

It asks for reports to Congress on new initiatives and security for Peace Corps volunteers; It makes a commitment to recruit and place Peace Corps volunteers in countries where they could help promote mutual understanding, particularly in areas with substantial Muslim populations;

It develops training programs for Peace Corps volunteers in areas of education and prevention of AIDS;

It streamlines and empowers the Peace Corps Advisory Council and creates a fund to promote the work of returned Peace Corps volunteers in fulfilling the third goal of the Peace Corps—to educate other Americans about their experience overseas.

This is a crucial time to invest in the Peace Corps, a crucial time to invest in improving America's relations with peoples and countries across the globe. I believe that this bill represents an important symbol of the good will of the United States, and reflects our fundamental nature as a concerned and caring nation.

I would like to thank Congressman MARK UDALL, whose mother was a Peace Corps volunteer in Nepal, for helping to author the bill. I would also like to thank my fellow Congressman MIKE HONDA for also being an original co-sponsor. I would also like to thank all of the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers who have given invaluable input in creating this bill.

I encourage my colleagues to join us in co-sponsoring this important piece of legislation.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. PATRICIA BROOKS CAREY OF HUTCHINSON, KANSAS

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who affected the lives of thousands of people in Kansas and across the country. This month we mourn the death of Mrs. Patricia "Patty" Brooks Carey of Hutchinson, Kansas.

As Kansans, we are dutifully aware of our state motto, *Ad Astra Per Aspera* which translates, "To the Stars Through Difficulties." Patty lived this theme with an unsurpassed passion.

In 1962, with vision and determination, Patty launched a small planetarium in the poultry house on the Kansas State Fairgrounds. From this humble beginning, the planetarium has evolved into a multifaceted space science education museum that today houses one of the world's largest and most significant collections of United States and Soviet space artifacts. Thanks to Patty's devotion, the Kansas CosmoSphere and Space Center stands as a testament to her mission of excellence.

Patty's dedication to her hometown is legendary. Throughout her life, Patty touched the lives of many—especially those of children—taking a lead role in making certain her community was progressive in pursuits of education, culture and other quality of life issues. Her leadership and service on the board of directors for the CosmoSphere, Community Foundation and hospital were always marked with practicality, persuasion and genuineness.

Most important to Patty was her family. Over the course of 61 years she and her hus-

band Howard J. "Jake" Carey, grandson of the founder of Carey Salt, raised three sons, Brooks, Christopher and Michael, and devoted endless love and attention to six grandchildren.

Gene Cernan, the last man to walk on the moon and whose Apollo 17 mission is featured at the CosmoSphere, summed up his goodbye to his friend this way: "Patty was a very small woman in size, but certainly a big woman in stature. She had a dream, and she stuck with it." I can think of no finer compliment.

Patty Carey made her community, State and Nation a better place. I join her many friends and admirers in extending my deepest sympathies to Jake and his family during their time of loss.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE WAYNE OWENS, FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM UTAH

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 2003

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON) for all he has done in organizing these words today on the floor for Wayne Owens. His untimely death was unfortunate and a real loss to this country.

Wayne Owens was a fine public servant. Many will talk and some already have about his tireless efforts for peace in the Middle East, but Wayne had an extensive legislative record here in the House of Representatives. During his term, he helped secure funding for the large-scale Colorado River Storage Project that is the main source of water for Utah and other Western States. He continually fought for wilderness designation to protect vast expanses of Utah's mountains from development.

Wayne was not afraid to take a stand for what he believed in. For example, in 1987 he introduced legislation to reintroduce wolves into Yellowstone National Park to help save the threatened species. He was the only member of the Utah congressional delegation to vote against giving former President Bush the authority to go to war against Iraq in 1991. No matter the issue, Wayne voted his conscience.

The issue that I specifically would like to talk about today is his bringing justice to the Colorado plateau uranium miners.

Wayne saw this as a situation with the Colorado uranium miners that had to have justice be brought to the situation. And what happened is these uranium miners went into mines on the Colorado plateau, worked in very dangerous, dirty air mines. There were high radon levels, as the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON) knows. He has worked on this very issue. The government knew these levels were very high. Government doctors did reports and doctors issued studies, but nobody told the uranium miners that there was really a problem. And so many years they continued to work in these uranium mines, 10 or 15 years in these dirty air mines.

As many of us know, when you contract radon in a uranium mine and it is at high levels what ends up happening is 10 or 15 years

down the line you get lung cancer, and that is in fact what happened on the Colorado plateau, an epidemic of lung cancer. Lawsuits were brought on behalf of these uranium miners but many of them were unsuccessful. My father was one of the ones, Stewart Udall, that brought many of the lawsuits and represented the miners. He just told me the other day when we learned of Wayne's death, he said, if it had not been for Wayne at that particular point when the miners lost their lawsuits, when the families were discouraged, when they thought there was going to be no justice, it was Wayne Owens that picked up the fight. And he went out and held hearings and he involved TED KENNEDY and BARNEY FRANK and the Committee on the Judiciary and brought justice to this situation by helping pass a piece of legislation known as the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act. And many families today in Utah and across the Colorado plateau are now in much better shape because of Wayne Owens' efforts on that piece of legislation.

In closing, I want to say that Wayne genuinely loved people and was extremely generous with time and resources. He was a wonderful and caring husband and father. His wife, Marlene, five children and fourteen grandchildren always knew of his unconditional love. He had boundless energy and reached out to everyone he met. He treated everyone with respect. Perhaps there is no greater way to be remembered than that.

It is my privilege to pay tribute to Wayne Owens for his commitment and service. I send my heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and the State of Utah.

When I reflect upon the lives of men such as Wayne Owens, who dedicated his life to serving others, I am reminded of the principles of public service.

A TRIBUTE TO THE THIRTEEN BEST COMPANIES TO WORK FOR IN THE BAY AREA

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 13 companies in the Bay Area which were selected by Fortune magazine as one of the "100 Best Companies to Work For."

Xilinx, Adobe Systems, Cisco Systems, Intel, Agilent Technologies, Silicon Graphics, Network Appliance, Autodesk, Intuit, Sun Microsystems, Genentech, Charles Schwab and Electronic Arts have distinguished themselves as employers. How proud I am to represent the District which is either home to several of the honorees or who employ some of my constituents.

Despite adverse market conditions each one of these companies has demonstrated in important ways how much they value their employees. Top executives have taken pay cuts and many have set a high corporate standard of providing employees incentives to work for nonprofit organizations in their communities.

Each company who is part of this 'honor role' has come to the list experiencing a challenging economy and tough workplace issues. Yet they've done it with fairness, with integrity and with respect for their employees.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Xilinx, Adobe Systems, Cisco Systems, Intel, Agilent Technologies, Silicon Graphics, Network Appliance, Autodesk, Intuit, Sun Microsystems, Genentech, Charles Schwab and Electronic Arts for everything they've done to create the best workplaces of the 21st century and as they do, we salute them for what they contribute to the well being of our nation.

IN APPRECIATION FOR SHARING
AN EXTRAORDINARY STORY

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an individual from my district who has lived an extraordinary life and is now working to share the stories of his incredible experiences during the Second World War.

Growing up on his family's small Missouri farm during the Depression, Fred Randle became well acquainted with hardship and adversity. One of the first members of his family to graduate high school, Fred was looking forward to earning a steady living and beginning a new life with his new bride when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. The young man immediately enlisted in the United States Army, unaware of the unique role he would play in determining the outcome of World War II.

During the Quebec Conference of 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Prime Minister Winston Churchill of England, and other allied leaders conceived the idea of having an American ground unit spearhead the Chinese Army with a Long Range Penetration Mission behind enemy lines in Burma. Its goal would be the destruction of Japanese communications and supply lines and generally to play havoc with enemy forces while an attempt was made to reopen the Burma Road.

A Presidential call for volunteers for "A Dangerous and Hazardous Mission" was issued, and approximately 2,900 American soldiers responded to the call, including Fred Randle. The unit later became popularly known as Merrill's Marauders, named after its leader, Brigadier General Frank Merrill.

Shortly after completing basic training at the age of 21, Randle and the Marauders embarked on their mission. During a rendezvous with other ships in the Mediterranean, about 30 German bombers attacked the convoy without success. Fifteen minutes later, a smaller group of planes arrived and one released a guided missile that struck the side of the HMT Rohna. Witnesses watched the total destruction of the boat with its 1,600 Americans aboard. Fewer than 600 survived.

Fred Randle was among those 600 survivors, and despite the loss of his fellow soldiers, he continued on to ensure the success of the Marauders' mission. I find Randle's war-

time experiences truly inspiring, and I salute him for his eagerness to share his story with younger generations so they may understand what it is like to fight for your country, even when faced with unbelievable setbacks. Fred Randle is truly part of America's greatest generation, and his sacrifices and contribution to our country are among the reasons we remain free today.

FIRST BIRTHDAY OF DIEGO
VINCENT OLIVAREZ

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on a point of personal privilege to exercise my rights, responsibilities and pride as a grandmother to note a significant occasion in the life of the Roybal-Allard family—the first birthday of my beloved grandson, Diego Vincent Olivarez.

Diego is my first grandchild and the first great-grandchild of my father, former Rep. Edward Roybal, and I can with great modesty and accuracy report to my colleagues that he is the most beautiful baby in the world.

Diego's first birthday is notable because he was diagnosed at birth with microcephaly, and not expected to live more than a few months. While the birth and first year of a grandchild are always joyful, this year has been a particularly challenging one for his loving parents, Ricardo and Rory Olivarez. To Ricardo and Rory's everlasting credit, they rejected medical advice to institutionalize Diego. At home, they have provided a stimulating and nurturing environment for Diego, helping him to thrive. As a result, Diego's progress has far surpassed the original pessimistic medical opinions.

As I'm sure is true for all grandparents, Diego has brought real joy and meaning to our lives. His medical affliction, while an on-going concern for us, has been a blessing in disguise because it has emphasized, in a way that nothing else probably could, how precious each day is that we are given on this earth.

Diego, although your grandmother is in Washington today serving her constituents, she is thinking about you and wishes you a Happy Birthday.

STOP DISCRIMINATION AGAINST
SEVEN STATES ACT OF 2003

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, most Americans take for granted that federal laws apply to every American equally, regardless of what state we live in. Well, you may be surprised to

learn that taxpayers in seven states are discriminated against by the Internal Revenue Code, and have been since 1986. This means that the 51 million people who live in the states of Texas, Florida, Tennessee, Washington, New Hampshire, Alaska, and Wyoming are treated differently, and punitively, by the federal government, due to no fault of their own, and for no good reason of public policy. This injustice amounts to many billions of dollars in higher taxes paid by residents of these states every year.

How did this discrimination occur? Prior to 1986, federal tax law allowed taxpayers to deduct from their federal income tax any state taxes that they paid, whether for a state income tax or a state sales tax. This deduction allowed all Americans the ability to reduce their federal tax burden due to the accepted principle that (1) the federal government deferred to the chosen tax system of each state, and (2) to prevent double taxation of taxes paid to state governments.

After 1986, in the tax reform act of that year, only state income taxes were deductible. Taxpayers in states with no income tax were suddenly allowed no deduction on the money they paid to their state governments. The 1986 tax reform legislation was a giant bill with many unintended consequences. There was no sound public policy reason for discriminating against states which have chosen to rely on a sales tax, yet this discrimination has persisted for 16 years.

There are 43 states today which have a state income tax and seven states which have no income tax, but which in most cases use a state sales tax for their primary source of revenue. This means that taxpayers in 43 states get different and better treatment from the Internal Revenue Code than the residents of the other seven states: Texas, Florida, Tennessee, Washington, New Hampshire, Alaska, and Wyoming.

I have introduced a bill today to remedy this situation. My original cosponsors are BART GORDON, JOHN TANNER, and LINCOLN DAVIS. My legislation would allow taxpayers in states which rely on a sales tax to get the same deduction as residents of income tax states—no better and no worse.

To allow the current injustice to continue means that federal law is forcing all states to adopt an income tax. This should never be federal policy. To deny 51 million Americans the benefits of a deduction that every other American enjoys is rank discrimination. And to deny this deduction is to effectively double-tax the hard-earned pay of residents of seven states.

My colleague BRIAN BAIRD has been fighting this battle for years now, as has my predecessor, Bob Clement. There are 79 Members of Congress whose constituents are directly and adversely affected by this discrimination. We owe it to our seven states, and to the 51 million people we represent to restore basic fairness to our tax code.