

THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS  
COMMISSION'S REVISION OF  
MEDIA OWNERSHIP RULES

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 22, 2003*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 218, a resolution that expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) should not revise its media ownership rules without more extensive review and without a public comment period. The FCC is scheduled to announce their decision on June 2, 2003.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of this important resolution because the proposed media ownership rules will undoubtedly be a drastic rewrite that would place huge limits on what Americans hear on the radio, watch on television or read in the newspaper. We should invite more review and public comment on the consequences of these changes before the rule is implemented.

Among other things, these proposed rules would permit a television corporation to own a radio station and a newspaper in the same market. They would also increase the number of stations a television company can own from two to three. These rules will result in increased mergers activity and ultimately, in many markets, Americans will get all aspects of their news and information from one company.

The legislated goals of the FCC include fostering competition, local control and an array of voices. But these proposed rules go against the FCC's own objectives by allowing a massive concentration of power and putting local stations out of business. These rules would create homogenized programming.

The United States prides itself on diversity and freedom of the press. My constituents have expressed concern at the thought of one media outlet controlling all of the news and information they receive about their government, their fellow citizens and their culture.

I am hopeful that by June 2, 2003, FCC Chairman Michael Powell will hear the voices of Americans and postpone implementation of his rule so that he can hold public discussions and conduct a more extensive review.

TRIBUTE TO CHI CHI RODRIQUEZ

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 22, 2003*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to pay tribute to Mr. Juan "Chi Chi" Rodriguez, one of the great showmen in sports history. In a career that spans four decades, Chi Chi has won eight times on the PGA Tour and now boasts twenty-two Senior Tour victories. His colorful performances still make him a gallery favorite, while his shot-making skills have earned him the respect of his peers.

Chi Chi was born in 1935 in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, and he grew up in the hot, dusty sugar cane fields of Rio Piedras, where he helped his father tend the fields. He began

caddying at the age of six and actually learned how to play golf with clubs fashioned out of Guava tree limbs and tin cans hammered into balls. At the age of 12, he shot a 67. He became known for his hand-eye coordination and imagination, skills that for more than forty years have helped him overcome all types of obstacles. But Chi Chi's talents extend beyond what he is able to do with a golf ball. From his matador routine to his good-natured impersonations of fellow competitors, Chi Chi is an entertainer at heart.

Mr. Speaker, what truly separates Chi Chi from his peers is that he has coupled his success on the golf course with a strong personal desire to make a positive impact. This has manifested itself in the countless hours he spends at the Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation in Clearwater, Florida. This foundation serves as a safe haven for troubled and abused youngsters. Chi Chi's philosophy is simple; he wants kids to have a chance. Based on love and respect, the program builds confidence, instills discipline and provides positive educational experiences.

Clearly, Chi Chi Rodriguez is a champion golfer, but he is a greater champion in the lives of youths and the Hispanic community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Chi Chi Rodriguez for his illustrious and distinguished career and for his extraordinary contributions to the Hispanic community and to young people in the United States.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS TO  
THE WINNERS OF THE "WHAT  
MAKES AMERICA GREAT" ESSAY  
CONTEST

**HON. RICHARD H. BAKER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 22, 2003*

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate four outstanding students from the 6th district of Louisiana who won an essay contest titled "What Makes America Great."

As you know, Mr. Speaker, following the terrorism of September 11, when Americans were attacked for who we are, and at a time when young Americans are defending our freedoms on foreign soil, it is important to recall what America is all about and what we stand for. In an effort to remind us all of the greatness of our country, I turned to high school students in my district to draft essays and poetry that expresses their feelings of "What Makes America Great." I would now like to read the winning submissions to the members of Congress.

The honorable mention of the essay contest is Alexander Edelen who attends Bishop Sullivan High School in Baton Rouge and is in the 10th grade. Alexander writes:

What makes America great? The great diversity of cultures, religions, and people make the United States a unique melting pot. This diversity brings different voices with different views to the government, allowing the United States to prosper. There were many cultures that came to America, including the French, English, African and Spanish. Each culture brought its technology, religion, and livelihood to America. The blending of these cultures made the United States evolve into the America seen today. America also has many religious de-

nominations, such as Native Indian religions, and the Roman Catholic and Protestant Christian denominations. These varied beliefs give the United States a unique background for viewing the world from different perspectives. America's many cultures and religions have influenced the development of the United States, but it was the amazing cooperation of the people that held the United States together through good and bad times. The bravery, strength, wisdom, and willpower of the people have made life better for the United States and for the rest of the world. It was the people who chose this republican form of government, the people who saved the Union, the people who saved the world during the World Wars, and the people who now wish to see the end of terrorism. Is the United States a great place in which to live? Yes. In the United States of America, citizens and legal aliens are free to be diverse; it is this diversity that makes America a strong and proud nation.

Our third place winner from Denham Springs High School is Steven Sikes. Steven writes:

What makes America great is not its military might or the strength of its industry or even some kind of technological superiority. It is something less tangible but at the same time much more powerful that makes America great. It is the unconquerable spirit of its inhabitants that makes this country so special. The nature of this American spirit is demonstrated in revolutionary war slogans such as, "Give me liberty or give me death!" It is the belief that the personal freedoms of the individual are more important than anything else and should be fought for no matter what the cost. It is embodied in the nature of our government, which is unique in that it exists only as a tool for achieving the will of the American people and not for its own sake. Finally, the true nature of the American spirit is most evident in the courage and strength of the ordinary American citizen. The powerful and enduring American spirit is what makes this nation so incredible. Without it America would not be what it is today. It is what has enabled America to withstand all of the trials it has faced so far, and it is what will guide our country into a prosperous future.

Mallory Braud of East Ascension High School placed second with her poem America the Great:

Greatness comes in many forms  
Not just brains and brawn  
Like now in this time of war  
We keep on, keeping on  
United our nation stands  
Always proud and true  
We show our heroic pride  
Through the red, white, and blue  
Our strength is in our numbers  
We stand together now  
A band of faithful brothers  
Our freedom shows us how  
We live in peaceful harmony  
Unless we choose to fight  
We welcome all these strangers  
To try to do what's right  
We are too united to fail  
And too determined to fall  
We lend our helping hands  
So our nation may stand tall  
The people who all live here  
By chance, choice, or fate  
All come together to form  
America the Great.

Colleen Wesley wrote our first place essay and she attends Denham Springs High School. Colleen writes:

What makes America great? Is it the stock market or the government? Is it the culture

or the food on our plates? Many people have different views on what makes America great, but to me, freedom is the only answer. Without freedom, we would not be able to choose our religion. Without freedom, we would not be able to state our opinions. Without freedom, we would not be able to express the many talents God has given us. As Americans, we have laws protecting us against religious persecution. We are free to worship as we choose. We are also free to choose to not worship. We are able to criticize our government without being thrown in jail and we are able to decide our future career. There are many things that make America great, but freedom is most important to me. I stand strong saying, "I'm proud to be an American!"

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the students who participated in the "What Makes America Great" essay contest, and also in offering a special word of congratulations to our four finalists.

#### BIRTH OF SANTIAGO ROYBAL OLIVAREZ

#### HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 22, 2003*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the best and most notable announcement a Member of Congress can ever make about a constituent: my grandson, Santiago Roybal Olivarez was born on Friday, May 16, 2003.

Santiago is blessed to have a full contingent of doting family members ready to spoil him as soon as circumstances allow. My husband, Ed Allard, and I constitute one pair of loving grandparents. We are joined in our admiration of little Santiago by his maternal grandmother, Josefita Prietto. Santiago's great-grandparents—my father, former Representative Edward Roybal, and my mother, Lucille Beserra Roybal—and all his aunts and uncles, help complete the circle of Santiago's extensive admiration society.

Better yet, Santiago has an admiring big brother in 1-year-old Diego. Diego has undergone major health problems since his own birth, causing real worries for his parents, Ricardo and Rory Olivarez. I hope very few parents will ever know the anxiety that Ricardo and Rory have experienced as the parents of a child inexplicably and unexpectedly born with an undiagnosed birth defect as they went forward faithfully with a second pregnancy. So everyone in the Roybal family, as well as Ricardo's and Rory's many friends who understand what they have gone through during the past 18 months, now share their joy that 7 pound, 6 ounce Santiago is healthy and happy.

Last Friday, I was fortunate to be with Rory and Ricardo on the wonderful day of Santiago's birth, and I intend to exercise my prerogatives as grandmother, to be first in line for babysitting duty for newborn Santiago and big brother Diego.

Speaking on behalf of baby Santiago, I know that he is well prepared, along with big brother Diego, to provide Ricardo and Rory many joyous days and sleepless nights in the weeks and months to come. I know my colleagues join me in wishing the Olivarez family the very best in the years ahead.

#### ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

#### HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 19, 2003*

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to express my support for Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Made possible through an act of the United States Congress in 1978, Asian Pacific American Heritage Week was then expanded into a month long celebration in 1992. The month of May was appropriately chosen to commemorate the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants to the United States and the completion of the transcontinental railroad. As we celebrate the 25th year, this May is an excellent opportunity for all Americans to celebrate, honor and reflect on the many accomplishments and contributions of the Asian Pacific American community.

From the transcontinental railroad to the halls of Congress, Asian Pacific Americans have played a major role in the development of our nation with an increasing presence in the Federal government. I would like to acknowledge the many accomplished leaders of Asian descent currently serving our country. In the President's Cabinet alone, we have two prominent leaders, Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao and Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta, the first Asian Pacific American to serve in the President's Cabinet. Congressman BOB MATSUI, Chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, is the first Asian Pacific American to serve in the House Democratic leadership. Washington Governor Gary Locke, Chair of the Democratic Governors Association, is the first Asian Pacific American to deliver the Democratic response to the President's State of the Union Address.

And of course, one cannot have a discussion about leadership within the Asian Pacific American community without reflecting on the career and accomplishments of my dear friend, the late Congresswoman PATSY MINK. We must continue on in this tradition by encouraging more Asian Pacific Americans to forge ahead in non-traditional sectors as my friend PATSY MINK did. PATSY was a true trailblazer. She was the first Asian Pacific American woman to practice law in Hawaii and the first woman of color elected to Congress. The APA community has come far from its humble beginnings, but there is still much work we need to do.

While APAs as a whole have flourished in the United States, there are still challenges facing certain segments of the community. Recent immigrants and refugees are still working to achieve the American dream. My district is home to Southeast Asian and Pacific Islander populations whose challenges include post-war stress and inadequate job skills. I urge my colleagues not to forget those who are struggling to overcome language and cultural barriers, as well as discrimination.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce legislation that will ensure the Asian Pacific American community continues to thrive. In the 108th Congress, I have introduced the following bills:

- H.R. 1984, the Filipino Veterans Fairness Act, provides veteran benefits to the Filipino

veterans who fought side by side with American soldiers during World War II. In addition to providing desperately needed health care to veterans, this bill calls for home loan assistance for U.S. based Filipino veterans, educational assistance for U.S. and Philippine based dependents, vocational rehabilitation, and employment services, job counseling, training, and placement services for U.S. based veterans.

- H.R. 1486 urges the Secretary of Education to commission a study to examine ways to increase the graduation rate for Native American and Native Hawaiian secondary school students, as well as for students residing in American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam.

- H.R. 1983, the Amerasian Justice Act, will amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to facilitate the immigration to the United States of children born in the Philippines or Japan who were fathered by United States citizens. There are now more than 50,000 Amerasian children in the Philippines and 6,000 Amerasian children in Japan burdened by social stigma and psychological stress which affect viable opportunities for employment, education or family life.

- H. Con. Res. 83 honors the victims of the Cambodian genocide that took place between 1975 and 1979, and pays tribute to the survivors who made their way to the United States. It also expresses the sense of Congress's commitment to pursue justice for the victims.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent a district that reflects America's greatest strength—our rich cultural diversity. As we commemorate May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, we must celebrate the culture, traditions and achievements of Asian Pacific Americans, but we must also reflect on how to meet the challenges that will face the community in years to come.

#### HONORING JOHN MILBURN

#### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 22, 2003*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and constituent, John Milburn, his retirement from the Meadows School in Las Vegas.

John was born in Waga Wag, Australia. He moved to the United States in 1961 to attend the University of Oregon. John was the first Australian to be recruited for a college basketball team. John became a United States Citizen in 1990.

After completing his undergraduate work and a Masters in Education at the University of Oregon, he moved to Nevada and became a teacher at Boulder City High School. He spent 30 years at Boulder City High, teaching Physics, Chemistry, AP Physics, and AP Chemistry.

He coached the boys basketball team for 28 years at Boulder City High School, and led them to 8 State Championships. John was honored this year by being inducted in the Boulder City Coaches Hall of Fame.

John left Boulder City High School to become a teacher at the Meadows School in Las Vegas. He is now retiring after having spent