

Sedalia Pettis County United Way. Also, he was a board member, officer and founder of the Ditzfeld Foundation for recovering alcoholics. He has been a member and chairman of the Central Missouri State University College of Business and Economics Advisory Board and has served as a member of the Iowa State University College of Business Advisory Board. He is a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, and he has been president of the congregation for three terms.

Mr. Speaker, I know the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to Mr. Bob Wolfe for his outstanding career and dedication to his community and in wishing him all the best as he enters the next stage of his life with his wife Claudia and his children, Erika and Aaron.

COMPREHENSIVE PEACE IN SUDAN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 6, 2004

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5061 and urge all members to vote for this important legislation.

I would like to thank Representative TOM TANCREDI for introducing this important legislation. I would also like to thank Chairman HYDE and Congressman LANTOS and their staffs for moving this legislation swiftly through committee.

This legislation could not be more timely. Stories and pictures of horrific abuse and suffering in the Darfur region of Sudan are now on our nightly news. Newspapers are running daily stories. I visited Sudan in July and witnessed with my own eyes the horrific conditions.

The world has now awakened to this nightmare and we must do everything in our power to try to stop it.

We must not forget that the conflict in Darfur has been occurring for the last year and a half but that there also has been an ongoing war for the last 20 years between the Government of Sudan and the mostly Christian South.

Millions of lives have been lost. Millions more are shattered and scarred forever.

Sudan has suffered from war crimes and unspeakable human rights abuses. One country, one group of people, should not have to endure so much suffering.

Sudan is not alone. Africa has seen enormous suffering this past decade from the butchery that took place in Sierra Leone to the genocide in Rwanda. We must learn from the past, learn from the mistakes of our own inaction, and mobilize to try to save lives.

Some 50,000 people are already dead in Darfur and more than a million more are at risk. The world must act now.

The United States took a bold move under the leadership of Secretary of State Powell by calling what is occurring in Sudan what it is—a genocide. Unfortunately the international community has been slow to respond.

H.R. 5061 is based on the fact that genocide is now occurring in Darfur and that the Government of Sudan is complicit in this genocide. Significant pressure must be placed on the Government of Sudan to both end the

genocide and finalize a comprehensive peace agreement with the South.

Only then will the innocent civilians, who have suffered for so long, be able to begin rebuilding their lives.

This bill immediately imposes sanctions on the Government of Sudan. I think this is sound policy. We are dealing with a government that is committing genocide against its own people, therefore we need to use every possible tool to apply pressure so that it will stop.

H.R. 5061 also outlines multilateral actions to press U.N. countries to apply additional pressure on Sudan, and most importantly provides much-needed humanitarian aid to Darfur and humanitarian and development aid to alleviate suffering in the South.

We are beyond the point of merely warning the Government of Sudan with punitive measures. We must now take action.

The world is watching and rogue regimes in other nations who have the ability to do this to their own people are watching how we respond. Our response to genocide must be firm.

The world will look back on Darfur in 10 years and know that the United States stood firm and the United States stood with the people of Darfur.

I call on every member of Congress to vote in favor of this important legislation. We must send a strong message to the Government of Sudan that the United States will not sit by while they commit genocide.

HONORING ALL THOSE SERVING NORTHWEST FLORIDA IN THE AFTERMATH OF HURRICANE IVAN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the organizations, businesses, and people who helped the residents of Northwest Florida get back on their feet during Hurricane Ivan's aftermath.

The panhandle of Florida was dealt a difficult hand, as Ivan left no life untouched. Undoubtedly once again, Northwest Floridians have proven their strength during times of devastating destruction and loss.

Returning to our homes to assess the damage, we were reassured that we were not alone and help was on the way. Gulf Power, Escambia River Electric Cooperative, local radio stations and newspapers, the Red Cross, FEMA, Army Corps of Engineers, and the Small Business Administration assisted almost everyone in the community in a variety of ways; from supplying ice, water, and food, to emotional support, the spread of information and monetary funds in the effort to help rebuild. Thanks to these folks, I'm happy to report that the lights are coming back on, bridges are mended, roofs are tarped, businesses are reopening, and naval aviators are training.

As for the Panhandle's future, it's not the character of Northwest Floridians to give up hope. Our communities will continue to unite together, and rebuild our homes and businesses better and stronger. Our military infrastructure will rebuild and Pensacola will re-

main the Cradle of Naval Aviation. There is no other place in the world like the panhandle of Florida and the residents there recognize that there is no better place to rebuild their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my sincere thanks to all those, near and far, who have given comfort and have helped the residents of Florida's panhandle rebuild their lives.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TEXAS INSTRUMENTS WORKING MOTHER MAGAZINE'S TOP PLACES TO WORK

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, congratulations are in order for Texas Instruments. For the Ninth Year in a Row—Working Mother magazine has named Texas Instruments a best place to work.

It's an honor to represent the numerous employees at Texas Instruments who helped make this achievement possible.

Some would consider Texas Instruments a trailblazer in the workplace when it comes to family issues. That's because they are.

In the early 1990's, a small team of employees concerned about work and family issues created the Texas Instruments Work/Life Strategy; an endeavor that has helped shape the company's culture through changing times with outstanding results.

TI champions talented and ambitious women throughout the organization. TI has a number of very active Women's Initiatives that offer a range of speakers and programs to help women achieve their full potential in their careers at TI. Since 1989 representation of women in management job grades has increased over 450 percent.

New mothers receive eight weeks of paid maternity leave at TI, and they have a built-in support network when they return to the job. TI employees can find help and advice with work and personal issues through the LifeWorks resource and referral service. And a Corporate Concierge service can help with everything from party planning, to locating hard-to-find gifts.

TI employees receive discounts at child care centers and have access to back-up care and care for sick children.

TI offers a flexible work environment allowing employees the opportunity to effectively manage their work/life challenges.

Is it any wonder that Texas Instruments is recognized globally as a great place to work—by employees and third parties alike? Congratulations, and I salute all the people at TI who helped make this accomplishment a reality.

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR A TAX CREDIT TO AN INDIVIDUAL PUR- CHASING A GUN SAFE

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to provide for an income tax

credit relating to the purchase of a gun safe. Experts agree that firearms should be stored unloaded and locked up, with ammunition stored separately. This bill, if enacted, would help protect our children and others due to accidents, suicides, and other acts, all connected with unguarded guns.

The non-refundable credit would amount to 25 percent of the total costs of purchasing, shipping, and installing a gun safe in a taxpayer's residence. The maximum credit would be limited to 25 percent of the total costs up to \$1,000, or a total credit of \$250.

Over 22 million children in the U.S. live in homes with at least one firearm. A study by the prestigious Rand Corporation found that fewer than 50 percent of American families with firearms stored their firearms safely—unloaded, locked and away from the ammunition. Storing firearms unloaded in a well constructed gun safe with a keyed combination or electronic lock is the most secure method for preventing unauthorized access by children, adolescents and criminals to firearms in a home.

The FBI estimates there are more than 341,000 incidents of firearm theft from private citizens annually. Nearly one-third of these firearms will be used in the commission of another crime. Increasing the use of gun safes with keyed, combination or electronic locks would decrease the number of firearms stolen from homes and used by criminals to intimidate, harm and kill their victims.

There is nothing mandatory about this legislation. The decision to purchase a gun safe remains a personal decision as does a person's decision to take advantage of the tax credit. The legislation is designed to encourage a voluntary act and does not in any way intrude into the American home. I ask your support for this legislation, which would help protect families, especially the children, from untimely deaths due to unguarded guns.

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF
NORTHERN VIRGINIA RESIDENTS
TO BRING PEACE AND SECURITY
TO OUR NATION

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of a group of local elected officials and constituents from my Congressional district to weigh in on our Nation's budgetary priorities. These individuals are all involved in local government and community organizations. They are appealing to President Bush to ensure a viable response to the Iraq conflict and that the Nation's domestic priorities are not shortchanged in the process. They come together to oppose the nation's use of unilateral and preemptive military activity and seek to promote a more peaceable foreign policy. I am also submitting a letter that was sent to President Bush and all Washington area Members of Congress showing their concern on this important issue. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in supporting their commitment to our country and concern for the pressing social needs in communities.

STATEMENT BY WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN
AREA ELECTED LOCAL LEADERS TO BE FOR-
WARDED TO PRESIDENT BUSH AND WASH-
INGTON AREA MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

We are concerned for the effects of the United States' involvement in Iraq on the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. So far, Congress has appropriated more than \$160 billion for the Iraq conflict. These enormous appropriations are causing the Federal deficit to reach dangerous levels. They also will cause reductions in important Federal programs that address transportation, infrastructure, and pressing social needs within the United States. This is happening at a time when serious budget problems are being experienced by every state in the union, including those in the Washington D.C. area.

Local governments already are feeling the effects of Federal and state deficits and cuts to non-defense programs. Local officials are being put in the difficult position of having to either cut needed services to residents or pass the expenses for such services to local taxpayers. Moreover, many analysts believe that the United States' foreign policy actions are strengthening and emboldening terrorist groups, which puts the United States and all of its people—particularly those in the National Capital area—at increased risk. We want to do our part to fight terrorism, but the U.S. must embrace a thoughtful and realistic approach which can garner international support.

We honor and respect the sacrifices, the professionalism, and the courage of our military personnel serving in the Persian Gulf, and are especially mindful of those from the metropolitan Washington area who have been put into conditions of extreme hardship in that area. We hope and pray that they may return safely home.

For all of these reasons, we ask that you move immediately to promote a viable resolution to the Iraq conflict. We further request that you forbid and refrain from funding further unilateral and preemptive military activity, including military strikes on any nation that is not directly threatening the United States.

Your attention to this important matter is greatly appreciated.

MR. JAMES ADGATE HONORED AS
OHIO'S OUTSTANDING OLDER
WORKER

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate James R. "Dick" Adgate of Warren, Ohio for receiving Ohio's Outstanding Older Worker Award.

Mr. Adgate was born in 1921. He started working in the 1930's during the Depression at his father's greenhouse where he grew cut flowers and sold them to retail florists in the city. He liked the business but wanted to be on the retail side, so his father built a small shop, Elm Road Florist, in front of the greenhouse. From these beginnings, Mr. Adgate's business grew until he owned and operated, with the help of his wife Betty, a chain of stores throughout the area. He retired in the early 1990's. Soon after he retired, increased competition and changes in the client base made it difficult for the floral shop to compete. Mr. Adgate came out of retirement and took over the business again, working to make it more efficient. He continues to look for new ways to stay competitive.

Mr. Adgate is a veteran of the Coast Guard as well as a member of the Rotary Club, Old Erie Lodge No. 3F and Howland Community Church where he serves as trustee. He also volunteers for Mobile Meals, plays tennis every week, swims and square dances.

Mr. Adgate was honored by the Prime Time Awards Program, a year-long initiative to recognize the tremendous accomplishments of working seniors. The program's goal is to break down the barriers to hiring, training and retaining older workers. Nominations for Outstanding Older Worker are received from across the country and a panel of volunteers in each state selects the most distinguished honoree.

Mr. Speaker, once again I wish to extend my congratulations to Mr. Adgate. I believe that he is an inspiration for all of us and it is with great pride that I honor him for being named Ohio's Outstanding Older Worker.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMIN-
ISTRATION REAUTHORIZATION
ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 6, 2004

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, the Economic Development Administration (EDA) provides critical support to distressed communities. Assistance for the productive reuse of abandoned industrial facilities and the redevelopment of brownfields is encouraged by the EDA Reauthorization Act and I agree with this worthy goal.

To the limited extent EDA is involved in funding assessment or cleanup of brownfields sites, the intent of the EDA bill is that grant funds shall only be provided consistent with the "Polluter Pays" principle. When federal funds are provided for assessment or cleanup, it is important to ensure that the costs not be shifted from the polluter to the taxpayer. This principle applies broadly whether the projects are addressed under CERCLA, in the Leaking Underground Storage Tank program under the Solid Waste Disposal Act, or under other environmental laws. For example, in a statement to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on April 28, 2004, David Sampson, Assistant Secretary of Commerce, told the Committee that "EDA is not seeking to in any way relieve a responsible party from liability under CERCLA nor to provide funds to a party to undertake clean-ups required under CERCLA, since to do so would undercut the 'Polluter Pays' principle on which CERCLA was founded."

I intend to follow up on the progress of the EDA brownfields program, and to see that taxpayer funds do not bail out responsible parties. On October 5, 2004, I sent a letter to EDA with the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials, Representative SOLIS, requesting detailed information on the brownfields cleanup program. A successful brownfields program assists in the redevelopment of abandoned sites with limited contamination. This goal must be achieved without sacrificing environmental protection and without shifting the burden of the cleanup to taxpayers when the polluters can be held accountable.