

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO
AMEND THE ORGANIC ACT OF
GUAM FOR THE PURPOSES OF
CLARIFYING THE LOCAL JUDI-
CIAL STRUCTURE OF GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to amend the Organic Act of Guam to establish the Guam Judiciary as the third, co-equal and independent branch of the Government of Guam. My bill also clarifies that the Supreme Court of Guam shall have authority over all inferior courts in the Guam Judiciary.

Currently, the Guam Legislature and the Guam Executive Branch have the power to abolish the Supreme Court of Guam, and as such, may infringe upon the Judiciary's independence. This unequal balance of power was created by the 1984 Omnibus Territories Act which authorized the creation of an appellate court on Guam; however, this statute unintentionally left the newly created court subordinate to the powers of the Legislature and the Executive. My bill to amend the Organic Act of Guam remedies this unacceptable situation by making the Supreme Court of Guam an "Organic" court equal in stature to the other branches of government and providing the Guam Judiciary the same protection as the other branches have in their status under the Organic Act of Guam. Just as the Governor cannot disband the Legislature, and the Legislature cannot abolish the Executive, so too should the Judiciary be free from the threat of abolishment by the Legislative or Executive branches if their judicial decisions come under political fire. The Guam Judiciary needs to be insulated from the possibility of political interference by the Legislative and Executive branches, and the balance of power among these branches needs to be restored and protected.

This bill has received strong support from the Supreme Court of Guam, the Guam Bar Association, along with various members of the Guam Legislature, including Speaker Vicente (Ben) C. Pangelinan. In addition, Senator F. Randall Cunliffe, Chairman of the Committee on Judiciary and Transportation in the 27th Guam Legislature, fully supports this bill.

The bill I am introducing today is in the same form as reported out by the Committee on Resources in the 107th Congress. This bill has evolved since it was first introduced in the 105th Congress by former Congressman Robert Underwood, my predecessor, as the Guam Judicial Empowerment Act, and in its current form, this bill reflects improvements suggested by the U.S. District Court of Guam and the Committee.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill to amend the Organic Act of Guam in recognition of the importance of having a strong Judiciary and in furtherance of Guam's efforts to achieve the greatest amount of self-governance possible. I look forward to working with the leadership on this issue, and I hope that this legislation would be reported expeditiously to the House by the Committee on Resources for consideration on the floor.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CHARLES
NATHANSON

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life of a valuable San Diego leader, Dr. Charles Nathanson. He was a unique individual because he developed the capacity to create dialogue among important leaders of differing views on the critical issues of our region.

Chuck was valued not only by a host of San Diego's leading citizens but also by those in Baja California and our metropolitan partner Tijuana.

At the University of California San Diego in 1991, Chuck founded the San Diego Dialogue, which brought over 150 regional leaders together on a frequent basis for panel discussions on the challenges to our community. He fostered the binational Forum Fronterizo Council, which held well-attended bilingual luncheon meetings to hear distinguished speakers from both sides of the border.

Baja California Governor Eugenio Elorduy Walther, co-Chairman of the Forum Fronterizo Council, quoted in a local newspaper obituary, recognized Dr. Nathanson as "the spark plug" of San Diego Dialogue as its Executive Director.

President of San Diego State University, Stephen Weber, also noted, "He understood we can never be separated from our friends and neighbors in Mexico . . ."

While his work building human bridges across our international border was his best known focus, he also volunteered his skills to create dialogue between the opposing sides on San Diego issues and gave endless personal energy to resolve differences. He formed a distinguished panel of city leaders, leading educators, and legislators to develop a common understanding of the critical issues we faced locally in education.

As both a journalist and a professor of Sociology, Chuck understood the importance of facts and of making those results part of public discussion. Realizing that basic information was critical to good educational decisions, he found the resources to have his staff undertake an important study of how minority parents interact within their school community.

I particularly appreciate that Dr. Nathanson sponsored a study of the reasons people cross the border into San Diego. It showed that many people repeatedly enter San Diego for education and shopping, and this led to the development of a fast-track, electronic inspection lane called SENTRI. Indeed, I am currently working on legislation to expedite access to this successful program.

He was hailed in the local press by Robert Dynes, the Chancellor of the University of California San Diego, as serving "town and gown superbly as strategist, ambassador, activist and taskmaster."

Born in Detroit August 22, 1941, Charles E. Nathanson graduated from Harvard and worked as a journalist and manager of a chain of weeklies before earning a doctorate in sociology at Brandeis University.

The broad spectrum of his interests included serving on a number of cultural and civic boards addressing the breadth of issues af-

fecting the future of the region including education, business, transportation, and housing. Typically, he had become a member of the advisory group for one of San Diego's newest projects, development of the Immigrant Museum of the New Americas.

San Diego and Baja California have been uniquely served by this determined visionary. Chuck Nathanson has left an indelible heritage for our region.

TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN POST

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Jonathan Post from Colorado's Pueblo County Sheriff's Department. Jonathan was recently recognized with his department's Medal of Valor. Although he has worked with the Department only a short time, he has already served with great distinction and I would like to acknowledge Jonathan's service before this body of Congress and this nation.

In February of this year, Jonathan arrived at the scene of a fire where two men were trapped inside. Although the structure was in danger of collapse, Jonathan entered the building to save the two men alongside his fellow officer, Fred Cortese. Unfortunately, the men that Jonathan and Fred were attempting to rescue were not initially cooperative, being unaware of the imminent danger they faced. Even after successfully getting the men to safety through a window exit, it became necessary for Jonathan and Fred to rescue one of the men a second time when he disregarded their orders and rushed back into his burning home.

Mr. Speaker, it is dedicated men and women like Jonathan that work selflessly to protect our rights and freedoms. I would like to draw attention to the further service he has shown to our country as a Marine Reservist serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. I extend my gratitude to Jonathan for the heroism he has shown and for the great services he has performed for Colorado and for this Nation.

RECOGNIZING OF EVELYN H.
LAUDER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Evelyn Lauder, who will be presented tonight with The Alice Award by the Sewall Belmont House and Museum. As founder and chairman of The Breast Cancer Research Foundation, Mrs. Lauder has devoted her life to the fight against breast cancer. She is a shining example of how much one individual with unrelenting passion can accomplish.

A woman of boundless compassion and generosity towards others, Mrs. Lauder has touched countless lives through her efforts in leading The Breast Cancer Research Foundation. She has spearheaded the growth of what

is today the largest national organization dedicated exclusively to funding exceptional research relating to the causes, treatment, and possible prevention of breast cancer. Since 1993, the Foundation has raised \$70 million for research funding that has fueled some of the most innovative work on breast cancer in the country.

In October of 2002, the Foundation awarded an outstanding \$11.7 million to 63 researchers at 41 leading institutions in the United States and abroad. Originally conferring eight research grants in its founding year, the Foundation is now able to award grants of approximately \$250,000 to each of their research institutions. The core of the Foundation's mission is to direct a minimum of 85 cents of each dollar donated to the purpose of clinical and genetic research on breast cancer.

Breast cancer is an issue that affects both men and women of all walks of life. Mrs. Lauder's inspired leadership is the driving force behind the Foundation's many gains in the treatment and prevention of this disease. Her remarkable vision led her to establish the Pink Ribbon as the now globally recognized symbol of breast health, putting breast cancer awareness at the forefront of public attention.

Mrs. Lauder has every expectation that we will achieve the goal of "prevention and a cure in our lifetime." With boundless enthusiasm and extraordinary dedication, she has made it possible for top notch research and diagnosis to be done all over the country. One prime example is located in my district, the first of its kind, the comprehensive breast and diagnostic center at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, which Mrs. Lauder was instrumental in creating. Mrs. Lauder was recently recognized by Rockefeller University with the Brooke Astor Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Advancement of Science for her incomparable role in creating the center as well as for the compassion and generosity with which she leads the Foundation in the fight against breast cancer.

In recognition of these outstanding achievements, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Evelyn H. Lauder for her indomitable spirit and tenacity in leading The Breast Cancer Research Foundation to fund the research that will conquer breast cancer.

STATEMENT ON CHILD TAX CREDIT

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my deep disappointment with the tax bill recently signed into law by the President. While providing approximately \$350 billion in tax cuts, this law neglects many of our hard-working, low-income families. At the same time that the bill provides tax cuts of \$93,500 to the 200,000 taxpayers making over \$1 million in our country, this bill leaves behind 8 million children by denying their families full access to the child tax credit.

This law fails to apply the child tax credit to some of America's neediest families—those earning between \$10,500 and \$26,625 per year. Of the 8 million children left behind in this tax law, 1 million live with parents who are

on active duty service or are veterans. The children of our working families, especially those of our armed services, deserve our greatest support.

There are approximately 16,500 military families with children at Fort Bliss in my district. Anxiously awaiting news about the status of the members of the 507th Maintenance Company in late March, these families understand, more than most, what it means to sacrifice for our nation. These are the families of the brave men and women who fight to defend our freedoms, and they certainly do not deserve to be left out of this tax cut. I urge my colleagues to pass legislation immediately to extend the child tax credit to families making between \$10,500 and \$26,625 a year. Let us send a message to our hard-working families that they count too and that we recognize their efforts.

It is my sincere hope that we can work together to provide our hard-working families with a fair and equitable child tax credit.

TRIBUTE TO RICK ORESKEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound pleasure today that I pay tribute to Commander Rick Oreskey of the Pueblo County Sheriff's Department, who has recently been honored by the Department with its Medal of Valor. In his many years of dedication to the police force and to the Pueblo community, Rick has embodied the ideals of integrity and courage that make Coloradans and all Americans proud of their police men and women. I am proud to pay tribute to Rick for his contributions to his community, his state and his country.

Rick has served with distinction for many years, having previously earned the Silver Star of the American Law Enforcement Association for saving the lives of two police detectives. This incident occurred in 1977 when a man, disregarding orders to drop his gun, instead aimed it at the two police detectives attempting to apprehend him. Rick acted swiftly and professionally to protect the lives of the two detectives.

Mr. Speaker, Commander Rick Oreskey is a law enforcement officer of exemplary courage and commitment to his community. He has made Pueblo County a happier place to live and a safer community. It is Rick's unrelenting commitment to his community as well as his spirit of courage and integrity that I wish to bring to the attention of this body of Congress. It is my privilege to extend to Rick my heartfelt congratulations on his being honored with the Medal of Valor.

RECOGNIZING GEORGINA SUAREZ GONZALEZ AND LUIS L. GONZALEZ

HON. CHRIS BELL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Georgina Suarez Gonzalez and Luis L. Gon-

zalez on the occasion of their fortieth wedding anniversary.

Both Georgina and Luis Gonzalez were born in Havana, Cuba. Mrs. Gonzalez came to the United States in 1947 to enter into religious study. She graduated from the College of New Rochelle in New York, a college rich with Ursuline heritage. After completing her education, Georgina realized she had fallen in love with her new country and decided to stay to make a life in the United States. Although she dated Luis in her youth in Cuba, her determination to live the American dream and Luis's plans to stay in Cuba made marriage an unlikely scenario.

Luis Gonzalez attended the University of Havana in 1945, the same year Fidel Castro entered the university. Like so many Cuban patriots and students during the politically turbulent and corrupt years of General Fulgencio Batista, Luis fought for a more democratic and independent nation. As is known from history, the dictatorship of Batista was followed by the dictatorship of Fidel Castro.

Facing political persecution, Luis fled Cuba in December 1960 to begin his new life in America. Finally, Georgina and Luis found themselves in the same country and in love.

Mr. and Mrs. Gonzalez married on June 10, 1963 in Westphalia, Missouri. Monsignor Kutz performed the wedding ceremony. After they married, Georgina left her job on Wall Street to join her new husband in Houston where he was employed with Dow Chemical. They settled in Houston's Sharpstown area and began a family.

In addition to raising three children, Georgina enjoyed a successful career with Prudential Insurance Company of America. She became the first woman in the nation to lead the company in insurance sales. Luis joined Georgina at Prudential in 1967 where they worked together to build a strong family insurance business.

Georgina and Luis Gonzalez are true reminders of the power and promise of the American dream. The couple immigrated to this country, raised three loving children, and built a strong, flourishing business. Together with their children, John Michael, Ana Maria and Luis Gaston and grandchildren, Carolina Andrea Wood, William Alexander Wood, and Gabriella Grace Gonzalez, I congratulate Georgina and Luis Gonzalez on their fortieth wedding anniversary.

BATTALION CHIEF HAL CHASE

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions and achievements of Battalion Chief Hal Chase on his retirement from the Santa Clara County Fire Department. Chief Chase has dedicated over thirty years to the community and fire department of Santa Clara County.

Chief Chase lives in Los Gatos, California, with his lovely wife, Karen, and three beautiful children, Brian, Christine, and Michael. He met his wife while serving as the President of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 1165, during which he worked diligently to increase benefits and improve working conditions for his fellow fire fighters. Currently,