

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTIONS

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a House resolution honoring the contributions made by this country's Hispanic-serving institutions (HSI). In my congressional district in California, California State University-Northridge has been designated as a HSI and it is my privilege to recognize the dedication and service that it provides to the Los Angeles community.

Under Title V of the Higher Education Act of 1965, a Hispanic-serving institution (HSI) is an institution of postsecondary education with a student enrollment that is at least 25 percent Hispanic, with at least 50 percent of its Hispanic students coming from low-income families. These institutions play a vital role in providing a quality postsecondary education for all Americans, and are deserving of our recognition and continued support.

I am proud of the role that this body has played in aiding these important institutions. The Higher Education Amendments of 1998 created a program designed to aid HSIs in strengthening their institutions under Title V of the Higher Education Act. These chances included allowing institutions to use Federal money to build their endowments, and to provide scholarships and fellowships for needy students. Since 1998, we have increased our support for HSIs to \$86 million. President Bush's budget, passed by the House in March, would increase support for these institutions by an additional 3.5 percent.

We have also taken other important steps to serve not only minority students, but all American students. For example, the Pell Grant program is, and has always been, our highest priority for postsecondary education. Since 1995, we have increased the maximum Pell Grant every year. For Fiscal Year 2002, the maximum Pell Grant reached a record high of \$4,000; up from just \$2,340 in FY 1995, and a 33 percent increase from FY 1998 level.

We have also passed the Higher Education Amendments of 1998 to make college more affordable, simplified the student aid system, and stressed academic quality. That legislation ensured that student loans would continue to be available for all qualified students, and resulted in the lowest student loan interest rate in the history of the program. It also provided increased aid to the neediest students, strengthened important financial aid programs such as College Work Study, SEOG, Perkins Loans, and TRIO, and created the government's first Performance Based Organization (PBO) to improve service to schools, students, and parents.

This Nation's HSIs play a vital role in educating America's citizens. It is my goal and the goal of the Committee on Education and the Workforce to build on the record of academic excellence of students attending HSIs. This resolution honors the important work done at HSIs, and encourages all students to attend college and prepare for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st Century. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

A TRIBUTE TO THE 2002 CAROLINA COURAGE WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to acknowledge the Women's United Soccer Association's (WUSA) Carolina Courage. On August 24, 2002, the Carolina Courage defeated the Washington Freedom to claim their first WUSA Championship and the Founders Cup.

From their modest beginnings only two short years ago, the WUSA has become one of the catalysts in increasing both interest and participation in soccer for young girls. While soccer remains the most popular sport worldwide, the teams comprising the WUSA have provided young girls with a group of positive, female role models.

In these two short years, the Carolina Courage has cultivated a fan base throughout the State of North Carolina. The women who make up this remarkable team hail from all over the world, and they have united together to form one of the most explosive and entertaining professional teams in the United States. These women work tirelessly to improve their soccer skills and to improve their communities.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in saluting the 2002 Carolina Courage for their efforts. May God's blessings be not only upon this great team, but also upon all of those teams within the WUSA which are setting positive examples for our young people across America.

DISASTER RELIEF

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of the Colorado General Assembly concerning the recognition of the ability of the state inmate population to provide disaster relief. Resolution 02S-1001, passed by Colorado's General Assembly supports the low-cost alternative of using the Colorado inmate population to assist communities in reestablishing their homes and businesses. I commend the work of the Colorado General Assembly for its strong efforts toward the betterment of the state and well being of the people of the great state of Colorado.

I hereby submit to the RECORD Colorado House Resolution 02S-1001:

HOUSE RESOLUTION 02S-1001

By Representatives(s): Spradley, Cloer, Crane, Dean, Hefley, Hoppe, King, Miller, Rhodes, Schultheis, Stafford, T. Williams, and Young.

CONCERNING THE RECOGNITION OF THE ABILITY OF THE STATE INMATE POPULATION TO PRO- VIDE DISASTER RELIEF

Whereas, Colorado is in the midst of a widespread and lengthy drought, has experienced throughout this summer a plague of dangerous and destructive wildfires in various locations, and may be in danger of experiencing calamitous flash-flooding; and

Whereas, The extraordinary challenges of these and other natural disasters demand creative and innovative approaches to prevent and mitigate the destruction caused by these and other natural and man-made forces; and

Whereas, For decades the Colorado Department of Corrections has supervised the provision of valuable services to the state and its communities by hundreds of inmates; and

Whereas, The Colorado inmate population can provide reliable and needed assistance to combat the onslaught of these disasters and to mitigate their destruction and stands ready as a flexible, trained, and capable workforce for the state; and

Whereas, The Colorado Department of Corrections can easily and quickly train and mobilize hundreds of inmates to perform various critical tasks, including: Forest and vegetation management; mitigation of burned areas; flood control, reforestation and reseedling; trail and road rebuilding; and various reclamation projects; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-third General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

(1) That, although the state faces a severe budget crisis and must be fiscally responsible, we, the members of House of Representatives of the Sixty-third General Assembly, recognize that assistance for communities that have been devastated by wildfires is of paramount importance and needs to be accomplished in the most fiscally responsible manner possible, and we support the low-cost alternative of using the Colorado inmate population to assist communities in reestablishing their homes and businesses; and

(2) That we, the members of House of Representatives of the Sixty-third General Assembly, believe the use of inmates for mitigation and rehabilitation is a quicker and more cost-effective alternative for the citizens of Colorado in the current emergencies than the extensive long-term training needed to allow inmates to directly fight forest fires; and

(3) That we, the members the House of Representatives of the Sixty-third General Assembly hereby encourage all relevant agencies of federal, state, and local government to consider that the Colorado inmate population may be easily trained and mobilized on request to perform numerous assignments in preparing for and responding to various disasters; and

(4) That the Colorado Department of Corrections can provide the necessary training and supervision for those inmates to carry out those critical assignments.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Resolution be sent to each member of the state's congressional delegation, to the President of the United States, to the Governor, to the Executive Director of the Department of Corrections, and to any statewide organizations representing counties and municipalities.

JUDITH RODRIGUE,
*Chief Clerk of the
House of Represent-
atives.*

DOUG DEAN,
*Speaker of the House
of Representatives.*