

ability to prosper. President Bush made a wise decision when he proposed increased funding for global HIV/AIDS programs at USAID. But it is disconcerting that his budget also recommends a \$25 million decrease in support for maternal and child health programs. Difficult choices must be made, understandably, but funds should not be shifted from one essential health program to another.

At this precarious time in our world, we cannot lose sight of the health of women, the primary caregivers who instill values and provide hope for their children, the future of every society. Every year, over 500,000 women die during pregnancy and childbirth. The vast majority of these lives could be saved by low-tech, low-cost interventions. The health of a child and her mother are closely intertwined, and good maternal health is essential for the survival of both mother and child. In developing countries, a mother's death in childbirth due to malnutrition, or inadequate prenatal and delivery care, means almost certain death for her newborn child.

We must also invest substantially more in programs that improve the health of young children. Every year, nearly 11 million die needlessly before their fifth birthday—almost all from diseases easily prevented or readily treated. For example, pennies worth of antibiotics could save three million children who will die this year of pneumonia.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution calls for increased funding for basic child survival and maternal health programs of at least \$500 million dollars. This figure is just a small investment when the dividends would be political stability, international security, and a renewed hope for the future of mothers and children around the world. Representative MORELLA and I urge our colleagues to join us in supporting this important resolution.

CELEBRATING THE WORK OF
RABBI MORDECAI WAXMAN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the work of Rabbi Mordecai Waxman, one of America's great citizens, who is retiring from his position as senior rabbi at Temple Israel in Great Neck, New York. On Sunday, May 19, Temple Israel will hold a dinner to celebrate and honor Rabbi Waxman for his 55 years of devoted service not just to the Jewish community on Long Island, but to the Jewish community throughout America and around the world.

Well-known throughout New York, Rabbi Waxman will be remembered in human history as one of the key figures in the effort to heal the painful breach between the Jewish people and the Roman Catholic Church. Working with two Popes, Rabbi Waxman played a key role in the Second Vatican Council's publication of the *Nostra Aetate* document, which transformed modern relations between Jews and Catholics.

Rabbi Waxman has not only been a leader between religions, but also a key figure in the U.S. Jewish community over several decades. Beginning with his ordination at the Jewish

Theological Seminary in 1941, Rabbi Waxman has continuously sought opportunities for leadership, first, as the founding rabbi at Congregation Shaare Tikva in Chicago, Illinois and then, only a year later, serving as a U.S. Army chaplain from 1943 to 1946.

Following his service to our nation, Rabbi Waxman went on to lead Temple Israel, along the way becoming editor of the *Journal of Conservative Judaism*, the president of the Rabbinical Assembly, the president of the World Council of Synagogues, the chairman of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultation, the chairman of the National Council of Synagogues and even the first rabbi to become a Knight Commander of the Order of Saint Gregory the Great due to his vital role in Jewish-Catholic rapprochement.

Mr. Speaker, America is not a great nation because a small corps of heroes do great deeds. America is a great nation because our charter of freedom has enabled thousands of ordinary men and women to do extraordinary things.

Rabbi Mordecai Waxman is just such an ordinary doer of extraordinary things. As a citizen, as a U.S. Army chaplain, as a leader of the Jewish community in America and internationally, and as a husband to the late Dr. Ruth Waxman, the father of Hillel, Jonathan and David Waxman, and the grandfather of five wonderful grandchildren, Ariya, Amir-Kia, Lailee, Jessye and Avir, Rabbi Waxman has represented what we all know is best about our nation and our society.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon the whole House to rise and join me in thanking Rabbi Mordecai Waxman for his contributions to our country and its citizens, and in wishing him a retirement of peace, contentment and good health.

ON PASSAGE OF THE CONFERENCE
REPORT TO H.R. 2646, THE FARM
SECURITY AND RURAL INVESTMENT ACT

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, On May 2, 2002, the House approved the conference report to H.R. 2646, the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act, also known as the farm bill. I could not support this measure, for it represents a complete reversal of the 1996 Freedom to Farm Act, legislation that I have long supported.

The 1996 Freedom to Farm Act was a six-year attempt to wean farmers off government support, taking agriculture out of the hands of government control by eliminating subsidies and letting the market dictate prices and production levels. I acknowledge that the Freedom to Farm Act was not perfect, but instead of improving upon this approach and building on its early success, the conference report completely abandons the free market principles of Freedom to Farm and returns to government subsidies and hands-on government management of agriculture.

The Chicago Tribune ran an editorial on May 6, 2002, entitled "Congress at the trough," which reflects the sentiments many of us share with respect to the conference report

to H.R. 2646. I bring the editorial to my colleagues' attention and ask that it be included in the record of debate on the conference report.

CONGRATULATING SBC

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that these are challenging times for our nation's economy. All of us are looking for solutions. And many of those solutions will come from America's small businesses, whose ability to grow and prosper is crucial for today's commerce.

Today, I would like to recognize a company, which does business in my district and many other congressional districts, for its role in helping small businesses—and, in particular, diverse businesses.

That company is SBC Communications, which earlier this month [May 7] received a Ron Brown Award for Corporate Leadership. This presidential award, named for the late Commerce Secretary, is presented to companies that have demonstrated a deep commitment to initiatives that empower employees and communities.

SBC was honored specifically for its excellence in promoting economic development through supplier diversity. Last year, the company spent 23.5 percent of its \$12 billion procurement budget with businesses owned by women, minorities or disabled veterans. At the award ceremony, Commerce Secretary Don Evans praised SBC for its program and noted, correctly I think, that SBC "has set the standard for supplier diversity."

Beyond the immediate economic benefit for small and diverse companies, SBC's diversity program also ensures that these firms learn how to compete in a high-tech world. SBC doesn't just place orders with diverse companies—it actually recruits and trains them, offers special loan programs and makes available educational opportunities.

SBC wins from this commitment by broadening its supplier base and making sure that it is reaching out to all segments of society. Smaller, independent companies, especially those firms owned by women and minorities, win by gaining improved access to the world of big business. This is good for SBC, good for economic vitality and diversity, and good for America.

I congratulate SBC on this much-deserved award.

THE STOLEN ASSET RECOVERY
ACT OF 2002

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce The Stolen Asset Recovery Act of 2002. This bill would facilitate the identification of assets that have been stolen by dictators and other corrupt officials in developing countries and laundered in American financial institutions.

Many developing countries have been ruled by dictators and corrupt officials who have stolen millions of dollars from their people, laundering these stolen assets in banks and financial institutions in the developed world. Numerous dictators, such as Sani Abacha of Nigeria, Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines, Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire, Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier of Haiti, Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia, Suharto of Indonesia and the Taliban of Afghanistan, have plundered their countries' resources and left their people deeply impoverished and oppressed. When these corrupt officials leave their countries, the new governments typically lack the resources to thoroughly investigate the theft and identify the laundered assets.

The Stolen Asset Recovery Act of 2002 would require the Secretary of the Treasury to submit annual reports to the Congress on the laundering of stolen assets in American financial institutions. The reports would include an explanation of U.S. Government efforts to identify stolen assets, mechanisms available to the U.S. Government to identify stolen assets and legislation that could be enacted to facilitate the return of stolen assets to the people of the countries from which the assets were stolen. The legislation would also require the Secretary of the Treasury to urge international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to provide to the United States copies of all audits regarding the use of funds loaned to governments where corruption has been a serious problem.

The United States should support efforts to identify assets stolen by corrupt foreign officials and facilitate their return to the people who rightfully own them. I urge my colleagues to support The Stolen Asset Recovery Act of 2002.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for the State of Israel. I am wholly committed to the security and safety of Israel, a key strategic friend and ally. Last week I voted present on H. Res. 392, the DeLay Resolution entitled "Expressing Solidarity With Israel In Its Fight Against Terrorism." In December 2001, I voted for a similar resolution, H. Con. Res. 280, also entitled "Expressing Solidarity With Israel In Its Fight Against Terrorism."

I voted "present" last week because I believed that this resolution did not promote the safety or security of Israel. I hope to see Israel and Palestine coexist as democratic states, each within secure and internationally recognized boundaries. I believe that the United States has an important role to play in promoting peace in the region. The language of this resolution was highly inflammatory, and I could not in conscience support a measure that might compromise our ability to seek peace.

Terrible carnage has claimed too many innocent lives, both Israeli and Palestinian. I voted as I did because I believe the United States can help end that carnage.

RECOGNIZING MAY 10TH ANNUAL PEACE OFFICER DAY IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I wish to remind my colleagues of the countless sacrifices made by many police officers who serve us every day. In particular, we owe a special debt of gratitude to the many courageous men and women who have given their lives while protecting and defending others. In Congress, we enjoy the protection provided by members of the Capitol Police force, just as in our states, cities and localities we are privileged to be protected by some of the finest and bravest men and women. Unfortunately, far too many of their colleagues have lost their lives in the line of duty.

In the city of Chicago, these brave men and women will be remembered tomorrow, May 10, 2002 as part of the Cook County Peace Officer Day of Remembrance and Recognition. Last year, the Cook County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution establishing May 10th of every year, beginning this year, as this special day of remembrance. Tomorrow, the Cook County Peace Office Memorial Foundation will hold a special public ceremony to honor all current police officers for the difficult work that they do every day.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the Cook County Peace Officer Memorial Foundation and their Co-Chairmen Jason H. Watson, Edward Sajdak, Nathan Camer, Daryl Bernard for organizing this special event. I also join them in saluting the officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice while making America's communities safe and secure for all of us.

NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to all correctional officers and to honor the Week of May 5th as National Correctional Officers and Employees Week. Correctional officers play an imperative role in my Congressional District and throughout the country.

FBI Schuylkill, SCI Frackville, and SCI Mahanoy, as well as three county prisons, are six of the most critical employers in my district. The men and women who work at these facilities have the awesome responsibility of protecting my constituents and the public from inmates.

Correctional employees also have the important job of overseeing the rehabilitation of prisoners. They lead prisoners back into the community, supervising the construction of such things like recreation areas and baseball fields for children.

As the former sheriff of Schuylkill County, I worked hand-in-hand with the men and women who worked at the correctional facilities. No group of people understands the rigors and challenges of law enforcement greater than those who work in correctional facilities.

I would also like to pay tribute to the New York Corrections Department. On September 11, these men and women rushed to the scene of the World Trade Center tragedy to help evacuate the victims, once again proving the vital role correctional officers play in their communities.

Every day correctional officers go to work they face more danger than some of us face in our whole lives. It is a great honor to recognize these men and women and to recognize the Week of May 5th as National Correctional Officers and Employees Week.

HONORING THE 150TH CELEBRATION OF THE SISTERS OF MERCY IN CONNECTICUT

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th Celebration of the Sisters of Mercy mission in the state of Connecticut. Since their founding in Hartford in 1852, the Sisters have established many important organizations, including St. Mary Home for the Aged, 1880; the Ministry for the Deaf-American School for the Deaf, 1896; Academy of Our Lady of Mercy, 1905; Saint Joseph College, 1932; Mercy High School, 1963; Our Lady of Mercy School, 1964; Foreign Mission in Guatemala, 1981; Mercy Center at Madison, 1973; Mercy Housing & Shelter, 1983; Trust House Collaborative Learning Center, 1996; and the Collaborative Center for Justice, 1999.

The Sisters have turned their original stated purpose of the care of orphans and other works of Mercy into selfless acts that have improved the lives of millions of individuals.

Their work in education alone has influenced countless numbers of students who have in turn contributed to the development of both the Church community and the Connecticut community as a whole. The Sisters of Mercy have consciously identified the most pressing needs of the community and effectively used their resources to address those needs. Whether it be helping the economically poor, sick, elderly, imprisoned or ignorant, showing a special concern for women and children, or carrying out foreign missionary work, the actions of the Sisters can be described as nothing less than altruistic. They have supplemented time-honored strategies with conventional methods to address human needs in health care and pastoral and social services. The Sisters have generously provided for the spiritual welfare of thousands.

In July 1991, 7,000 Sisters of Mercy united as the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas to become an international community. The Institute includes 25 regional communities with 5,500 members who serve in North, South and Central America, the Caribbean, Guam and the Philippines. The Sisters of Mercy of the Americas sponsor or cosponsor seven major national healthcare systems, 20 colleges and universities, 20 elementary and preschools, 39 secondary schools, and hundreds of affordable housing developments. They also serve in programs ranging from hospices for persons with HIV/AIDS, to adult literacy centers and resettlement programs for refugees.