

\$7.3 billion is directed to combat terrorism. The bill raises force end strength and provides for a 4.1 percent pay raise for our troops. Altogether, the bill addresses a range of defense programs that serve our national interest, some of which have particular relevance to Connecticut. It provides for much needed equipment and force modernization. For example, 39 Black Hawk type variant helicopters are authorized, 12 above the President's budget. These helicopters are crucial to meeting our strategic requirements: from helping our troops in the mountains of Afghanistan to performing a medical emergency evacuation here at home. So, for these reasons I commend the legislation to my colleagues and look forward to its passage.

IN HONOR OF STEPHEN  
ROPFOGEL, RECIPIENT OF THE  
2002 NEWS-PRESS MAN OF  
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Stephen Ropfogel, who will receive the 2002 Man of Achievement Award at the 35th annual News-Press Achievements Awards at the Alex Theatre in Glendale, California on May 15, 2002. Each year, this award is given to a volunteer who demonstrates extraordinary commitment and dedication to community service.

Stephen Ropfogel was nominated by the Glendale Association for the Retarded, where he has served as President and Treasurer on the Board of Directors for the past four years. He has been vital in educating the community about people with disabilities and in creating new ideas for fund-raisers for the association. His "Summer in the City" fundraising program, conducted in partnership with local restaurants, is one example of his dedication as an innovative fund-raiser. He also was instrumental in implementing a jewelry-making venture by clients at the association's Self-Aid Workshop.

For the past five years, he has served on the Glendale Safe Place Executive Committee, which now provides 22 safe locations for youngsters to go if they are victims of child abuse or facing other dangers. He has also coordinated efforts between the Glendale Sunrise Rotary Club and Los Angeles County Medical Alliance for the awareness program "Not Even For A Minute," which reminds parents of the dangers of leaving youngsters unattended in a vehicle. Stephen is also credited with helping to save the annual Days of the Verdugos Parade, a terrific community parade honoring Glendale's heritage and an event in which I have been privileged to take part.

For his commitment to making Glendale a better and more caring community that treats people with disabilities with compassion and dignity, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in congratulating Stephen Ropfogel upon receiving the 2002 Man of Achievement Award.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GERALD E.  
WRIGHT

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Gerald E. Wright of Denmark, South Carolina; a man who has dedicated his life to improving the educational opportunities and pursuits of young people in his community. For over thirty-five years, Dr. Wright has served the young people of his community and the State of South Carolina through his roles as a mentor, a teacher, and a superintendent.

Dr. Gerald E. Wright began his quest for higher education at Morehouse College, where he received a degree in Mathematics. He matriculated at South Carolina State College where he earned masters and Doctorate degrees in Education.

Dr. Wright began his career in education as a Mathematics Instructor at Voorhees College in 1965. He later held numerous positions, that included Federal Projects Coordinator, and Director of Support Programs for Denmark-Olar School District Two.

In 1992, Dr. Wright became Superintendent of Denmark-Olar School District Two in Bamberg County, which is currently in my Congressional district. It was as Superintendent that he made some of his most indelible marks on the school system. His accomplishments include: the establishment of a JROTC Unit at Denmark-Olar High School, the initiation of block scheduling, the improvement of parent education through the PEP STEP Program, and the addition of a Coordinator of Student Services, among many others.

He hired additional staff and teachers through Title I funds which included a School-to-Work Coordinator. He reinstated the music program, and reorganized the Gifted and Talented Program. Dr. Wright also implemented "community involvement night" giving parents and members of the community a forum to discuss pertinent issues affecting the school. Because of Dr. Wright's initiatives, High school students in his school district have had the opportunity to receive educational experiences in a more conducive environment. Dr. Wright is currently contributing to his community as an Instructor of Mathematics at Denmark Technical College.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring Dr. Gerald E. Wright, a man who deserves recognition for his role in improving the educational system of Bamberg County and South Carolina. I commend him on his dedication to others, and wish him Good Luck and Godspeed.

TRIBUTE TO THE DEFENSE  
SUPPLY CENTER RICHMOND

**HON. J. RANDY FORBES**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to represent many of the men and women who serve at the Defense Supply Center Richmond. They perform duties that are absolutely

essential to the smooth operations of our armed forces, though they may seem unglamorous to a nation that considers the television show JAG to be a peek into the life of the average servicemember.

And, they perform these duties with great pride in their work—an ethic that is evident in their most recent accomplishment.

These men and women have recently been chosen to receive a 2002 Commander-in-Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence. They are only one of five commands to achieve this distinction for their exemplary support of the Department of Defense mission. The Center received this award several times during the last decade—1991, 1993, 1994, and 1997—an unprecedented record. But, particularly now, as men and women in uniform are fighting a war overseas and our national defense at home is on alert, honoring their support of the DOD mission takes on new meaning.

On behalf of all the citizens of Virginia's Fourth District, I wish to thank the men and women of the Defense Supply Center Richmond for their dedication to duty, their quiet dignity, and their ceaseless quest for excellence in their daily labors.

TRIBUTE TO MR. THOMAS JOSEPH  
NYMAN

**HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Mr. Thomas Joseph Nyman of Abington, Pennsylvania. For 30 years Mr. Nyman has taught Social Studies at Abington High School. I recognize him today as he is retiring at the conclusion of the 2001–2002 school year.

Throughout his career, Tom is a pillar in his community and has played an active role in improving his surroundings and bettering the students he taught.

Tom honorably served his country as a sergeant in the United States Air Force where he served on active duty from 1964–1968 as an intelligence analyst. After returning home, Tom received both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in Education from West Chester University. He then went on to earn a Master of Arts from Villanova University.

Active in his community through the American Red Cross where he has been a volunteer instructor since 1961, Tom also served with the Plymouth Community Ambulance from 1971–1979. He was a coach for his children's teams in the Glenside Youth Athletic Club and served in various parish ministries for St. Luke's Church in Glenside, Pennsylvania. He volunteered in the Abington Community Handicapped Swim program from 1990–1995. He is active in Citizen's and Police Together (CAPT), serving as the Co-Chair of the 24-Hour Relay Challenges in 1994 and 1995. Tom is also a volunteer instructor with the Brigantine, New Jersey Community USLA Junior Lifeguard program.

Tom is the recipient of many awards including the American Red Cross honor for 4,500 hours of volunteer service, the Abington Township Community Service Award, the Pennsylvania Community Crime Prevention Award,

the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Citation for Community Service, and the Pennsylvania Association of Student Councils Advisor of the Year Award.

An inspiring force in the Abington community, Tom helped to educate students in both academia and in civil service. He influenced the lives of countless students for more than a quarter of a century and has created a legacy of community-minded citizens. He is a passionate, caring and personal leader who empowers those who learn from him to go forth with confidence and become leaders in their own night.

I thank Tom Nyman for his commitment to his country, community and to Abington High School. I am pleased to recognize Mr. Thomas Joseph Nyman for his many years of dedicated work. Our community is fortunate to have someone of such distinction and we appreciate all that he has done for us and given to us.

IN HONOR OF MARILYN GUNNELL,  
RECIPIENT OF THE 2002 NEWS-  
PRESS WOMAN OF ACHIEVE-  
MENT AWARD

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Marilyn Gunnell, who will receive the 2002 Woman of Achievement Award at the 35th annual News-Press Achievements Awards at the Alex Theatre in Glendale, California on May 15, 2002. Each year, this award is given to a volunteer who demonstrates extraordinary commitment and dedication to community service.

The YMCA of Glendale nominated Ms. Gunnell for this honor. She is active with the Glendale Sunrise Rotary Club, and has an outstanding record of 12½ years perfect attendance. A longtime AIDS activist, she and four members of the Sunrise Rotary created Glendale Leaders for AIDS Awareness. The group prompted the city to display an AIDS quilt in City Hall for a day.

Later, the City of Glendale applied to become a California Healthy City and received a grant to generate a public questionnaire and lectures on AIDS awareness. Marilyn provided questions, conducted phone interviews and taught classes on AIDS/HIV.

Marilyn helped create the "Not Even For A Minute" program, educating the public on the dangers of leaving children unattended in and around vehicles. She instigated collaboration on the project between the Los Angeles County Medical Association Alliance and the Sunrise Rotary and enlisted the support of the Glendale Unified School District to have related posters, brochures and window decals translated into Spanish, Armenian and Korean.

She was also instrumental in bringing Project Safe Place to Glendale, selecting members for a task force that worked for more than five years to bring this worthy endeavor to fruition. Today, there are 22 Safe Places for children to seek refuge in Glendale, whether they are facing abuse at home or dangers in the community.

For her commitment to making Glendale a better, more caring and safer place, I ask all

Members of Congress to join me in congratulating Marilyn Gunnell upon receiving the 2002 Woman of Achievement Award.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I missed the vote yesterday on H.R. 3694, the Highway Restoration Fund Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

IN COMMEMORATION OF TEENAGE  
DRIVER SAFETY AWARENESS  
DAY AND IN MEMORY OF AN-  
THONY JOSEPH TELESKA

**HON. JIM SAXTON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the creation of the Teenage Driver Safety Awareness Day at Shawnee High School located in Medford Township, NJ in my district. This annual day was started in memory of one of my constituents, Anthony Joseph Teleska, who died on December 5, 2000, at the young age of 16, as the sole passenger in a one-car accident. Anthony lost his life as a result of reckless driving, and this great tragedy has been a living nightmare for Anthony's family and friends who love and miss him terribly.

Sadly, Anthony is not the only victim of reckless driving. There are some astounding statistics regarding teenage driving that I would like to share with my colleagues: 14 percent of all deaths due to motor vehicle accidents are teen drivers; teen driver deaths due to motor vehicle accidents occur on weekends 53 percent of the time; teen drivers killed in motor vehicle accidents had a youth passenger in automobile 45 percent of the time; more than one-third of drivers fatally injured in automobiles are as a result of speed related accidents; more than any age group, teens are likely to be involved in a single vehicle crash; and this age group makes up 7 percent of licensed drivers, but suffers 14 percent of fatalities and 20 percent of all reported accidents.

As a result of Anthony's tragic death, The Anthony Teleska Memorial Foundation was created to work with local high school and law enforcement officials to increase driver safety awareness amongst teenagers.

I commend Anthony's family and friends for starting this effort towards educating the public, and teens especially, about the dangers of reckless driving. Programs like this one need to take place all over our country in order to reduce the sky-rocketing number of teenage driving accidents. Educating teenagers to drive safe is our only hope to prevent tragic and senseless accidents from happening.

LIONS OF MICHIGAN ALL STATE  
BAND

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in recognition of the individuals of the Lions of Michigan All State Band. An organization known for its hard work and dedication, Lions Clubs have been committed to serving their communities since 1917. With a membership of over 1.4 million members serving in more than 44,600 clubs worldwide, Lions Clubs touch lives throughout the world community.

In July of this year, Lions Clubs International will hold its international convention in Osaka, Japan. As the only band from the U.S. traveling to Japan, the Lions of Michigan All State Band has the privilege of representing over 18,000 Lions Clubs members from the United States at the convention. This year marks the 25th Anniversary of the Lions award winning youth program within Michigan. The honor of traveling to Japan is fitting recognition for the hard work of those involved in this program. I applaud the 123 student members of the band for their willingness to serve and the adult participants that make the program possible.

I commend the community minded endeavors of the Lions of Michigan and applaud the discipline of the Lions of Michigan All State Band. I am pleased that such fine young people will be representing our country on the international level. I invite my colleagues to join me in recognition of the hard work and achievement of the Lions of Michigan All State Band.

TRIBUTE TO THE LINCOLN SCHOOL

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 15, 2002*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lincoln School on the occasion of its 130th anniversary. Established in 1872, the Lincoln School has provided unique opportunities and brought stability and continuity in the quality of education for students in the West Marin ranching community.

Throughout its history, the Lincoln School Board of Trustees has worked tirelessly to maintain the integrity of the one room school in the one school district. Surviving earthquakes, fires and storms, the Lincoln School has met the changing needs of its students, fulfilling its role as a truly integral and indispensable part of the rural community. While expecting as well as providing excellence in its programs, the school's faculty and staff have demonstrated compassion and concern for all students.

For one hundred and thirty years, the Lincoln School has served a diverse community of learners, educating several generations of students and entire Marin families. This excellence would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts, spirit and generosity of the Lincoln School parent and teacher community.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the Lincoln School for making a significant difference in the lives of its students, families