

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, April 7, 2003, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall Nos. 109, 110, and 111. The votes I missed include rollcall vote 109 on Suspending the Rules and Passing H.R. 1055, the Dr. Roswell N. Beck Post Office Building Designation Act; rollcall vote 110 on Suspending the Rules and Agreeing to H. Res. 127, as Amended, Expressing the Sense of Congress that a month should be designated as "Financial Literacy for Youth Month," and rollcall vote 111 on Suspending the Rules and Passing, as Amended H.R. 1368, the Norman Shumway Post Office Building Designation Act.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 109, 110, and 111.

A TRIBUTE TO DANIEL COELHO
FOR 50 YEARS OF HELPING
AMERICANS WITH FINANCIAL
SECURITY

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to congratulate Daniel S. Coelho, a good friend and mentor of mine, as he celebrates his 50th year as a leader in the financial security industry. As he celebrates this milestone, he can take pride in having helped thousands of families to ensure their financial future and start productive new businesses.

Many of my colleagues know that I began my professional life as an independent insurance agent, specializing in whole life insurance. It was during those early years that I came to know Daniel Coelho, who was my general agent with Penn Mutual Life and helped me learn the trade and how important these policies can be for American families.

Americans today have an entire universe of options to invest in their future, from Individual Retirement Accounts to 401k savings. But before any of these were established, whole life insurance was the most important way for American families to plan for their future. Millions of families ensured that their spouses and children would have financial security, while at the same time laying a foundation for their own retirement. And millions of entrepreneurs have used these policies as the only way to get capital to start the small businesses that are the bedrock of our economy.

Dan Coelho has spent 5 decades in this industry, establishing a record of business ethics and policy leadership that has earned the trust of thousands of families who have counted on him and his firm to lay their financial future. His advice and support has helped entrepreneurs create thousands of small businesses—many of which are now large and successful firms.

A California native born to immigrant parents, Dan graduated from University of Cali-

fornia, Berkeley in 1950 after capping his college career by being elected student body president. He went to work for Bechtel Corporation in Arkansas, where he met his future wife, Jenny Johnson.

After service in the Korean conflict, Dan entered his life insurance career with the Penn Mutual Life General Agency in San Francisco, and was appointed General Agent in Detroit in 1957. After that agency was given the company's President's Award, he was offered the Los Angeles agency in 1962. Over the next 23 years, the Los Angeles agency grew into one of the nation's largest, and was renamed Resources Financial. It now offers a full range of investment and estate planning and business services for small and large companies.

Daniel Coelho has become known to many of my colleagues as a Core Group Member for the Association for Advanced Life Underwriters, which seeks to protect these basic investments for Americans. There is no doubt that some in government have had their eye on these pools of individual financial security as potential sources for taxation, and investors should thank Dan Coelho and his fellows for watching over their interests in Washington and state capitals.

Mr. Speaker, thousands of families owe their financial peace of mind to Daniel S. Coelho and the company he has led for the past 50 years. Please join me in congratulating him for those years of success and service, and wish him and Jenny well in their future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DNA
DATABASE ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the DNA Database Enhancement Act—legislation that will expand and improve the use of DNA analysis in criminal investigations.

As a former federal prosecutor, I recognize what a powerful tool the use of DNA profiles has become in solving crimes. In 1998, the FBI created a system of DNA profile indexes, the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), to allow participating forensic laboratories to compare DNA profiles with the goal of matching case evidence to other previously unrelated cases or to persons already convicted of specific crimes. This database contains about 1.3 million DNA samples and has yielded more than 6,000 matches in criminal investigations.

Previously, federal law required that a state collect for analysis DNA samples from persons convicted of a felony of a sexual nature. However, the collection of samples from other felons is currently dependent entirely upon state law. The DNA Database Enhancement Act would broaden this collection requirement to include all individuals convicted of violent felonies.

In order to facilitate crime solving and information sharing among local and state law enforcement agencies, my bill would also expand CODIS by permitting states to upload collected DNA samples to the national database. In Virginia, law enforcement is authorized to

collect DNA samples from suspects being charged with violent crimes and other felonies. This has yielded tremendous results, with forensic officials making their 1,000th "cold hit" last year by matching a rape suspect to a 2001 sexual assault case.

Finally, this legislation will increase the effectiveness of DNA databases in crime solving by ensuring that law enforcement can compare DNA samples with CODIS. While most states already run comparisons on collected samples, some states have restrictions on how and when samples can be compared. This bill will increase the effectiveness of DNA databases in crime solving by removing restrictions that impede the comparison of DNA samples against established DNA databases. Where DNA is given voluntarily or obtained by law enforcement in a lawful manner, law enforcement should be able to compare those samples with CODIS.

Recently, the Department of Justice announced a proposal to spend more than \$1 billion over the next five years on DNA analysis in criminal cases. This plan, originally introduced in the Administration's 2004 budget proposal, involves a significant expansion of the FBI's DNA database. The FBI has also announced plans to request authorization to obtain pre-conviction DNA samples from states that currently collect such samples, such as Virginia, Louisiana, and Texas. These joint proposals would dramatically improve the ability to match samples recovered at crime scenes.

With similar goals in mind, my legislation, the DNA Database Enhancement Act, will make important changes to ensure that law enforcement can fully utilize the powerful tool of DNA analysis in solving crimes.

NATIONAL FORMER PRISONER OF
WAR RECOGNITION DAY

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize those men and women who have served our country in battle and have been taken prisoner. Today is National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day. It is right that we pause to honor the sacrifice of veterans like these.

However, Mr. Speaker, we must do more than honor these men and women with words. Talk is cheap. I rise to talk about the Budget that this house passed on March 21. The budget that this House passed hurt veterans by proposing long term cuts to essential health care programs. I was proud to vote against this budget. However, it is important the public fully understand why this budget is so bad for our nation's veterans.

The Budget calls for \$28.3 billion dollars to be cut from veterans health care and other spending on veterans benefits over the next 10 years. This is a disgrace. Why is this body going to cut this money? In order to pay for a \$1.35 trillion tax cut for the wealthiest Americans that doesn't create jobs or stimulate the economy.

So, that means that this Administration and the leadership of the House of Representatives has made a choice. They would rather

have tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans than veterans benefits. Period. No other explanation is plausible. It is almost impossible for me to believe that as the veterans population rises and ages, that this House would eliminate benefits.

Mr. Speaker, we have men and women on the field of battle in Iraq, fighting to make others free. Should we not honor their sacrifice by keeping our promises to those that have already served? Should we not eliminate these cuts in VA spending? The wealthy need a tax cut less than veterans need the health care they were promised. If our society has sunk to the point where we are choosing to dishonor service in order to make the rich richer, then we surely are not the great nation we once were.

Mr. Speaker, we should honor those who have served, those who were POWs, and those that gave the ultimate sacrifice.

INTRODUCTION OF THE
CYBERMOLESTERS ENFORCE-
MENT ACT OF 2003

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to introduce my "Cybermolesters Enforcement Act of 2003," a bill that would bring today's high-tech child molesters to justice.

While the Internet has revolutionized communication and business, it unfortunately provides a tool for child molesters, and loopholes in the current law allow some of these predators to escape without any real consequences. And although it is already a federal crime to cross state lines to sexually molest a minor, in recent years the number of people using the Internet to violate this law has skyrocketed. I call these individuals "cybermolesters."

Cybermolesters are not easy to identify. They typically are well educated; middle-class citizens who have no previous criminal record and, as a result, tend to escape with little or no jail time. For example, convicted child pornographers receive ten-year mandatory sentences, but those who use the Internet to meet children and commit criminal sexual acts can receive no jail time at all. This double standard gives lighter sentences to a special set of privileged criminals. My bill would end this double standard by imposing a five-year mandatory minimum sentence for cybermolesters.

My bill also provides law enforcement with two important tools to combat those who prey on our nation's children. First, it would allow law enforcement to obtain a federal wiretap on those suspected of committing certain child sexual exploitation offenses, such as transmitting computer-generated child pornography, enticing a minor to travel for sexual activity, and transporting a minor for sexual activity. Second, it would classify child pornography as "contraband," which would enable law enforcement to seize it based upon probable cause and to destroy it automatically after its use, as evidence was no longer needed. This measure has the support of the FBI's "Innocent Images" Program, which is on the front lines of the battle against on-line pedophiles.

Mr. Speaker, two weeks ago the passage of H.R. 1104 was a clear demonstration of our

united support in improving the safety and welfare of our children. We cannot allow our law enforcement to lose step with an ever-evolving electronic society. We cannot allow these sexual predators to get away with the criminal acts they are committing against innocent children. We cannot allow one of our greatest advancements to become a tool for our biggest degenerates. The Cybermolester Enforcement Act will ensure that these "cyberpredators" are suitably punished and America's children are properly protected.

NATIONAL FORMER PRISONER OF
WAR RECOGNITION DAY

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Americans who are currently serving our country, and those who have served so gallantly in the past. Particularly during this time of war, America's heroes of the past, as well as the present, must be honored and remembered. As such, I join Congressman HOYER and Congressman SKELTON to recognize today as National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day.

These soldiers, captured while fighting for freedom and the future of America, faced imprisonment with their fates unknown. These brave men and women looked their enemy in the face, persevered with honor, courage, and faith in their country—and survived. Many, however, were not so fortunate.

The ordeal of being a prisoner of war does not end once rescued from behind enemy lines. The physical, emotional, and spiritual toll of internment can take years, even a lifetime, to rebuild and overcome.

As former prisoners of war, you have gone beyond the call of your duty. You put your life, your blood, your soul on the line. This is a sacrifice most of us will never be able to comprehend. That burden, that sacrifice, that unfettered dedication to our country will forever make you national heroes.

We owe an inexpressible debt of gratitude to you, our former POWs, and to your families, whose prayers for a safe return were answered.

Today we honor you for your bravery, strength, and sacrifice. And tomorrow we will not forget.

TRIBUTE TO AMERICA'S REAL HEROES AS OFFERED BY ALABAMA
STATE AUDITOR BETH CHAPMAN

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago, a childhood friend, Beth Killough Chapman, who now serves my home state of Alabama with distinction as our State Auditor, made a speech at a "Stand up for America Rally" in the city of Pelham, a suburb of Birmingham.

Beth's remarks, although certainly unintended at the time, captured the views of

many of us in this country and sparked an emotional response from literally thousands of people in all 50 states, including many of the men and women who proudly wear the uniform of our military in defense of this great country.

Unlike so many of the speeches we hear in this city, Beth Chapman's remarks were not made with a particular slant that was either pro-Democrat or pro-Republican. Instead, Beth's comments were simply "pro-American," and after reading her words, it was obvious to me that the speech was made straight from the heart.

Mr. Speaker, in these uncertain times when so many people have questions about where we are going, what we are doing and who can we trust, I found Beth Chapman's words inspirational and comforting. I ask that her speech be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in its entirety, in hopes that even more people can be encouraged to stop and think about the true price of liberty and who is making the real sacrifices to preserve what is so dear to us all:

I'm here tonight because men and women of the United States military have given their lives for my freedom. I am not here tonight because Sheryl Crowe, Rosie O'Donnell, Jane Fonda, Martin Sheen, the Dixie Chicks, Barbra Streisand, the Beastie Boys, George Clooney or Phil Donahue, sacrificed their lives for me.

If my memory serves me correctly, it was not movie stars or musicians, but the United States Military who fought on the shores of Iwo Jima, the jungles of Vietnam, and the beaches of Normandy.

Tonight, I say we should support the President of the United States and the U.S. military and tell the liberal, tree-hugging, hippy, Birkenstock wearing, tie-dyed liberals to go make their movies and music and whine somewhere else.

After all, if they lived in Iraq, they wouldn't be allowed the freedom of speech they're being given here today—ironically, they would be put to death at the hands of Saddam Hussein or Osama Bin Laden.

I want to know how the very people who are against war because of the loss of life, can possibly be the same people who are for abortion?

They are the same people who are for animal rights but against the rights of the unborn.

The movie stars say they want to go to Iraq and serve as human shields for the Iraqis, I say let them buy a one-way ticket and go.

No one likes war, I hate war. But the one thing I hate more is the fact that this country has been forced into war—innocent people have lost their lives—and there but for the grace of God, it could have been my brother, my husband, or even worse my own son.

On December 7, 1941, there are no records of movie stars treading the blazing waters of Pearl Harbor.

On September 11, 2001; there are no photos of movie stars standing as human shields against the debris and falling bodies descending from the World Trade Center. There were only policemen and firemen—underpaid civil servants who gave their all with nothing expected in return.

When the USS *Cole* was bombed, there were no movie stars guarding the ship—where were the human shields then?

If America's movie stars want to be human shields, let them shield the gang-ridden streets of Los Angeles, or New York City, let them shield the lives of the children of North