

declaration of any monument. Moreover, three of the monuments were declared with virtually no public process. The only sign that an area was under consideration for monument status was a visit to this state by the former secretary for a short hike to which a handful of supporters and select media were invited.

Please review your records to verify his claim. It would be very interesting to learn what the file has to say in regard to public participation prior to each declaration in Arizona.

Other concerns I have in regard to the monuments are site specific, and I have attached for your review a list of concerns my cabinet and I have compiled on each monument. You will notice the same concern often arises with multiple monuments. Where possible, we have also listed potential solutions to the issues raised. While the solutions may not be perfect, they certainly reflect more closely the will of those who make their home in this state.

Please note before you review this list that I am not suggesting the repeal of any monument in Arizona, nor a reduction in the size of any monument. I am simply asking that boundaries and proclamation language be amended where necessary to protect the best interests of the citizens of this state, including the certainty of their water and electricity supplies, school funding, necessary roads and sound wildlife management.

I appreciate your consideration of the following lists. If you need any additional information, I would be delighted to provide it.

Sincerely,

JANE DEE HULL,  
*Governor.*

#### CLASS ACTION FAIRNESS ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL POMEROY**

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 13, 2002*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2341) to amend the procedures that apply to consideration of interstate class actions to assure fairer outcomes for class members and defendants, to outlaw certain practices that provide inadequate settlements for class members, to assure that attorneys do not receive a disproportionate amount of settlements at the expense of class members, to provide for clearer and simpler information in class action settlement notices, to assure prompt consideration of interstate class actions, to amend title 28, United States Code, to allow the application of the principles of Federal diversity jurisdiction to interstate class actions, and for other purposes.

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in reluctant opposition to H.R. 2341, the Class Action Fairness Act.

Our system of class action litigation is in dire need of reform. Most class action cases are national in scope and should be heard in federal court, where like claims may be combined and uniform decisions rendered. Under the current system, however, these interstate suits are often filed in state or county court, where the decision of a local judge and jury may affect the laws of all 50 states. As a former state insurance commissioner, I am deeply troubled that a jury panel in a class action case in Mississippi or New Mexico could

effectively overturn state regulations in my home state of North Dakota.

In addition, by allowing interstate class action claims to be filed in any of the thousands of local courts across the country, the likelihood is increased that a plaintiffs lawyer will find at least one judge who is willing to entertain a claim that most people would consider to be without merit. Once a sympathetic judge is found, the plaintiffs' attorney can leverage nationwide settlements that all too often provide little benefit to the actual plaintiffs but enormous benefit to the attorney.

As important as it is to reform class action litigation, I am concerned that this legislation could have the effect of closing the courthouse door to even meritorious class action suits. The bill places a significant new responsibility on federal courts without providing the resources necessary to carry out that responsibility. The only study on record indicates that this legislation would burden federal courts to the point that class action cases could not be heard in a timely fashion. As serious as the abuses are in the current system, we cannot risk denying access to our civil justice system for people who are the victims of wrongdoing.

With additional time, we could have further evaluated the workload of the federal courts and crafted legislation that would ensure that class reform did not result in class action repeal. In scheduling this legislation, I regret that the majority leadership did not allow us that time. We have not heard the last of this issue. I took forward to continuing to work on this issue so that we have reform the class action system without denying the opportunity for worthy class action cases to be heard.

#### A TRIBUTE TO LUCIA G. REYES, 27TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2002

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 2002*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's most notable women during the month of March and it is my honor to not only recognize women of the past but to also recognize women who are making a difference in my community. While a month of remembrance is certainly not sufficient, I am honored today to pay homage to such women as Eleanor Roosevelt, Sandra Day O'Connor, Harriet Tubman, Sally Ride and all the women of my Congressional District, whose contributions have made a profound difference in the face and fabric of our nation.

I would like to pay special recognition to Ms. Lucia G. Reyes, an outstanding woman of California's 27th Congressional District. Over the years, Lucia has been an outspoken proponent for women's issues and has helped bring those issues to the forefront of my community.

Lucia currently serves as a project manager for the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California. She is overseeing a very exciting clinical trial to determine the effectiveness of a T Cell Vaccine to treat Secondary Progressive Multiple Sclerosis. If effective, this treatment may prove a powerful

weapon in the fight against this debilitating and deadly disease.

Lucia's positive energy can be seen all around the City of Pasadena. She has thrown herself into activities with the expressed purpose of making the lives of those around her better. She serves as a Commissioner on the City of Pasadena's Commission on the Status of Women in which she focuses on addressing the specific concerns and needs of women throughout the community. Her tireless efforts are to ensure the future provides the freedom and dignity each human deserves.

Complimenting her role on the Commission, Lucia also serves on the boards of Planned Parenthood of Pasadena and Pasadena's Cinco de Mayo. She serves as a religious instructor at St. Andrew's Catholic Church, volunteers at Pasadena's Youth Center, and is a committee member of the Adelante Mujer Latina Conference and HOPE'S Latina Symposium.

Her breadth of volunteer work is remarkable and all who have the opportunity to work beside her are better off for the experience. The women of my district and especially the women in the City of Pasadena could find no better advocate than Lucia.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an outstanding and extraordinary woman of California's 27th Congressional District, Ms. Lucia Reyes. The entire community joins me in thanking Lucia for her continued efforts to make the 27th Congressional District a more accepting place in which to live.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT H. STERN

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 2002*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Robert H. Stern, who dedicated so much of his life to serving the community in which he had lived. From his childhood up until his death, Mr. Stern spent the majority of his time preserving and improving the business district of Steinway Street in Queens. For his many contributions within the community at large, we honor him.

The family business, "Sig Stern" was opened in the early 1920's by Robert Stern's father. For over fifty years it was considered "the" children's store of Steinway Street. After his father's death, Robert ran Sig Stern, Inc. In 1975, Robert closed Sig Stern, and embarked onto a successful second career as a real estate broker.

Throughout his life, Robert Stern's passion was the successful, community oriented development of Steinway Street. Sensing that Business Improvement Districts were the salvation to commercial strips, Mr. Stern worked hard to bring the business improvement district to Steinway Street. At the time of his passing, Robert was President of the Steinway Street Business Improvement District. Steinway Street and its surrounding community acknowledges a huge debt of gratitude for its past, present and future success.

This vibrant neighborhood center of commerce is part of the legacy Mr. Stern leaves

from his commitment and dedication to the people of Queens.

Robert Stern passed away on November 19, 1998. He was survived by his wife, Irene, children Ronnie and Randy Stause, Stacey and Richard Block, grandchildren Jackie and Brett Strause, David and Daniel Block, brother William and sister Ellin.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to bring to your attention the outstanding life and work of Mr. Robert H. Stern. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the contributions Mr. Robert H. Stern had made to the New York community.

A TRIBUTE TO JOAN-PATRICIA O'CONNOR, 27TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2002

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 2002*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's most notable women during the month of March and it is my honor to not only recognize women of the past but to also recognize women who are making a difference in my community. While a month of remembrance is certainly not sufficient, I am honored today to pay homage to such women as Eleanor Roosevelt, Sandra Day O'Connor, Harriet Tubman, Sally Ride and all the women of my Congressional District, whose contributions have made a profound difference in the face and fabric of our nation.

I have the privilege today of recognizing an outstanding woman of California's 27th Congressional District. Ms. Joan-Patricia O'Connor has dedicated her professional career to the support of non-profit associations, educational institutions, and community organizations.

JP is a graduate of both Pomona College in Claremont, California and the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. After earning double M.A. degrees, in Journalism and Public Relations, JP remained at USC as a member of the School of Journalism's Public Relations part-time faculty. She currently serves as the Dean of the Association of Management track at ASAE's School of Management in addition to teaching Membership Marketing at the same institution. She has developed a program for UCLA's Extension Program and is called on frequently as a guest lecturer.

JP began her consulting and marketing firm over 25 years ago, directing her efforts to the world of non-profit groups and associations. She has helped countless organizations recruit volunteers, raise funds, and attract participants. Due to her efforts on behalf of these groups; JP has created a sense of volunteerism and giving which permeates the community.

JP's volunteer service is enhanced by her professional expertise. She currently serves as the President of the Board of the Burbank YMCA where along with the Board she completed a strategic plan for the facility, which serves over 28,000 adults and children. She also serves on the Board of the Burbank Noon Rotary as the scholarship chair and newsletter editor.

For her countless efforts JP has twice been named one of the "Outstanding Young Women in America" and was awarded a Fellowship by the American Society of Association Executives, a honor she shares with fewer than 200 people nationwide.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an outstanding and extraordinary woman of California's 27th Congressional District, Ms. Joan-Patricia O'Connor. The entire community joins me in thanking JP for her continued efforts to make the 27th Congressional District a place of extraordinary volunteerism and superior giving.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 19, 2002*

Mr. BONIOR. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join the Greek American community in celebrating the 181st anniversary of Greek independence.

On March 25, 1821, the Archbishop of Patras blessed the Greek flag at the Aghia Lavra Monastery near Kalavrita, marking the beginning of the Greek war of independence in which nearly 400 years of Ottoman rule were turned aside.

Ancient Greece was the birthplace of democratic values. It brought forth the notion that the ultimate power to govern belongs in the hands of the people. It inspired a system of checks and balances to ensure that one branch of government does not dominate any other branch.

These ideals inspired our Founding Fathers as they wrote the Constitution. In the words of Thomas Jefferson: "to the ancient Greeks . . . we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves out of Gothic darkness."

Today, the United States is enriched not only by Greek principles but also by its sons and daughters. Greek Americans have made major contributions to American society, including our arts, sports, medicine, religion, and politics.

My home State of Michigan has been enhanced by the Greek community. In Macomb and St. Clair Counties, we are served by St. John's Greek Orthodox Church and Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. These institutions provide a multitude of community services and add to the rich diversity of the area.

Mr. Speaker, I join the people of Greece and those of Greek ancestry around the world celebrating Greek Independence Day.

I salute all of them for the tremendous contributions to freedom and human dignity which they have made.

A TRIBUTE TO ELLEN DAIGLE, 27TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2002

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 2002*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Women's History Month. Each year, we

pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's most notable women during the month of March and it is my honor to not only recognize women of the past but to also recognize women who are making a difference in my community. While a month of remembrance is certainly not sufficient, I am honored today to pay homage to such women as Eleanor Roosevelt, Sandra Day O'Connor, Harriet Tubman, Sally Ride and all the women of my Congressional District, whose contributions have made a profound difference in the face and fabric of our nation.

I would like to pay special honor to an outstanding woman of my Congressional District, Ms. Ellen Daigle. Ellen is a true inspiration for all those who strive each day for their American Dream. Working to both expand her small business and improve her community, she can certainly be held up as one of my community's most precious citizens.

Her business, Ellen's Silk-screening, has grown steadily since she first began producing her personalized T-Shirts from her garage 25 years ago. Today she employs over a dozen people and provides hundreds of products for schools, businesses, and the community.

Ellen's success has not gone without notice. She has been named to Los Angeles Business Journal's list of Top 100 Women-Owned Businesses twice in the last five years. She has also been honored by Business Life magazine as a "Woman of Achievement" and by the National Association of Businesswomen with induction into its Millennium Hall of Fame.

Her activism in the community has been outstanding. She has always felt that businesspeople have an obligation to donate their time and talents to ensure the vitality of the communities in which they live and work. Ellen has served as a Park Commissioner for the City of South Pasadena, founded the group, "South Pasadenans for Responsible Intelligent Growth" and began "Expanding Horizons," a program for local students to help them learn about career choices and the local job market. Because of her service to the City of South Pasadena's parks programs, the California Parks and Recreation Society bestowed upon her their greatest honor.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an outstanding and extraordinary woman of California's 27th Congressional District, Ms. Ellen Daigle. The entire community joins me in thanking Ellen for her continued efforts to make the 27th Congressional District a more enjoyable place to live.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RYAN RANDALL PATTERSON

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate a young student from my district, Ryan Randall Patterson. His hard work and dedication have been rewarded with a great opportunity to pursue higher education and compete in one of the nation's most esteemed science competitions. Ryan recently won the 2002 Intel Science Talent Search, and as he celebrates his achievement, I would like to commend him for his determination and self-sacrifice in achieving this