

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2002*

Mr. MANUZZLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to inform you that I was unavoidably detained during two votes:

H. Res. 330—rollcall 3—Expressing the Sense of the House Regarding the Benefits of Mentoring. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

S. 1762—rollcall 4—Extending the Current Index for Student Loan Interest Rates and Extending Current Law with Respect to Special Allowance for Lenders. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO DEREK E. BROOMES,  
CPA

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2002*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Derek E. Broomes, CPA, an esteemed administrator and public policy expert who is being honored on February 1 by the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (CACCI) and The Friends of Derek E. Broomes at a Special Black History Month Tribute program in the Bronx.

Mr. Broomes is an influential leader in the Bronx's economic business development, particularly in the area of minority business. Since 1995, when he became the first Chief Financial Officer of the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation (BOEDC), Mr. Broomes has been the key component to the bolstering of economic development programs and small business initiatives for the Bronx. Among his many accomplishments is the role that he played in the establishment of the first SBA 504 Certified Development Company in the Bronx, the Bronx Initiative Corporation (BIC). The revitalization of the Bronx is also significantly due to the organizational and financial structure that Mr. Broomes developed for the Bronx Empowerment Zone. The Bronx Empowerment Zone is one of approximately 9 such Zones in the United States. The Empowerment Zone initiative aims to bring communities together through public and private partnerships in order to attract the investment necessary for sustainable economic and community development. Mr. Broomes took this initiative and made it a reality in the Bronx. He helped Bronx leaders identify the specific problems that the community's businesses faced and acted as a consultant to the Bronx borough president to actively address and alleviate these problems.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Broomes has held myriad important positions throughout his illustrious career. He has served as the Deputy Commissioner and Chief Contracting Officer for the New York City Human Resources administration. He also held the position of Inspector General with the New York City's Department of Investigation. Beyond Mr. Broomes' extensive professional feats, he also possesses a distinguished list of honors and credentials.

Originally from Guyana, Mr. Broomes spent his young adulthood being educated at London's esteemed institutions. He received a diploma in Economics and Finance from London's School of Economics and diplomas in Mathematics and Physics from the University of London. Mr. Broomes continued his education in the United States by earning a Masters of Science/CPA degree in Public Accounting and Finance from the Graduate School of the City University of New York and also attending New York University Graduate School of Business.

In 2000, I presented Mr. Broomes with the Congressional Outstanding Achievement Award to commend and thank him for all that he has done to promote economic progress in the Bronx. I feel it necessary to honor him once again for all of the work that he has done in the past two years and for being recognized by the reputable CACCI, an organization that also elected him as Chairman of the Board in 2000. He was also recently appointed Finance Chairman for the Lehman Center for the Performing Arts of Lehman College of City University of New York.

There is no question in my mind as to why Mr. Broomes is being honored by his colleagues and neighbors this February 1. I urge my esteemed colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Derek E. Broomes for his outstanding achievements and invaluable contributions to the Bronx.

HONORING MR. HENRY BROWN,  
BROWARD COUNTY'S TEACHER  
OF THE YEAR AND STATE OF  
FLORIDA'S TEACHER OF THE  
YEAR 2002

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2002*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Mr. Henry Brown, Broward County's Teacher of the Year 2002 and the State of Florida's Teacher of the Year 2002, being named a finalist for the National Teacher of the Year Award.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Brown is one of only four teachers from around the United States named as a finalist for the title of the nation's top teacher! This is the first time in Broward's history—and only the seventh time for the State—that a Florida teacher has made it to the national level.

Considered an at-risk student when he was in elementary school, Mr. Brown experienced many of the same problems today's students face. It wasn't until the day when a teacher saw a spark in young Henry and took an interest that he turned his life around.

Because Mr. Brown has "been there, done that," he understands how to connect with students. It's his ability to reach students and provide a rich learning environment that makes Mr. Brown an outstanding choice for National Teacher of the Year 2002.

Mr. Brown's career began eight years ago as a mathematics teacher at Hallandale Adult/Community Center. Over the years, Mr. Brown has learned that the best way to reach students is to give them a sense of industry rather than a sense of inferiority.

Having a classroom filled with students facing a wide variety of challenges, Mr. Brown

learned early on that he needed different ways of teaching different students. Some of the "real world" activities he uses include resume writing, practicing interviewing skills and calculating sales tax and sales prices using newspaper ads. His approach has proven successful, with his students increasing standardized test scores by an average of 22 percent.

Mr. Speaker, one thing is clear. Mr. Brown is a shining example that no student is a lost cause and that every student can learn and turn their lives around, given the opportunity. All it takes is a good teacher to see a spark and nurture it until it becomes a fire.

HONORING HIS EMINENCE  
METROPOLITAN MAR ENOCH

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2002*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor His Eminence Mar Enoch on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of his Episcopacy. Mar Enoch serves the Fresno area and the entire Central Valley in his position as Metropolitan Mar Enoch of the Mar Thoma Orthodox Church.

The Mar Thoma Orthodox Church is associated with the Diocese of Thoziyur, India, and the Indian Orthodox Church. Mar Enoch has devoted his life to his faith and the pastoral service of those in the Orthodox Church. However, Mar Enoch's service extends beyond members of his own faith, to his community and the entire nation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate His Eminence Mar Enoch on this anniversary of his Episcopal elevation. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Mar Enoch for his community service and wishing him many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO LAFAYETTE COUNTY  
C-1 MIDDLE SCHOOL

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 4, 2002*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I take this means to honor Lafayette County C-1 Middle School for raising \$8,500 for the victims of the tragedy on September 11. These patriotic students and teachers designed, produced and sold t-shirts to honor the victims in New York City and Washington, DC.

After the attacks of September 11, Rhonda Boedeker and Paulette Augustine, teachers at Lafayette County C-1 and Cassie Schmidt, owner of Special Tees decided they wanted to do something to help their fellow Americans. With the help of fifteen local art students, the group worked tirelessly to make their project successful. The students and volunteers donated over 180 hours of their time and sold 2,700 t-shirts. These efforts raised \$8,500 that was donated to the American Red Cross.

Mr. Speaker, these philanthropists dedicated their time and efforts to help those in need in New York City and Washington, DC. I know that Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to their outstanding commitment to public service.