efforts to keep Lake Allatoona stable and healthy so that Georgians may enjoy its beauty for many, many generations to come.

WORKFORCE REINVESTMENT AND ADULT EDUCATION ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1261) to enhance the workforce investment system of the Nation by strengthening one-stop career centers, providing for more effective governance arrangements, promoting access to a more comprehensive array of employment, training, and related services, establishing a targeted approach to serving youth, and improving performance accountability, and for other purposes:

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1261, the Workforce Reinvestment and Adult Education Act of 2003.

Nearly nine million Americans are unemployed today, the highest level in nearly a decade. Not only are there more unemployed, but people out of work are finding it harder to get a job. People who become unemployed are staying out of work for almost 20 weeks on average, the longest since 1984. The proportion of workers who exhaust their unemployment benefits before they find a new job is the highest since the 1970s.

Unfortunately, H.R. 1261 does nothing to put people back to work. It instead unravels the very programs that ensure these workers have the skills and training they need to find high paying, long-term jobs.

H.R. 1261 eliminates targeted programs designed to help both dislocated workers and unemployed adults find a job. It blocks grants dedicated to assistance, forcing low-income workers and welfare recipients to compete with dislocated workers for the same limited Federal resources.

This bill also eliminates dedicated funding for job search services, like Minnesota's Job Bank, which assists thousands of Minnesotans. This funding also supports a rapid response system that meets the immediate needs of workers affected by mass layoffs. These changes threaten to break apart Minnesota's statewide workforce development system at the very time when these services are needed most to help unemployed workers find jobs.

H.R. 1261 does nothing to ensure that job-training funds are used for training. It allows governors to take money from adult education and veterans' job programs to cover bureaucratic costs. It also repeals critical civil rights protections for employees of job training organizations by allowing organizations that receive Federal job-training funds to discriminate on the basis of religion.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly believe that we must strengthen our workforce investment system to help Minnesotans get back to work. H.R. 1261, however, fails to meet that goal. I urge my colleagues to reject this bill today.

IN HONOR OF DR. REX FORTUNE

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Rex Fortune, Superintendent of Center Unified School District, in Sacramento, California, as he prepares for retirement.

Dr. Fortune began his career in education in 1964 as a science teacher at Sequoia Union High School in Redwood City, California. Throughout his career Dr. Fortune has contributed to education as a curriculum writer, a high school Vice Principal, a field researcher, associate superintendent, and superintendent. Education has taken him from Southern California to Northern California, to West Africa, and back to Northern California. For the last 15 years Center Unified School District has been his home where he was instrumental in the passage of a $59.2 million school bond for school renovation and new construction, established a Safe Schools program, secured funding for a K–6 reading program, and in 1989, created Project Pipeline, to produce future teachers of science and mathematics.

Dr. Fortune has dedicated 30 years of his life to the education of California children, and I am thankful for his commitment to excellence. Please join me in thanking Dr. Fortune for his contribution to our youth, and wishing him well as he retires.

A RESOLUTION HONORING JOSIE COLE, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER OF PARMA, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Josie Cole, winner of the 2003 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Josie is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Josie is an exceptional student at Springport High School, and possesses an outstanding record of achievement in high school. Josie has received numerous awards for her excellence in academics and athletics, as well as her volunteer activities with the Eaton Rapids Women's Club and Vacation Bible School. Josie is also proficient in sign language and has signed the National Anthem at athletic events at Springport High School.

Therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Josie Cole for her selection as winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I call the attention of the House of Representatives to the 75th anniversary of Saint Anthony of Padua Parish of Exeter, Pennsylvania. The parish will celebrate this milestone with a Mass and dinner on May 18, 2003, with the dinner chaired by Attorney Charles J. Bufalino.

At the start of the 20th century, thousands of Italian immigrants came to America in search of a better life for themselves and their families. Many of them came to work in the coal mines of Northeastern Pennsylvania, with quite a few settling in the Exeter area. In addition to their common heritage and language, they shared a common faith, so they founded a parish where they could come together as a community.

The first church serving Saint Anthony of Padua Parish was built in 1928 and 1929, to be followed by a new church in 1963. Father Alphonse Manley, a diocesan priest, staffed the parish until the arrival of Father Emilio Boccalatte, O.S.J., an Oblate of Saint Joseph, in 1930. The Oblates of Saint Joseph have staffed the parish ever since. The present pastor is the Rev. Daniel Schwebs.

I am told it is quite common to find parishioners, young and old alike, in the church offering prayers throughout the day, and this is an example of the faith that abides at Saint Anthony's.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House the 75th anniversary of Saint Anthony of Padua Parish, and I extend my congratulations to all who are associated with the parish.