

to our community and I speak on behalf of the people of St. Helena when I thank Kerry Porterfield for his outstanding service and wish him luck in his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS AND AEROSPACE WORKERS DAY OF ACTION

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the hard-working men and women of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, and all that they do for our safety and the safety of our nations' transportation services. Today, IAMAW workers from Detroit to Dallas, and from Phoenix to Philadelphia, will be rallying together in a display of strength and solidarity.

Far too often, their good work goes unnoticed and underappreciated, but these are the men and women who inspect our planes before they take off, ensure hazardous materials get transported by rail safely and build the ships for our national defense. They are truly stewards of the public health.

IAMAW members safely transport more than one million passengers each day. They keep the traveling public safe in our planes and trains and check in passengers and their luggage. They keep America moving. They deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. We need to stop the cycle of hardships, cutbacks and threats of privatization that IAMAW members have had to face in recent times. They work hard everyday to ensure that our transportation systems are safe, reliable and professionally maintained—and for that we owe them a great debt of gratitude.

So today, I thank the IAMAW's 150,000 airline and railroad workers for what they do. Together, they keep our nation moving safely, and I am proud to honor them on this day of action.

TRIBUTE TO KANSAS BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the Kansas Business and Professional Women for their upcoming 83rd annual state convention, which will take place from June 7th–9th in Topeka, Kansas. I also want to congratulate their new president, Julie Smith, a resident of the Third Congressional District of Kansas, for putting together an outstanding weekend of programs and events for her members.

Among the outstanding speakers scheduled are: Coach Marian Washington of the University of Kansas' women's basketball team, who will serve as keynote speaker; motivational speaker Susan Mayer; and author Suzy Allegra. A candidates' forum for Kansas Attorney General candidates is planned, as well as a sock hop, casino night, and many opportunities for networking and information exchanges.

The Kansas Business and Professional Women's organization is nationally associated with the American Business and Professional Women's Association, both of which offer outstanding networking, educational and support services for their membership.

DEATH TAX

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, during my first term in Congress, I am proud that I have helped pass a number of bills to reduce taxes and regulations on the entrepreneurs and small businesspeople of Florida and the United States of America.

Even so, there is much work left to be done. On April 2, 2001 the House successfully passed H.R. 8, the Death Tax Elimination Act of 2001 with my support. On April 18, 2002 the House again acted and successfully passed H.R. 586, the Taxpayer Relief Guarantee Act of 2002 with my support. It is time that the other body of Congress recognizes the importance of these two bills and acts to take up these two pieces of legislation immediately. Even so, I will continue to push to make last year's death tax repeal and tax relief permanent, because the bills are still set to expire in 2011.

Repealing the death tax and making tax relief permanent are two critical issues facing America today. First, repealing the death tax is of utmost importance because of its wide reaching debilitating impact. More than 98 percent of the businesses in Florida are small businesses, and 84 percent of the jobs in Florida come from firms having 25 or fewer employees.

The real casualties of the death tax are those businesses and farms in the 98-percent range providing their owners' families a middle-class income and standard of living. Before the death tax phase-out, when small businesspeople and farmers died, their assets were subject to liquidation in order to raise money needed to pay for their tax liabilities. Now their money goes into their businesses, to pay their employees and take care of their families.

Despite their best estate planning efforts, 70 percent of small and family-owned businesses do not survive through the second generation and 87 percent do not make it through the third generation. And 9 out of 10 successors whose family business failed within three years of the owner's death said death taxes played a major role in the company's demise. Repealing the double-dipping taxation of the death tax is not only just it is long overdue.

Another major issue facing small businesses throughout America is the burden imposed by the Federal tax system. The Tax Relief Act of 2001 much needed relief for small businesses and the self-employed. About 85 percent of America's small businesses—17.4 million-pay taxes at individual rates and do benefit directly from the marginal tax rate reductions in the act.

Last year we repealed the costly ergonomics regulations put in place in the waning days of the previous Administration, passed major tax relief, and after years of

work we found the votes necessary in Congress to finally end the small-business's nightmare. We have begun the process to repeal the death tax and make tax relief enacted last year a permanent reality. We have succeeded in doing much, but still, more is needed to protect America's small business and secure its future for generations to come.

HONORING ROBERT WETZEL—RECIPIENT OF THE DISTINGUISHED EAGLE SCOUT AWARD

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Robert Wetzel as a recipient of the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award.

The Distinguished Eagle Scout Award was established in 1969 to acknowledge Eagle Scouts who have distinguished themselves in business and in service to their community and country. Robert Wetzel is one of 1467 people who are in the same class as President Gerald Ford, astronaut Neil Armstrong and film Director Steven Spielberg. Eagle Scouts are eligible to receive the award 25 years after their first receipt of the Eagle Scout Award.

Forty-nine years ago, Bob earned his Eagle Scout award as a Boy Scout with Troop 27 in Edwardsville, Illinois. Bob attributes his upbringing to his active role in the community and to our nation. In fact, both of Bob's parents volunteered many hours with the Boy Scouts.

Among the many service organizations to which Bob belongs are: the Leadership Council of Southwestern Illinois, the Regional Commerce and Growth Association, the Eden United Church of Christ and the advisory Council for the Boy Scouts Trails West Council. Bob is the first recipient of this award from the Trails West Council. Trails West serves Madison, Jersey, Greene, Calhoun, Macoupin and Bond counties in Illinois.

The Distinguished Eagle Scout Award has been given to governors, senators, military Flag Officers, university presidents, chief executive officers of Fortune 500 companies and nationally known educators, physicians and attorneys. We can now count among its illustrious membership, Mr. Bob Wetzel.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the service of Robert Wetzel to the community and to the United States and congratulate him upon the receipt of the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award and to wish him and his family the very best for the future.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

HON. LAMAR S. SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Small Business Week.

It is a time to celebrate the contributions that America's small businesses make to our economy.

Small business is the engine that drives this Nation, producing 75 percent of new jobs, accounting for almost 98 percent of all employers and 53 percent of the private work force.

It is our small businesses that will continue to lead us to economic recovery.

In particular, small tech businesses are on the front lines of the digital revolution. They have led the way in advances from broadband deployment to software development.

My state of Texas ranks second nationally in high tech workers, employing more than 411,000 with an annual payroll of about \$25 billion. Many of those employees are working for small businesses.

And my new congressional district contains thousands of small, innovative high tech centered businesses.

One such company is Security Broadband in Austin. Security Broadband was founded in 1999 and already has over 100 employees.

Security Broadband uses real-time audio and video via highspeed cable Internet to provide security for homes.

If there's an emergency, the Security Broadband system sends audio and video signals to a central monitoring station. Personnel use this information to help verify whether an actual emergency exists. With 95 percent of home alarm incidents not genuine, law enforcement officials spend a large amount of time responding to false alarms. In case of an actual emergency, audio and video capability provides information that can help make the scene safer for responding officers.

Customers also can view their homes and see and talk with family via the Internet when away from home.

Security Broadband is just one of the thousands of small technology businesses around the country connecting rural America, developing next generation hardware and software, and keeping America on the forefront of technological advances.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN JOSEPH A. PARISEAU

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give recognition to the extraordinary life of Captain Joseph A. Pariseau who, at the age of 82, passed away on February 23, 2002.

Joe was born March 19, 1919, in Franklin, MA, the son of a baker. Nurtured by a loving family of seven, Joe spent a happy childhood in Attleboro, MA, excelling in sports like the other Pariseau boys. He attended Providence College on a football scholarship, graduating in 1941 with a degree in Philosophy.

After earning his Navy wings in 1942, Joe was assigned to VP-63, flying combat missions based from Wales, Gibraltar and North Africa, patrolling for German submarines. Other career highlights include Flight Ordnance Test Pilot with VX-5, Fleet Air Gunnery Unit (precursor to Top Gun) in 1958, Aide to Admiral Wendell Switzer, an icon in Naval Aviation, evaluation of the first U.S. angled carrier deck on USS *Antietam* and Air Boss on

the USS *Ranger*. He served as Commanding Officer of Fighter Squadron VF-53, Carrier Early Warning Wing 12 and NAS Chase Field.

During his distinguished career, Joe flew over 40 aircraft types. His many Naval honors include the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, Presidential Unit Citation with star, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with two stars, and the Meritorious Service Medal for his work as Project Manager for the Navy's billion dollar E-2C Hawkeye aircraft project.

After his 30-year career as a Naval Aviator, the "Flying Frenchman" (his aviator call sign) retired to manage his ranch in Beeville, TX, for 31 years. Joe was married to Mary D. Lassiter of New York, until her death in 1960. He married Anna Claire Heard of Beeville, TX, in 1965. They remained devoted to each other and married for 36 years until her death on February 13, 2002.

Joe is survived by his daughter, Paige Pariseau Ochenrider of Whitefish, MT; son Robert R. Pariseau and wife Laurie of San Antonio, TX; brother Roland Pariseau; sister, Lucille Pariseau, both of Attleboro, MA; grandchildren Michael Pariseau of Mountain View, CA, Stacey Lowrance of Tacoma, WA, and Mark Ochenrider of Seattle, WA; and great grandchildren Colton and Madilynn Lowrance. A talented chef and superb dancer, Joe was devoted to his family and a true gentleman. A hero in the eyes of his family, Joe's service to our country reminds me of a passage in James A. Michener's great classic, "The Bridges at Toko-Ri".

"Why is America lucky enough to have such men? They leave this tiny ship and fly against the enemy. Then they must seek the ship, lost somewhere at sea. And when they find it, they have to land upon its pitching deck. Where did we get such men?"

ENRON GREED

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 2002

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, memos released this week by the FERC, confirm what those of us from California long suspected: Enron reaped millions upon millions of dollars off the backs of Californians by manipulating the energy market, cheating consumers, and lying to energy regulators and the State. Recently released internal documents clearly illustrate Enron's strategies to game the energy trading system. The Enron documents describe knowingly and consciously submitting false information to the State in order to increase energy prices.

Enron's overwhelming greed is beyond outrageous; it may be criminal. Clearly, the billions of dollars stolen from Californians must be returned. It is also imperative that FERC reopen California's long-term contracts to prevent us from being further gouged.

Throughout the California energy crisis the Governor of California joined with the majority of California's congressional delegation to call on the Federal Government to do something to stop price manipulation. I want to share with

my colleagues an editorial from today's Los Angeles Times, that sums up the consequences of Federal inaction.

[From the Los Angeles Times, May 8, 2002]

MAKE ENRON PIRATES ANSWER

It was a scam after all.

As California faced desperate electricity shortages in 2000 and 2001, power giant Enron was manipulating the market to drive up prices and turn modest power shortages into critical ones. This arrogant behemoth, since brought down by its own hubris, toyed with the public health and safety of California to boost its own profit, and there's finally a smoking gun to prove it.

Internal Enron documents released by the bankrupt company's new management describe these unethical, if not illegal, trading practices in detail and indicate that other companies were doing the same thing. All the while, everyone from Enron's then-chief Kenneth Lay to Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham and regulators who should have smelled a rat were saying it was all California's fault. For failing to build enough power plants. For adopting a power deregulation plan that wasn't free-market enough. For environmental laws with a Malibu mind-set.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission refused to accept its legal responsibility to rein in a wildly out-of-control market. Ultimately, commissioners said, the free market would work. For California, that meant a year of crisis, of rolling blackouts, of one major utility going bankrupt and another flat broke, of the state doling out \$6 billion to buy daily power and an additional \$40 billion for long-term contracts at what we now know are grossly inflated rates. FERC finally acted out of political necessity; it was too little, too late.

The Enron memos go on in pages of sneering, "gotcha" detail about such things as how to get paid for not putting any energy on the grid. In another ploy, the firm would buy power in California at a capped price of \$250 a megawatt-hour and resell it in Oregon for \$1,200—at a time when California was flirting daily with blackouts. The schemes had cute names like Death Star and Fat Boy.

When California complained and Gov. Gray Davis denounced the energy manipulators, an Enron official said, "California is trying to perpetuate the greatest political dodge of the last 100 years."

Yes, deregulation was flawed, California was short of power plants and a drought in the Northwest had reduced hydroelectric power. Davis was slow to react to the crisis. But these factors alone did not cause the state's power costs to go from \$7 billion in 1999 to \$27 billion the next year.

FERC should help the state obtain substantial refunds from the power-generating companies that charged exorbitant prices. The state has asked for \$9 billion, an amount that federal regulators had deemed far too high but that they now should regard as just about right.

The Justice Department should investigate possible criminal violations. The state should demand that all of its long-term contracts, signed under the duress of the inflated market, be nullified and renegotiated without delay. And FERC should extend its modest market controls beyond the present Sept. 30 expiration. Electricity is vital to public welfare. It must not be held hostage by manipulators piously invoking the free market.

They scoffed in Washington and Houston when Davis called the energy manipulators pirates. Now we know why he was right.