

audience, along with his wife, the Statler brothers, Carl Perkins, and many more. In 1990, when devastating flood hit Arkansas farmers he was quick to jump to action. As a member of the country quartet, the Highwaymen, he persuaded the group to begin their new tour in Little Rock, Arkansas. They raised thousands of dollars for the farmers' recovery.

An eleven-time Grammy winner, Johnny Cash was recognized and honored by his native state of Arkansas. He won the Arkansas Broadcasters Association "Arkansan of the Year" Award and was given the Entertainers Award and the President's Award from the Arkansas Entertainers Hall of Fame. Johnny Cash is a country music legend and will always have a special place in the hearts of many worldwide, but none more than in the hearts of his fellow Arkansans.

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#### TRIBUTE TO MOTHER TERESA

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#### HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2003*

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to Mother Teresa of Calcutta, foundress of the Missionaries of Charity, a woman of profound grace who on October 19th will be beatified by Pope John Paul II in Rome. Mother Teresa was an unlikely hero, to be sure—exceptionally small, soft-spoken, and humble—but she remains a towering example of selfless devotion to others. Called, as she said, to "follow Christ into the slums," she dedicated her life to the destitute and disabled in Calcutta—to minister to those who were dying alone. To them, she offered something without price: unconditional love that bridged the divides of culture, class, and religion. She expected nothing in return; instead, she acted in the hope that others might love the lonely.

It is not surprising that a person with such a deep respect for human dignity also strongly defended the right to life. She was very clear about each individual's right to live, considering abortion "the greatest destroyer of love and peace." She was especially critical of the United States' acceptance of abortion and questioned how we could ever expect peace in our nation when even mothers are allowed to end the lives of their preborn children.

The lessons, then, of this remarkable life do not only apply to the poor and downtrodden in India. Mother Teresa's lessons apply to citizens of the most developed nations in the world. As she herself said, the worst tragedy is to be unloved, and the worst poverty is poverty of the heart. The best way we can honor her memory is to reach out to those who suffer in our midst and to follow her advice: to love until it hurts.

#### MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 6, ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2003, OFFERED BY MR. INSLEE

SPEECH OF

#### HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 2, 2003*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this motion. The Department of Energy may believe that simply reclassifying waste is a quick and clever way to solve a nasty problem but I, along with many of my colleagues, disagree.

Millions of gallons of high-level radioactive waste lie in corroding storage tanks in Idaho, Washington, and South Carolina with the potential of invading the nearby rivers. DOE doesn't want to clean it up because there's an easier way to go—it wants to reclassify some of that waste as "incidental" rather than high-level radioactive, and keep it in place. Simply reclassifying waste does nothing for the health and safety of the people who live near these sites. In fact, it could be extremely detrimental to their well-being. However, DOE does not seem to be concerned with those citizens. Instead, they want to take the easy path—just reclassify waste using unsound science and call it a day.

If it's not enough that harmful waste around the country would be kept in its current dangerous state under this proposal, another effect is that waste now deemed high-level radioactive waste could be shipped to New Mexico to be stored at the Waste Isolation Pilot Program (WIPP). The fact is that this waste is currently prohibited by law from being stored in WIPP. In addition, we've been told for years that high-level waste would not be brought to WIPP. To top it off, we do not even know if WIPP is ready to handle waste with such high levels of radioactivity. That is why we need to pass this motion.

During my tenure as New Mexico's Attorney General, I fought long and hard to make sure that what happens at WIPP would be decided by the people who are affected by it—the citizens of New Mexico. Decisions with such a large impact should be discussed openly and not in backroom deals. This arbitrary decision by the DOE, made without public comment by the people it would affect, boils down to clear abuse of a loophole. Codification of the proposal would be disastrous.

I urge my colleagues to support this motion. Doing so is crucial for the health and safety of our communities in New Mexico and across the country.

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#### LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY

#### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2003*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, this week more than 5,000 diverse communities across the country will rally for afterschool by participating in the fourth annual Lights On Afterschool! This national event will call attention to afterschool programs and the resources required to keep the lights on and the doors open for

children who need a safe place to go during the hours immediately after the school day ends. Lights On Afterschool! is a project of the Afterschool Alliance, a nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring that all children have access to afterschool programs by 2010.

This year's Lights On Afterschool! celebration will be its largest yet. The Alliance estimates more than 600,000 individuals will acknowledge and celebrate the benefits of afterschool programs by participating in over 6,000 events which are taking place in a variety of settings. I am especially proud of all the activities taking place in my own district with events being sponsored by a wide variety of afterschool providers including the Flint Community Schools; the National Center for Community Education; Boys & Girls Clubs in Saginaw County, Longfellow, Bay County, and Saginaw County; Partners in Progress; the International Academy of Flint Partners in Progress; Carman Ainsworth Community Education Center; and the Saginaw YMCA. These organizations are wonderful examples of the depth and breadth of afterschool programming in this country.

I have long been a supporter of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program, which provides federal support for local afterschool centers, in addition to other comprehensive afterschool initiatives. This is because these programs keep kids safe, help working families, and improve academic achievement. America's children are our most important resources and their health, safety, and quality of their education are all responsibilities we share. That is why we must ensure the availability of afterschool programs to all children, especially those who go to an empty house on any given day. The Urban Institute estimates that at least 7 million and as many as 15 million "latchkey kids" find themselves in this situation. An empty house should not be their only option.

Youth today need safe, stimulating places to go after school. As documented by a 17-year study that followed 1,800 6th graders in 10 Michigan schools through high school and college, students who participate in extracurricular activities have better grades, feel greater attachment to school, have lower truancy rates and reach higher levels of achievement in college. Other studies have shown that teens who do not participate in afterschool programs are nearly three times more likely to skip classes than teens who do participate. They are also three times more likely to use marijuana or other drugs, and they are more likely to drink alcohol, smoke cigarettes and engage in sexual activity.

Today's events across the country provide an opportunity to showcase the excellent afterschool programs that do exist and build support for their expansion. Last year I urged my colleagues to visit afterschool programs in their districts, and once again I do the same. Turn the lights on in your community and urge business and civic leaders to do the same! We owe it to America's children to do so!

I thank the Afterschool Alliance for all their work, and I congratulate the many Lights On Afterschool! partners and programs who make this event a success, in particular 4-H Afterschool, the 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Junior Achievement and the YMCA of the USA. In addition, congratulations to the supporters of this event including the National Presenting

Sponsor of Lights On Afterschool!, the JCPenney Afterschool Fund, with additional support from the C.S. Mott Foundation, Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and the Open Society Institute.

HONORING ELIZABETH BIRCH

**HON. TAMMY BALDWIN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2003*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a person who has ably served the national lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community for over 8 years: Elizabeth Birch, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign.

Elizabeth is stepping down from the helm of the Human Rights Campaign, but leaves with many victories won and a strong organization that will continue to move our country forward.

Elizabeth is a visionary. Her ideas and conceptions are remarkable. She conceived the idea of the HRC Youth College—which trains dozens of young LGBT Americans who then work on congressional campaigns. She also created WorkNet, a program that documents the ever-growing number of businesses who understand it is good stewardship, and good business, to treat their LGBT employees fairly. WorkNet also assists employees who want their company to increase its commitment to equality. These are just two examples out of literally hundreds for which Elizabeth deserves credit.

Elizabeth is a leader. When hired by the then-Human Rights Campaign Fund, she was a Californian and not accustomed to the sometimes harsh ways of Washington. As Executive Director, she secured her political footing quickly and HRC's influence continued to grow on Capitol Hill. Because of her leadership, HRC has helped defeat numerous anti-gay measures and advance policies that are based on fairness. When needed, she would take to the public airwaves to remind our leaders in Washington that Americans do not want a government intolerant to its own citizens.

Mr. Speaker, my remarks cannot adequately describe the exceptional work and accomplishments of Elizabeth Birch. She is an extraordinary human being. She is my friend. I am grateful for the leadership she has provided, and she will be sorely missed.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 1, MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG AND MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2003

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2003*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, It would be healthy for the conference committee to debate this in the context of the overall program that will serve the senior citizens most in need. Having the possibility of the wealthiest senior citizens paying a little more does not seem unreasonable.

Unfortunately, Congress is slowly but surely painting itself into a corner. As people rule out

tax or fee increases, benefit reductions, co-payment adjustment or eligibility modifications, there appears to be no way the current program can be maintained, much less add a new, important, but expensive prescription drug benefit without a massive infusion from the general fund (borrowed dollars).

With increasing budget deficits, more tax cuts, and escalating demands on Social Security and Medicare (both in terms of service and demographics), we are headed for a train wreck. We must start making some adjustments because time is growing short and a problem that is already difficult is becoming more serious as time goes on.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO GIVE DC CITIZENS A PLACE IN STATUARY HALL

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2003*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that Government Reform Committee Chair Tom Davis (R-VA) introduced a bill with me today to permit two statues honoring citizens of the District of Columbia in Statuary Hall of the Capitol, just as statues honoring citizens of states are placed in the historic hall. This legislation would allow the city to offer two statues to the Congress on behalf of D.C. residents.

The District of Columbia was born with the nation itself. The city has more than two centuries of its very own rich and uniquely American history. It goes without saying that the almost 600,000 American citizens who live in the nation's capital deserve the honor of having two of its history makers represented in the halls of the nation's Capitol just as citizens who live in the 50 states have long enjoyed.

Our bill would allow the Mayor and the City Council to devise the method for determining the identity of the honorees, who must be deceased. Mayor Anthony Williams has already agreed to find funds in the District's budget for these statues upon the passage of this legislation.

Every time we allow the District to be excluded from its place among the 50 states, we undermine our own fight for congressional voting rights and full democracy. It is for this reason that I insisted on a D.C. coin when quarters were authorized for the states and a D.C. travel and tourism stamp. I got the Postal Service to issue the first hometown D.C. stamp depicting D.C. neighborhoods, as well as traditional monuments, last month. My coin bill has been introduced and is expected to be approved soon on the suspension calendar.

While D.C. residents have not yet obtained the same full political equality and voting rights as the states, they have all the responsibilities of the states, including paying all federal taxes and serving in all wars. Today when we are losing residents in Iraq, the least we should do is to give this city its rightful and equal place in the Capitol. Recently the District lost 44-year old Lt. Col. Paul W. Kimbrough, an African-American engineer who was supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. A month ago I attended the funeral of 21-year old Specialist Darryl Dent of the D.C. National Guard who was killed in Iraq. There are more

than 100 soldiers still serving in Iraq from Specialist Dent's 547th Transportation Company.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN WEAVER

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to the life and memory of a great citizen from my district. John Weaver of Naturita, Colorado, an employee of the Montrose County Sheriff's Department and a devoted public servant, tragically passed away recently in the crash of his ultra-light airplane. As his family and our community mourn John's passing, I would like to pay tribute to his memory here today.

John was very active in the Naturita community. He was Lead Dispatcher at the West End Communications Center for the Montrose Sheriff's Department, where he helped make that office a unified and efficient team. His hard work and dedication saved countless lives. John was also a member of the Naturita Town Board, and he worked tirelessly to open the Basin Clinic, a local medical clinic which serves the residents of Naturita. In addition, John was instrumental in establishing the Naturita Fire and Rescue team, serving his community as a volunteer fire fighter.

Mr. Speaker, John Weaver was a man of conviction and kindness. A dedicated public servant, a devoted neighbor, and an active member of the community, John went out of his way to help his friends and neighbors whenever he could. While John has passed away, his legacy will certainly live. I am honored to join with my colleagues in honoring John's life and memory here today.

IN HONOR OF ST. INNOCENT ORTHODOX CHURCH

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 2003*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Innocent Orthodox Church on the 20th Anniversary of the founding of St. Innocent the Apostle to America Parish.

Twenty years ago, a coalition of dedicated Orthodox Christians from a variety of ethnic backgrounds came together to practice their faith in a common language. These early members began holding biweekly services in the Community Room of Great Northern Mall and established committees to determine the growth and direction of the new parish. St. Innocent was chosen as the patron saint because the zeal of the missionary, who taught the Orthodox Christian Faith across North America and Alaska, would be an inspiration to the members of the new church.

In 1984, the members of St. Innocent began holding services in a rented chapel in Westlake. Members established a church school program for children and adults and weekly bible studies. The church is also very active in outreach to the surrounding community. Each month, money from an extra collection is donated to charitable organizations or