the Washington-Metropolitan area. The minimum salary for NIH police, \$26,415, falls thousands short of what's offered by some federal agencies, and even by some local police departments. Making matters worse, NIH police are not classified as federal "law enforcement officers," and are thereby denied the superior retirement benefits that distinction affords. The result is in low retention of officers and difficulty with recruitment. Without retirements included, there exists a 77 percent attrition rate at NIH yearly. Currently, the force has faced such problems with officer retention and recruitment that by June, its numbers had dwindled to about 50.

Due to the severity of the situation and the resources that NIH protects, I am introducing legislation that would allow NIH to bolster its security force. This bill would add no additional costs to the federal government, it would simply allow some long overdue flexibility to be used by NIH. This would include:

Making NIH Police "Federal Law Enforcement Officers," which allows their officers who are doing the same essential work as other "law enforcement officers" to receive commensurate salaries and retirement pay.

Allowing NIH police to carry firearms, serve warrants and subpoenas, and make arrests without warrant for any offense against the U.S.

Conducting investigations within the U.S. for offenses committed on property occupied by NIH.

Without these changes, we are undoubtedly allowing a prime target to remain vulnerable to terrorists. Protecting the 4-million square foot research hospital, the third largest federal building in the world, must be a priority of this Congress and I urge support for this legislation.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SHAYNA L. SMITH

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Shayna Smith has devoted herself to education during her enrollment at Wheeling Jesuit University; and

Whereas, Shayna Smith has spent countless hours in the pursuit of academic excellence; and

Whereas, Shayna Smith has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthu-

siasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Shayna Smith must be commended for the hard work and dedication she put forth in graduating from Wheeling Jesuit University;

Therefore, I join the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Shayna Smith as she receives her Bachelor of Science from Wheeling Jesuit University Scout Award.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BOB STANLEY

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a constituent of mine, Mr. Bob Stanley. I am proud to recognize Mr. Stanley for more than twenty years of devoted service to the trucking industry and the state of West Virginia.

For the last nineteen years, Mr. Stanley has been the Managing Director and President of the West Virginia Motor Truck Association. During his prestigious years as President, Mr. Stanley has built an organization that is financially strong and well respected throughout the state of West Virginia. As a voice for the trucking industry, he is also highly respected and regarded as a true professional and gentleman.

Prior to his employment in the trucking industry, Mr. Stanley served twenty-six years with the West Virginia State Police. In 1979, Bob Stanley retired as Lt. Colonel/Deputy Superintendent.

It is an honor to commend Mr. Stanley on his service to the trucking industry as well as to the state of West Virginia.

HONORING SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT BILL CIRONE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to the Santa Barbara County Superintendent of Schools, Bill Cirone. I have known Bill for many years, dating back to the days when I was a school nurse in the Santa Barbara County schools, and I am very pleased to have the opportunity to honor him today.

On October 3, 2002, the Emmaus of Santa Barbara will present the 2002 Richard Breza Service to Santa Barbara Award to Bill Cirone. I can think of no more deserving person than Bill to receive this award, as he has served Santa Barbara County Schools for the past 20 years in his position as Superintendent. Bill has created the nationally acclaimed Santa Barbara "Center for Community Education and Citizen Participation" and has constantly emphasized the importance of community service in our schools. Bill has served on the board of directors or advisory committees for many organizations, including the University of California at Santa Barbara Gevirtz Research Center, the National Association of Partners in

Education, the Santa Barbara Industry Education Council, the Santa Barbara Foundation, the Thomas Jefferson Center for Character Education and the Santa Barbara Grand Opera Association.

Santa Barbara's County Schools are truly a product of Bill's creativity and passion for excellence. He has influenced the lives of thousands of children, their parents, and community members as a whole. It is always refreshing to see Bill at community events, as he serves as an example of someone who cares so deeply about our children's futures. There are so many extraordinary people on California's central coast, but there is no doubt that there is a special place in my heart for Bill Cirone.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to pay tribute to our wonderful Superintendent on this glorious occasion.

THE PRAIRIE ROSE CHAPTER OF
THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN
REVOLUTION SALUTES
CONSTITUTION WEEK

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, the week of September 17–23 has been officially designated as Constitution Week under Public Law 105–225. This marks the 215th anniversary of the signing of our Constitution.

The guardian of our liberties, our Constitution established our republic as a self-governing nation dedicated to rule by law. This document is the cornerstone of our freedom. It was written to protect every American from the abuse of power by government. Without that restraint, our founders believed the republic would perish.

The ideals upon which our Constitution is based are reinforced each day by the success of our political system to which it gave birth. The success of our way of government requires an enlightened citizenry.

Constitution Week provides an opportunity for all Americans to recall the achievements of our founders, the nature of limited government, and the rights, privileges and responsibilities of citizenship. It provides the opportunity to be better informed about our rights, freedoms and duties as citizens.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I particularly want to take note of the outstanding work of the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which is actively involved in the Third Congressional District in events this week commemorating Constitution Week. The Prairie Rose Chapter has been involved with this effort in our communities for a number of years and I commend them for doing so.

Our Constitution has served us well for over 200 years, but it will continue as a strong, vibrant, and vital foundation for freedom only so long as the American people remain dedicated to the basic principles on which it rests. Thus, as the United States continues into its third century of constitutional democracy, let us renew our commitment to, in the words of our Constitution's preamble: "form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, pro-

mote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity . . ." I know that the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution joins with me in urging all Americans to renew their commitment to, and understanding of, our Constitution, particularly during our current time of crisis, when Americans have been attacked on our own soil by terrorists who do not recognize the rule of human law.

HONORING DAN WILFORD

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Dan S. Wilford on the occasion of his retirement as president of Memorial Hermann Healthcare System, based in Houston, Texas. For the past 18 years, Mr. Wilford has served as Chief Executive Officer of Memorial Hermann, with 11 hospitals in the greater Houston area, an outpatient center, two nursing homes, a wellness center, a retirement community and a network of affiliates throughout southeast Texas. Under his leadership, Memorial Hermann has become the largest non-profit health care system in Texas and among the largest in the country.

As a member of University of Mississippi's class of 1962, Mr. Wilford was inducted into the University's Alumni Hall of Fame in 1995. He earned his Master's Degree in Hospital Administration at Washington University in St. Louis in 1966 and completed his residency in hospital administration at Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Prior to his arrival at Memorial Hermann, Mr. Wilford served in various administrative capacities for 20 years. He was associated with Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa for 10 years in addition to serving as president of North Mississippi Health Services in Tupelo, Mississippi from 1974 to 1984.

Mr. Wilford has proudly served on the board of directors of many professional organizations. He is active in Voluntary Hospitals of America, Texas Hospital Association, American Hospital Association, Hospital Research and Development Institute, American College of Healthcare Executives, Greater Houston Partnership, Houston Area and Fort Bend County Chambers of Commerce, United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast and First United Methodist Church of Sugar Land, Texas. Through his commitment to these organizations, Mr. Wilford has set himself apart as a leader and activist in the health care community.

His dedication to the health care profession has lead many acclaimed institutions to recognize Mr. Wilford's achievements. In 1995, he was the recipient of the Washington University Health Administration Program Distinguished Alumnus Award, received an honorary Doctorate of Laws degree from Houston Baptist University and was named Business Leader of the Year in Fort Bend County, Texas. Two years later, he received the American College of Healthcare Executives Gold Medal Award and was presented with the Earl C. Collier Award by the Texas Hospital Association.

In addition to his many professional achievements and honors, Mr. Wilford is a re-

tired National Football League official who has actively participated in sports throughout his life.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Wilford has established a legacy by building a health care system with a strong commitment to spiritual values and community-focused care. With his retirement from Memorial Hermann, Mr. Wilford celebrates the conclusion of a stellar 40-year career in hospital management and I congratulate him on his unwavering commitment to health care and inspirational leadership.

HONORING DR. NOEL SMITH OF
WACO, TEXAS, A TRUE UNSUNG
HERO

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great Texan, Dr. Noel Smith of Waco, who had the vision for an independent public television station in Central Texas. Earning a Ph.D. in Distance Learning from Texas A&M University, Dr. Smith rose to become the Chair of the Telecommunications Department at Central Texas College in Waco, where he effectively used his talents as teacher, mentor, and counselor to improve the lives of many Texans.

It was at Central Texas College that Dr. Smith became actively involved in his lifelong commitment to KCTF Television. In its early days as a stand-alone station, KCTF experienced more problems than shining moments. But in 1994, when its owners withdrew support for the station, Dr. Smith rallied a committed group of Waco citizens who convinced the Chancellor and Trustees of Central Texas College to sell them the license.

Once Dr. Smith's group bought the license, the hard work began. It was as though everyone at the station was performing on a high wire without a net. Yet somehow, Dr. Smith stayed faithful to the vision of creating a community public television station and, thankfully, his vision became a reality. Brazos Valley Public Broadcasting, as it was now called, was born. KCTF would eventually become KWBU, and KWBU would expand to include public radio. Dr. Smith articulated his vision in the KWBU Mission Statement:

"KWBU shall serve as an essential lifelong resource providing quality public television and radio programs and services for the enrichment of the lives of the residents of McLennan County."

Mr. Speaker, Not many ideas make it from vision to reality. But this one has because Noel Smith has worked tirelessly to ensure that public television in Central Texas achieves that mission.

In his professional life, Dr. Noel Smith has held many national positions of leadership that have contributed to the growth of public broadcasting. He served with distinction on the board of directors of the Southern Educational Communications Association, now the National Educational Telecommunications Association, and he was a member of the PBS Board of Directors. He has used his leadership to effectively represent the interests of small market licensees.

During the course of his career, Dr. Smith has accomplished a tremendous amount of