

and her husband built a computer and science school in Jerusalem. Recognizing that Camp David had no religious sanctuary of its own, they have helped build the first Chapel at Camp David. The couple was also instrumental in building a home for the aged in New York.

A proud resident of Manhattan and mother of two, Ms. Catsimatidis is a member of the Leadership 100 for the Greek Orthodox Church and served as Chairperson of the Children's Luncheon raising funds for cancer-stricken children.

In recognition of these outstanding achievements, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Margo Catsimatidis. Ms. Catsimatidis's spirit and dedication to our community serves as a model of commitment to us all.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL NURSING
HOME WEEK AND THE NURSING
HOMES OF THE 10TH CONGRES-
SIONAL DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize today National Nursing Home Week and honor the many great nursing homes located in the 10th Congressional District. This year is the 35th annual year of National Nursing Home Week and the theme is Celebrating the Seasons of Life.

I believe that this theme is indicative of all that the nursing homes of Macomb and St. Clair Counties have to offer. They strive to provide their residents a high quality of life and treat those in need with dignity and respect. The nursing homes of the 10th Congressional District work hard to provide their residents quality care, and I have met with many of those whose lives have been improved by living in nursing homes.

I have seen first hand the importance nursing homes and their staff play in the lives of residents and the families of those residents. It is hard for families when a loved one enters a nursing home, but with a caring and compassionate staff these thoughts are quickly forgotten.

Unfortunately, I have heard first hand about the burdens that Medicare and Medicaid reductions have placed on nursing home facilities. As a nation, we should be doing everything that we can to promote good, long-term care for our citizens, not compromising the care that our parents and grandparents receive. These reductions make it hard for nursing homes to continue providing quality care to those who need it.

During National Nursing Home Week, it is important to remember that our loved ones—our parents and grandparents—deserve the best in their later years. We need to ensure that our nursing homes and their staff have the resources and support to continue to provide quality care for all.

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT
AMENDMENTS OF 2002

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation with my colleague, Congressman J.D. HAYWORTH of Arizona to amend the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). This bill clarifies Congress's intent with regard to ICWA.

Many of the bill's provisions are included in direct response to tribal comments on H.R. 2644, an ICWA bill I introduced last year in response to tribal concerns. H.R. 2644 was drafted with the input of the Association on American Indian Affairs, Tanana Chiefs Conference, National Indian Child Welfare Association, National Congress of American Indians, the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys, various tribes and other concerned organizations. The changes that the present bill makes to H.R. 2644 also reflect input from each of these named organizations, although the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys has not had the opportunity to review a number of these.

It has been my policy to have all affected parties participate in the legislative process to help finalize a bill for passage. With this in mind, it is my intent to include the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys later in the legislative process.

In 2002, we still have American Indian and Alaska Native children being adopted out of families, tribal communities and states. We continue to have this problem in Alaska and I have been asked to introduce amendments to further clarify the ICWA. The amendments include, among others, the following provisions:

Requires detailed notice to Indian tribes in all voluntary child custody proceedings and to parents and tribes in all involuntary proceedings.

Clarifies right of Indian tribes to intervene in all voluntary state court child custody proceedings, provided that the tribe files a notice of intent to intervene or a written objection within 45 days of receiving notice of a voluntary termination of parental rights or within 100 days of receiving notice of a particular adoptive placement, and certifies that a child is a member or eligible for membership at the time of its intervention.

Requires notice to extended family members and recognizes their right to intervene in state child custody proceedings.

Requires attorneys, public and private agencies to provide detailed information to Indian parents of their rights under ICWA.

Limits parents' rights to withdraw consent to an adoption to 6 months after relinquishment of the child or 30 days after the filing of an adoption petition, whichever is later.

Clarifies tribal jurisdiction in Alaska.

Facilitates ability of tribes without reservations, including tribes in Alaska and Oklahoma, or with disestablished reservations to assume jurisdiction over child custody proceedings.

Narrows the grounds upon which state courts can refuse to transfer cases to tribal courts.

Clarifies tribal court authority to declare children wards of the tribal court.

Defines the circumstances under which state ICWA violations may be reviewed by federal courts and provides for federal review of state ICWA compliance.

Provides for criminal sanctions for anyone who assists a person to lie about their Indian ancestry for the purposes of applying the ICWA.

Allows state courts to enter enforceable orders providing for visitation or contact between tribes, natural parents, extended family and an adopted child.

Extends ICWA to cover children of state-recognized Indian tribes (in some cases), and children who reside or are domiciled on a reservation and are the child or grandchildren of a member, but who are not eligible for tribal membership.

Makes it easier for adoptees to gain access to their birth records.

I think it is appropriate that Congress further clarifies the ICWA to ensure that American Indian and Alaska Native children are not snatched from their families or tribal communities without cause. In July of 2001, the Child Welfare League of America offered American Indians something they have longed to hear for more than three decades: an apology for taking American Indian children.

"It was genuinely believed that Indian children were better off in white homes," said Terry Cross, Executive Director of the National Indian Child Welfare Association. (San Antonio Express News, Sunday, July 1, 2001 Article).

That changed in 1978 when Congress passed the Indian Child Welfare Act. Even now, Cross cites problems. "Sometimes social workers are not properly trained to identify children as Indian. Or agencies fail to notify tribes of adoptions." (San Antonio Express News, Sunday, July 1, 2001 Article).

I believe these FY 2002 ICWA amendments to be acceptable legislation which will protect the interests of prospective adoptive parents, Native extended families, and most importantly, American Indian and Alaska Native children.

The Committee on Resources will seek additional input from the Department of Justice, the Department of the Interior and the Department of Health and Human Services. I am hopeful that these agencies will again embrace this legislation so that we can affirm this country's commitment to Protect Native American families and promote the best interest of Native children.

I urge and welcome support from my colleagues in further clarifying the ICWA to ensure no more American Indian or Alaska Native children are lost.

HONORING PATRICIA MCKEE OF
WACO, TX

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, this evening, Tuesday, May 14, 2002, the people of Waco and Central Texas will gather to celebrate a 44-year association that has enriched the lives of people and improved the lives and futures of young men and women.

Patricia McKee became a Camp Fire volunteer in 1958, when her daughter, was a Bluebird. Pat continued as a volunteer for twelve

years, and then in 1970, became Executive Director of the Camp Fire USA's seven-county Tejas Council.

What followed was thirty-two years of energetic service and determined leadership in her community. Pat began by conducting a community needs survey to find ways that Camp Fire could help. She established an after-school program that continues today and is now on seven campuses of the Waco Independent School District. Camp Fire has offered parenting education, conflict resolution seminars, nutritional courses and money management classes at three of the city's public housing developments. And, in 1977, the Camp Fire Activity Center opened to provide a safe place for children to go after school.

Mr. Speaker, during her tenure, Pat McKee has established partnerships with more than forty community agencies to develop programs that help young people grow into productive, contributing members of society.

She has been recognized with national Camp Fire USA awards for such innovative programs as Kids Care, Teen Leadership Waco, Teen Volunteers Center, Life Enrichment Programs and Campus Camp. Those remarkable achievements on behalf of others have not gone unnoticed elsewhere. Former Governor Ann Richards recognized Pat with the Yellow Rose of Texas Award. She is a recipient of the Community Builder Award from the Masonic Grand Lodge, and the Pathfinders Award from YWCA.

Now, after forty-four years of service, Pat has retired to rest and travel with her husband, Goodson, although everyone who knows her is certain that she will be volunteering her time to some nonprofit organization very soon.

Mr. Speaker, Pat McKee's life has defined service to others. While the Waco community is sad to see her retire, we are, at the same time, delighted for her. And, most importantly, we are all better people for having known her.

JOHN S. LAWS INSTITUTE
GRADUATION

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I join the community of Worcester, Massachusetts in celebrating the graduation of ten young adults from the Dynamy John S. Laws Institute. I would like to recognize the graduates: Lieu Chau, Jason Dobson, Samir Gandulla, Jamie Glenn, Melisa Jaquez, Ryan Novack, Jorid Topi, William Torres, Tram Trang and Jovon Turner.

The John S. Laws Institute was created over a decade ago in 1989 to aid talented low-income and culturally diverse students in the Worcester Public School System. The John S. Laws Institute is a four-year after school program designed to give students the tools they need to complete high school and succeed in college. As part of the program students take part in internships, leadership training, community service and other skill and character building exercises. Students who graduate from the institute are eligible for full scholarships from the Colleges of the Worcester Consortium. Ninety-eight percent of graduates

from the John S. Laws Institute are accepted into college.

Mr. Speaker, I commend these young adults for taking an active role in improving their education and I wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

GEORGE NAPOLITANO NAMED
"MAN OF THE YEAR"

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to George Napolitano, who will be honored as "Man of the Year" at the Holy Name Society Immaculate Conception Parish 10th Annual Dinner Dance. Mr. Napolitano is one of the nicest people I have ever worked with. His understated manner and sincerity make him enormously well-liked in the community.

George Napolitano was born and raised in the Little Italy section of New York City. He attended St. Patrick's Old Cathedral School and All Hallows High School before attending St. John's University.

Following his study at St. John's, Mr. Napolitano began his career in the financial sector. In 1960, however, he left the career he had begun on Wall Street to serve his country in the military. Stationed in Ft. Rucker, Alabama he was placed in charge of the Officers Payroll Department. He also coached the base's Little League team to a State Championship. Mr. Napolitano was granted an honorable discharge as Sergeant and completed an additional four years reserve training.

After his service, Mr. Napolitano returned to his career in the private sector working again in the financial district before beginning a career in real estate and insurance. Shortly thereafter he also began his career in politics. He worked as a legislative aide to Assemblyman Denis J. Butler for ten years. He currently runs my Queen office, and I am proud to have George Napolitano as a member of my staff.

Mr. Napolitano has made a lifelong commitment to community service. He is a member of the Tri-State Italian American Congress, a charter member of the Sons of Italy in Manhattan and a charter member of the Knights of Columbus where he was instrumental in coordinating the Youth Program. He is Treasurer of the Powhatan Democratic Club and Chairman of the Parents' Association of St. Vincent Ferrer High School. For his work as a Lector and Eucharist Minister and his commitment to the Holy Name Society he has been honored by the Brooklyn Diocesan Union. During his tenure as President of the Holy Name Society, the organization experienced unprecedented growth. Furthermore, he has co-chaired all ten Holy Name Society dinner dances which have raised funds for grants for graduating students. His hard work and self-less dedication has made a difference in the lives of many young people and community members.

Along with his many other commitments, Mr. Napolitano also operates his own real estate and insurance business in Queens, New York, where he lives with his wife, Carol, and their two daughters, Deana and Denise. He also has another daughter, Catherine, a son, Robert, and three lovely grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, for his many accomplishments and contributions I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting George Napolitano. He exemplifies the fine American tradition of voluntarism.

HONORING THE GIRL SCOUTS OF
AMERICA ON THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY
AND PAYING TRIBUTE
TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2002
GOLD AWARDS

HON. ROSA L. DELAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the Connecticut's Girl Scouts, and troops nationwide, as they celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of America and the presentation of the Girl Scouts highest honor, the Gold Award. This tremendous organization has provided a unique and important experience to millions of young women in America and abroad.

In 1912 a group of eighteen girls assembled and, with a idea well before its socially acceptable time, Juliette Gordon Law called to order the first meeting of what has grown to become one of the most well-known and respected organizations for girls in the world. Today, the Girl Scouts can boast of a membership of just under four million young girls and adults.

The Girl Scouts organization promotes an important message for young women: that all girls should be given the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually. Girl scouting empowers our young women to realize their full potential while making a contribution to our communities. The variety of activities and programs that they participate in teach them invaluable life lessons—lessons that they will carry with them into their adult and professional lives. Reaching beyond socioeconomic and geographic barriers, the Girl Scouts of America have touched the lives of millions of young women—many some of our nation's most vulnerable citizens. The self-confidence and determination that all Girl Scouts develop is truly invaluable.

Perhaps the most important idea that these young women take away from their girl scouting experience is the value in serving their communities. Our communities would not be the same without the efforts of those who volunteer their time and energy to its enrichment. I am always amazed at the consistency of the stories I read of our local troops actively involved in reshaping the many towns and cities of my congressional district. Whether volunteering to raise funds for a new playground or becoming mentors for other young girls, they have a direct and positive impact on our community—one of which they should all be very proud.

The Gold Award is the highest distinction earned by a Girl Scout and each of those honored today should be proud of their accomplishments. These young women have demonstrated a strong commitment to their communities through the service programs in which they have participated. This recognition reflects their hard work and dedication to the Girl Scouts and to improving the lives of their friends and neighbors.

The Girl Scouts of America have left an indelible mark on our nation as well as across