

they are using these new powers. The information they have received after months of badgering the Department is inadequate. The Justice Department claimed most of the information regarding libraries and bookstores was "confidential," and could not be provided. This past October, several national organizations, including the American Booksellers Association, filed a Freedom of Information Act request to get statistical information, such as how many times the government has used its expanded surveillance authority under the Patriot Act. In January, a very limited amount of information was released to these groups and they are continuing to push for a more complete disclosure.

Importantly, an anonymous survey done by the University of Illinois found that over 175 libraries across the country have been visited by federal authorities since the September 11th attacks. How is the Congress and the public supposed to make sure that these new powers are not being abused when we do not even know how often they are being invoked and the types of institutions that are being investigated?

For many people who can not afford to buy books or have the Internet at home the library is critical to their ability to access to information. Many librarians and booksellers now fear that patrons have begun to self-censor their library use and book purchases due to fears of government surveillance. We need to remove libraries and booksellers from Section 215 so that Americans know their freedom to access information won't be improperly scrutinized by federal agents.

Let us be clear. The FBI would still be able to gain access to library or bookseller records as part of an investigation into illegal activity. All our bill does is restore the traditional protections that Americans expect and deserve. If the FBI has probable cause to believe that information in a library or bookseller's records or computers is connected to an ongoing criminal investigation or terrorism investigation, they can go to court and get a search warrant.

In addition, the bill requires that the Justice Department provide more detailed information about its activities under Section 215 so we can determine how the FBI is using its new powers under Section 215.

Let me conclude by saying that all of us support protecting Americans from terrorism. But we do not win against terrorists by abandoning our most basic civil liberties. We cannot be an example of freedom for the world when our own government is spying on what Americans are reading.

HONORING THE UNITED COMMUNITY NURSERY SCHOOL AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 40th ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, for the last four decades, the United Community Nursery School has been an invaluable resource to many children and families of New Haven. I am pleased to rise today to join with friends, families, and community leaders in paying tribute to their outstanding contributions as they celebrate their 40th Anniversary.

I have long held a firm belief in the importance of education and have often spoke of our nation's need to ensure that, even at the

earliest stages, our children have access to programs and services that will enrich their education. The United Community Nursery School has been doing just this for the last forty years. Before initiatives like Headstart and before educational programming like Sesame Street and Mr. Rogers, the founders of the United Community Nursery School recognized this need and worked hard to find a solution.

At the time of its inception, quality nursery school programs were not available to every family. Members of the United Church on the Green, realizing this gap in the community, began to look for a way to offer these programs to all of New Haven's children. They envisioned a setting where small children, regardless of background, culture, or religion, would be able to play and learn together. They envisioned a preschool where talented and caring teachers could work with families to ensure that their young children were developing the skills and tools they need for a strong educational foundation. What began as a single classroom with a part-time staff grew quickly to become a remarkable education program for toddlers throughout New Haven.

The United Community Nursery School became one of the first in Connecticut to be accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs. A respected community resource, they were also one of the first to be designated as a New Haven School Readiness site. For four decades, the dedication and commitment of the staff and the members of the United Church have ensured that this treasure continues to provide much-needed early learning programs. Over the last several years, research has shown and experts have said that early learning is a fundamental piece of a child's education. The New Haven community—and more importantly our young children—have indeed been fortunate to have benefitted from the many contributions of the United Community Nursery School.

It is with great pleasure that I rise today to join all of those gathered in extending my sincere thanks and appreciation to the United Community Nursery School for all of their good work as well as my sincere congratulations on their 40th Anniversary. The legacy they have built will continue to educate and inspire generations to come.

IN MEMORY OF ZORAN DJINDJIC

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, we learned today of the assassination in Belgrade of the Prime Minister of Serbia, Zoran Djindjic. This is a true tragedy, not only for family and friends of Mr. Djindjic but for all the people of Serbia and, indeed, for all who struggle for human rights and democratic development.

Zoran Djindjic became a leader during difficult times in his country. He chose to stand in opposition to Slobodan Milosevic and his regime. That certainly was not the easiest course, and it took courage. Zoran Djindjic also had determination and, after repeated setbacks and obstacles, he played a key role in ousting Milosevic from power in 2000. He subsequently became, as Prime Minister of

Serbia, a force for reform, recognizing that Serbia needed to cast off not only the yoke of Milosevic's rule but also Milosevic's legacy of nationalist hatred, organized crime, corruption and greed. Transferring Milosevic to The Hague in 2001 to face charges for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide perhaps best symbolized Djindjic's continued courage and determination to conquer the sinister forces which seized his country.

Zoran Djindjic was still battling resistance to reform in Serbia when his life was taken by the vicious act of cold-blooded assassins.

These will undoubtedly be turbulent times for Belgrade, for Serbia, and for Montenegro which is just embarking on a new relationship with Serbia. This tragedy may have reverberations throughout the region, particularly in Bosnia and in Kosovo.

It is my hope and prayer, Mr. Speaker, that the people of Serbia will respond to this crime with a loud and united cry: "Enough is enough." In the past, they have seen the lives of journalist Slavko Curuvija and politician Ivan Stambolic snuffed out for their advocacy of a civilized Serbia, in which human rights and the rule of law are respected.

Similarly Djindjic, too, was advocating such noble objectives. The very decent people of Serbia deserve a society which respects human rights and upholds the rule of law. That is what the leaders of Serbia must now provide without further hesitation or delay. I take heart in knowing that Djindjic had many colleagues who shared his vision of a reformed Serbia.

My deepest condolences go to the family of Zoran Djindjic. I hope that the incredible grief they must now feel will be tempered by the pride they should feel in his accomplishments and service to his country.

COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE DEVOLUTION ACT OF 2003

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I introduced the "Commercial Driver's License Devolution Act of 2003." This legislation will give states the option to establish their own commercial driver's license (CDL) requirements for intrastate drivers.

As many in this House already know, I have always been a strong advocate for taking power out of Washington and returning it to the states. I do not believe that our traditional, one-size-fits-all approach to governing is effective, efficient or economical for the American taxpayer.

The legislation which I propose today would return power to the states by giving states the option, and I emphasize option, to license intrastate drivers of commercial motor vehicles based upon testing standards determined by the individual states. As you know, the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986 (CMVSA) required states to establish a new and uniform program of testing and licensure for all operators of commercial vehicles both intra- and interstate. The principal objectives of this Act have been met and would not be harmed by this legislation.

The CMVSA is good law, and its provisions were necessary and timely for improving

standards of performance for long-haul truck drivers. The CMVSA, however, was also imposed upon intrastate commerce where the operation of trucks may be a small but necessary part of an individual's job. We imposed our will on thousands of small businesses not involved in long-haul trucking and somehow expected them to adjust to any circumstance that might arise. Under these conditions, I believe it should be within a state's discretion to determine what kind of commercial vehicle licensure and testing is required for commerce solely within its borders.

I again want to emphasize that it would be entirely up to each state whether it chooses to reassume authority over licensing and testing of intrastate drivers. A state that chooses to exercise this option would in no way diminish the role of the CDL in the long-haul trucking industry. Additionally, this legislation effectively precludes two or more states from using this option as the basis for an interstate compact. I am confident that those states taking advantage of this option will develop testing standards that maintain the same level of safety offered by the federal program. After all, the primary mission of all state DOTs is to ensure the safety of those travelling on its roads.

This legislation is extremely important to our nation's small businesses, and I urge the House to adopt this measure.

THE REINTRODUCTION OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Ms. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, this is a difficult time. We're worried about the possibility of war and concerned about the men and women in our armed forces, but the best way to honor democracy is to ensure equality and justice for all. That's why we're leading this bipartisan movement for the Equality Amendment for women and men. We intend to do all we can to see that it becomes part of the Constitution, which is where it belongs.

I am proud to be joined by my Republican colleagues, JIM LEACH and JUDY BIGGERT. I am also grateful to the dean of the House, JOHN DINGELL, for his leadership on so many issues important to women; to leading pollster Mark Penn of the firm Penn, Schoen, and Berland; and to the noted economist, Dr. Heidi Hartman. I'd also like to acknowledge the representatives of so many organizations dedicated to improving the lives of women and families.

Women have achieved a great deal, but the statutory route has not been as successful as we hoped. The Glass Ceiling, the Pink Ghetto, the wage gap, the occupation gap, and sexual harassment are real problems. We're reintroducing the Equality Amendment because the only guarantee that American women will never again be subject to inferior treatment is to engrave the principle of women's equality into the Constitution.

We've seen over the years that laws can change, judicial attitudes can shift, and the gains we've won can slip from our grasp. The need for a constitutional guarantee of equal rights for women is compelling. We must do more, much more, to guarantee fair treatment

in the work place. Existing laws can't get the job done, and could be rolled back.

Title IX, which for three decades guaranteed equality in education and in academic sports programs, is being eroded.

Enforcement measures on discrimination laws are backlogged and badly underfunded.

Women continue to be treated differently than men in pensions, insurance, and judicial awards.

Women still have trouble gaining access to housing and to equal pay for equal work. The wage gap persists. In fact, the Dingell-Maloney study that we released last year showed the gap in managerial salaries is actually widening.

Women still earn 76 cents for each dollar earned by a man. After a full day's work, no woman should be forced to take home only three quarters of a paycheck.

Too many women continue to be victims of sexual harassment.

Over nine out of ten Americans support equal rights for men and women, as Mark Penn can discuss. In fact, polling data shows that most Americans think the Constitution already guarantees gender equality—and they don't want it repealed. The ERA would establish that as a reality once and for all. It is time to ensure that the legal right to equality regardless of sex is subject to the same level of judicial review as race or other classes.

With 187 co-sponsors so far, the Equality Amendment has strong support in the House. And it enjoys strong backing in the Senate. Ours is a bipartisan, grass roots effort. With the help of organizations represented here and the over 140 groups that have already endorsed it, I hope we'll be able to move the ERA to a vote.

It is time for women to have an equal place in the Constitution. It is time for the Equal Rights Amendment to become law. Inscribed over the Supreme Court is the statement "Equal Justice Under the Law" and it means ALL people. And in 2003, we intend to SEE that equal justice under the law happens . . . and making the ERA part of the Constitution is the right way to do it.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO: DR. M. EDMUND VALLEJO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize Dr. Edmund Vallejo of Pueblo, Colorado. Dr. Vallejo has been a dedicated teacher and mentor in the Pueblo community for nearly fifty years. He has made significant contributions as an author and citizen, and it is my honor to pay tribute to his accomplishments before this body of Congress and this nation.

Edmund grew up in an orphanage for boys in Denver and graduated from St. Mary's High School in Walsenburg, Colorado. After a year at Regis University, he joined the U.S. Navy and trained to be an aerial photographer. Edmund served the United States during the Korean War, and received a battle star for taking video footage of the fighting on Bunker Hill and Siberia Hill.

After being discharged, Edmund went back to school, first at Adams State College, then at

the University of Northern Colorado, ultimately receiving a Ph.D. in education from Kansas University in 1975. Edmund spent over thirty-six years in Pueblo School District No. 60 as a teacher, guidance counselor, principal and superintendent. After retiring in 1991, he has furthered his dedication to education by serving as a mentor and tutor to at-risk children in the district, and Edmund now serves as the volunteer coordinator for Communities In Schools of Pueblo, a volunteer mentoring and tutoring program.

Edmund's other interests include both civic service and writing. He is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Pueblo, the Colorado Historical Society Board of Directors, the Rocky Mountain Council Boy Scouts of America Executive Board, the Pueblo School District No. 60 Educational Foundation, the Pueblo Chamber of Commerce, and VFW Post 5812. He is a contributing author to educational and historical journals and has already published a compilation of Colorado photography. He is working on a photo book about his Korean War experiences.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Edmund Vallejo is a remarkable man with an extraordinary lifetime of achievements. He has served his nation, his community, and his students well, and I would like to extend to him my congratulations on a life lived with a passion and dedication to serving others. I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 12, 2003

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with Representatives ANNA ESHOO, J.D. HAYWORTH, and XAVIER BECERRA in introducing the bipartisan Medicare Medical Nutrition Therapy Amendment Act of 2003. Several years ago, we amended the Medicare program to provide coverage for medical nutrition therapy services provided by registered dietitians and nutrition professionals for persons with diabetes or renal disease. The legislation we are introducing today will add Medicare coverage for services for beneficiaries with cardiovascular disease.

Medical nutrition therapy provided by registered dietitians and nutrition professionals is sound health care policy. It can save millions of dollars for a health care system beleaguered by escalating costs, and it can prevent unnecessary pain and suffering for millions of people and their families. In response to a request in the 1997 Balanced Budget Act, the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences studied the value of adding medical nutrition therapy services for Medicare beneficiaries and the Medicare program and issued a report recommending that this benefit be added to the program. The report stated that coverage for medical nutrition therapy will "improve the quality of care and is likely to be a valuable and efficient use of Medicare resources, because of the comparatively low treatment costs and ancillary benefits associated with nutrition therapy." The report concluded that nutrition therapy has proven effective in the "management and treatment of