

EDUCATIONAL INNOVATOR—SR.
JOEL READ RETIRES AS PRESIDENT OF ALVERNO COLLEGE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 22, 2003 the Milwaukee community will honor Sr. Joel Read for 35 years of distinctive and dedicated service to Alverno College.

A member of the School Sisters of St. Francis and President of Alverno College since 1968, under her leadership, Sr. Joel and Alverno College have gained national and international recognition for their innovation in education. Sr. Joel's commitment and hard work has led to the introduction of Alverno's ability-based curriculum, which has placed Alverno at the forefront of education as a liberal arts college.

Her efforts in this area have brought her high honors from other educators. Sr. Joel has been described by her colleagues as someone who has emerged as one of the country's most remarkable leaders in higher education. She is legendary in our community for her passionate spirit and steadfast approach to getting results.

So distinguished is her reputation that educational associations across the nation seek Sr. Joel's assistance. She has received numerous local and national awards and recognitions for her dedicated support to higher education, the advancement of women and the development of our communities. Awards and recognitions include: Anne Roe Award, Pope John XXIII Award, Morris T. Keeton Award, Sacajawea Award, Lifetime Leadership Award, Distinguished Service Award, and Outstanding Woman of Achievement—just to name a few.

Sr. Joel is actively involved in volunteering her time and talents to various organizations and causes. She is a founder of the Milwaukee Achiever Program, has served with the Goals for Milwaukee 2000 Task Force, the United Way of Greater Milwaukee, and the Mayor's Beautification Committee and was appointed by the Governor to the Wisconsin National and Community Service Board. Currently, she serves as a board member in several organizations, including the Greater Milwaukee Committee, Junior Achievement of Wisconsin, and the YMCA.

I congratulate Sr. Joel for 35 years of visionary leadership and devotion to Alverno College and to women in higher education. Her significant contributions have broken educational ground and have placed Alverno College on the map as a national and international leader in education. May God continue to bless her in her retirement, and as she takes on new challenges within the community.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1894, TO PROHIBIT THE DISCRIMINATION OF PRECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, the earned income tax credit is an important program to assist low-income families and move them from welfare to work.

The IRS is proposing a precertification program for EITC unlike that applied to any other tax benefit program, or for that matter any other program. As proposed, the IRS's precertification program will have the consequence of excluding persons who clearly qualify for EITC benefits. This is because, as proposed, many of the precertification requirements simply cannot be met. As one example, marriage certificates are required in certain instances. In several states, however, the waiting period to receive this documentation may be years. It is for this reason that I am co-sponsoring H.R. 1894, introduced by Representative CHARLES RANGEL.

Because of my strong support for EITC, I also support both simplification of the EITC documentation process as well as fair and appropriate review of the program's eligibility and enforcement processes. This will guarantee that those persons who are eligible to receive the credit receive the benefits to which they are entitled, and that those persons who endeavor to take unfair advantage of the EITC are prevented from doing so. Fraud certainly cannot and will not be tolerated, but we also should not punish people who fairly qualify for this credit by making them provide documentation that they cannot acquire. I look forward to working with my colleagues and the Internal Revenue Service in ensuring that these dual aims are accomplished.

PUBLIC HOUSING DRUG ELIMINATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I offer the Public Housing Drug Elimination Act of 2003 on behalf of myself and 71 original co-sponsors.

We have been fighting to reauthorize this HUD program as well as appropriate money to the program for a long time. As a matter of fact, on July 10, 2002, I offered an amendment to the Housing Affordability Act for America, authorizing the Public Housing Drug Elimination Program (PHDEP) through 2005.

Despite the drug elimination program's widespread success and the bipartisan support, President Bush eliminated funding for the program in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget and has again zeroed out funding for the program in his Fiscal Year 2004 (FY04) budget. We must understand that programs like drug elimination ease the strain on public housing's capital improvement and maintenance funds. Pro-

grams like drug elimination protect the elderly, who compose one-third of all residents who live in public housing, working families and children. I believe there is more we can do to ensure decent living conditions for all Americans, and I'm sure all of my colleagues would agree.

The Public Housing Drug Elimination Program funded employment of security personnel, reimbursement of local law enforcement agencies for additional security, drug education and prevention; physical improvements designed to enhance security, and youth programs. In my own district, the Oakland Housing Authority funneled their money into five different areas. They created three Boys & Girls club programs on-site; the local Museum of Art which ran an after-school performing and visual arts program—serving forty at risk youth daily; the City of Oakland's Discover Center operated a program with PHDEP dollars called, "Science in the Hood," which taught hands-on general science, physics, and chemistry; and the Asian Community Mental Health center provided health, educational, and employment assistance and cultural services for Asian residents, filling a gap in community service.

The Public Housing Drug Elimination is a real tool to combat real bad actors from public housing, all while protecting youth and tenants. This program, unlike the one-strike policy (upheld in *U.S. HUD v. Rucker*), puts the power to change the community in the hands of the community, it's leadership, and public housing officials. Hand and hand, the drug elimination program and a modified eviction policy could help end the criminal activity that takes place in public housing.

Mr. Speaker, one-third of all residents who live in public housing are elderly. If we fail to at least authorize this program we will in fact allow thousands of elderly people to live in fear and potentially unsafe environments. We are the richest country in the world. Housing is a basic human right. We can do more to ensure decent living conditions for all Americans and we can do more to make public housing safe.

Today I offer the Public Housing Drug Elimination Act of 2003 to authorize this program and allow appropriators to commit such sums as they deem necessary. I ask that my colleagues join me in support of this important program and this bill.

RECOGNIZING LUIS TIANT FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GAME OF BASEBALL AND FOR HIS CONTINUED INVOLVEMENT IN THE BOSTON LITTLE LEAGUE COMMUNITY

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Red Sox pitching legend Luis Tiant for the contributions he has made to the game of baseball and for his continued involvement in the Boston Little League community. On Saturday, May 3, 2003, the Luis Tiant Field at Peters Park in the South End of Boston was dedicated to this sports icon in recognition of all that he has contributed to the game.

Luis Tiant was born in Havana, Cuba in 1940. He learned to love baseball at a young age because his father excelled at the sport and he passed that passion on to his son. Luis flourished in the local Little League program and eventually made the Cuban Juvenile League All-Star Team in 1957.

In 1961, the Cleveland Indians signed Luis Tiant to a contract, and he made the majors with that ballclub in 1964. In 1971, his career in a Red Sox uniform began. El Tiante, as he is known in New England, led the American League with a 15–6 record and a 1.91 ERA in 1972.

For three of the next four seasons, Luis Tiant won at least 20 games. He won 18 games in 1975, helping propel the Boston Red Sox to the American League Championship. He excelled in the 1975 post season, winning Game One and Game Four of the World Series for the Red Sox.

Luis Tiant has many impressive baseball accomplishments, including having the lowest ERA for a Boston pitcher since 1920. He also holds that same record with the Cleveland Indians.

In 1978, the Boston Red Sox lost Luis Tiant to the New York Yankees—but Red Sox fans don't dwell on his time in the pinstripes. El Tiante currently lives in Boston with his family.

It is only fitting that a Little League field bear the name of one of the greatest pitchers in Boston Red Sox history. He means so much to the game of baseball and has contributed so much to his community.

FUNDING CHILD SURVIVAL PROGRAMS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I would first like to take this opportunity to thank the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs Appropriations for providing \$218 million for Basic Education programs last year and for protecting and expanding the Child Survival and Health Fund. Their leadership on these highly successful and cost-effective programs has been outstanding.

I would also like to thank one of my constituents, Phyllis Alroy, who is a member of RESULTS, a national group dedicated to ending hunger and poverty worldwide. She and RESULTS have been champions in bringing these important initiatives to my attention. I applaud their efforts and encourage all to follow in their courageous footsteps.

In the world today, one in five people must survive on less than their local equivalent of \$1 per day. Nearly half the world's population survives on less than \$2 per day. Approximately 113 million primary school-age children are not in school—more than the total number of primary-age children in school in the United States, Europe, and other more developed countries. In the least developed countries, 40 percent of children who enroll in primary school do not complete five years, the minimum required for basic literacy. Nearly 11 million children under the age of five die annually in the world mostly from preventable diseases and malnutrition.

One-third of the world's population, many of them parents, are infected with the bacteria that causes tuberculosis, a disease that kills 2 million people per year. As HIV infection rates rise around the world, not only in those countries already hardest hit by the virus but soon in "second-wave" countries identified by the National Intelligence Council (India, Russia, Nigeria, Ethiopia, and China), TB rates are expected to rise rapidly.

While these statistics are staggering, there is some good news: Three million more children a year now survive beyond their fifth birthday than in 1990. More than 60 countries have achieved a one-third reduction in their infant and under-5 child death rates. The world has come very close to eradicating polio, and is poised to do so by 2005. Also, in 2000, the United States and 188 other countries committed to the Millennium Development Goals and pledged to reduce severe poverty by half by 2015 and meet a set of accompanying goals, including halting and reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS and TB, reducing deaths of children under five by two-thirds, and ensuring universal primary education.

These goals are achievable, but only if we act now. The United States must lead in the global effort to save and improve children's lives, by expanding funding for the simple and effective treatments that we know work.

We must protect and expand funding for Child Survival programs. Half of all children who die in developing countries fall prey to just four conditions: pneumonia, diarrheal diseases, malaria and measles, combined with malnutrition. Each of these conditions can be treated or prevented—and other critical child health needs can be met as well—for precious little money. A few cents can provide a child with a vitamin A capsule a few times a year to prevent blindness and death. Five days worth of antibiotics to cure pneumonia cost just 25 cents. A packet of Oral Re-hydration salts to prevent fatal dehydration from diarrheal disease costs just 33 cents. I have asked the Foreign Operations Appropriations Committee to expand funding for Child Survival in your 2004 Foreign Operations Bill by \$150 million.

Other low-cost solutions can positively impact children's lives by helping their families. Two million people die each year from tuberculosis, and 8 million people become sick with the disease. TB is the leading killer of people with HIV/AIDS. TB primarily strikes adults during their productive, child-rearing years. Those who become ill often lose months of work. Sometimes, TB patients' children must leave school to work or care for their sick parent. Globally, \$750 million per year could bring TB under control. I have asked the Foreign Operations Appropriations Committee to protect the bilateral TB control programs, and ensure that the funding is appropriately used as effectively as possible for direct, on-the-ground interventions and treatment.

Another important tool for fighting TB is the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and malaria (GFATM). Malaria kills nearly 1 million people each year, most of them children. AIDS has orphaned 13 million children already and, at current rates, there will be 40 million AIDS orphans by 2020.

The GFATM is an accountable multilateral mechanism capable of ensuring that drugs and treatment are efficiently disseminated to where they are needed on the ground. The

GFATM is a public-private partnership, independent from the United Nations and other international bodies and working as a complement to existing bilateral international health efforts. I have asked the Foreign Operations Appropriations Committee to provide \$1 billion in 2004 to this program, and ensure that it reaches as many countries as possible.

In addition to these programs, you have my support to expand funding for Basic Education programs in 2004 to \$350 million (from all accounts), and to provide not less than \$120 million for UNICEF, and \$200 million for micro-enterprise programs, with at least half of that amount going to programs that target the very poor.

Again I would like to thank the Subcommittee for its outstanding leadership in saving and improving children's lives around the world by expanding funding for these critical health interventions.

TRIBUTE TO CAROLYN BETZ

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and JOHN LARSON our Ranking Member, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Assistant Counsel Carolyn Betz of the Office of General Counsel for the House. Ms. Betz has served in the House Counsel's Office since November 1995 and will shortly be relocating to upstate New York. We will miss her.

During the past seven and a half years, Ms. Betz has provided frequent and valuable service to the Committee on House Administration, and our staff has come to rely on her legal guidance, as well as her common sense approach to problem-solving. She has assisted us not only with legal advice but also with creation and implementation of numerous policies of significance to the House as an institution. Most recently, Ms. Betz was instrumental in finalizing the terms of the House's participation in the debt collection program offered by the Department of the Treasury. While in the House Counsel's Office, she has handled a wide range of legal issues, and we know that her expertise is greatly valued by other House offices.

On behalf of the Committee on House Administration, I would like to thank Carolyn Betz for her devoted service to the house. We wish her great success in her future endeavors.

55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. EDWARD L. SCHROCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. SCHROCK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to share the following article written by a constituent, Rabbi Israel Zoberman. Today is the 55th Anniversary of the State of Israel.

ISRAEL AT 55

The 55th anniversary of the State of Israel is not an ordinary occasion even under normal circumstances. So much more so as the small Jewish state is challenged in a way no