

As Nobel Laureates, we believe that the world community needs urgently to address the challenges of poverty and sustainable development. Responding to these challenges requires the political will that has been so sadly lacking.

The undertakings pledged by states at the UN Millennium Summit, the promises of increased development assistance, fair trade, market access and debt relief for developing countries, have not been implemented. Poverty continues to be the world's most widespread and dangerous scourge.

Millions of people become victims of hunger and disease, and entire nations suffer from feelings of frustration and despair. This creates fertile ground for extremism and terrorism. The stability and future of the entire human community are thus jeopardized.

Scientists are warning us that failure to solve the problems of water, energy and climate change will lead to a breakdown of order, more military conflicts and ultimately the destruction of the living systems upon which civilization depends. Therefore, we reaffirm our support for the Kyoto Protocol and the Earth Charter and endorse the rights-based approach to water, as reflected in the initiative of Green Cross International calling upon governments to negotiate a framework treaty on water.

As Nobel Peace Prize Laureates we believe that to benefit from humankind's new, unprecedented opportunities and to counter the dangers confronting us there is a need for better global governance. Therefore, we support strengthening and reforming the United Nations and its institutions.

As immediate specific tasks, we commit to work for:

—Genuine efforts to resolve the Middle East crisis. This is both a key to the problem of terrorism and a chance to avoid a dangerous clash of civilizations. A solution is possible if the right of all nations in the region to secure viable statehood is respected and if the Middle East is integrated in all global processes while respecting the unique culture of the peoples of that region.

—Preserving and strengthening the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. We reject double standards and emphasize the legal responsibility of nuclear weapons states to work to eliminate nuclear weapons. We call for continuation of the moratorium on nuclear testing pending entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and for accelerating the process of verifiable and irreversible nuclear arms reduction. We are gravely alarmed by the creation of new, usable nuclear weapons and call for rejection of doctrines that view nuclear weapons as legitimate means of war-fighting and threat pre-emption.

—Effectively realizing the initiative of the UN Secretary General to convene a high level conference in 2005 to give an impetus to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. We pledge to work to create an atmosphere of public accountability to help accomplish these vitally important tasks.

We believe that to solve the problems that challenge the world today politicians need to interact with an empowered civil society and strong mass movements. This is the way toward a globalization with a human face and a new international order that rejects brute force, respects ethnic, cultural and political diversity and affirms justice, compassion and human solidarity.

We, the Nobel Peace Laureates and Laureate organizations, pledge to work for the realization of these goals and are calling on governments and people everywhere to join us.

Mikhail Gorbachev, Kim Dae-Jung, Lech Walesa, Joseph Rotblat, Jose Ramos-Horta,

Betty Williams, Mairead Corrigan Maguire, Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo, Adolfo Perez Esquivel, and Rigoberta Menchu Tum; and, United Nations Children's Fund, Pugwash Conferences, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, International Peace Bureau, Institut de Droit International, American Friends Service Committee, Medecins sans Frontieres, Amnesty International, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, International Labour Organization, International Campaign to Ban Land Mines, Albert Schweitzer Institute, United Nations.

COMMERCIAL SPACE LAUNCH AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concerns with the bill before us, H.R. 5382, the Commercial Space Launch Amendments Act.

This bill establishes a regulatory mechanism for licensing commercial suborbital human spaceflight activities.

The space exploration research program has been one of the most successful research programs in the history of this country.

The rationale for human spaceflight is evolving due to a growing commercial motivation. Human spaceflight can profit from an increased synergy between the public and private sectors.

Space tourism can benefit immensely from the development of the necessary infrastructure, while public space programs can benefit from increased awareness and support for human spaceflight, generated by high-profile space tourism flights and a growing perception that space travel is closer to being within the grasp of ordinary citizens.

I supported this legislation when it was brought before the committee.

However, one of my primary concerns is the regulation of safety, since space travel is inherently dangerous. Under no circumstances should we allow the desire for profits to ever interfere with the responsibility of maintaining safety and proper oversight.

We can and should protect the safety of passengers on space flights.

Legislation of this magnitude should have the benefit of bipartisan input from the appropriate committees with jurisdiction.

Further negotiations would make this bill more palatable. I ask my colleagues to not act hastily in advancing this legislation.

HONORING PATRICIA FRANCES EATON

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton to honor the extraordinary life of Patricia Frances Eaton, a devoted teacher, advocate, humanitarian, and friend. Pat, who

spent her life traveling the world to support those in need, passed away on October 22, 2004 in Arlington, Virginia. She is survived by her son, David Howard Kuria Eaton, her brother, Harold Eaton, Jr., her god-sister, Jean Chin Tapscott, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and loving friends.

Born on June 21, 1944 in Washington, D.C., Pat was the youngest of five children born to Harold and Ordee Scruggs Eaton. Following her studies at Palmer Memorial Institute and Howard University, Pat graduated from Texas Southern University with a B.A. in English in 1967. Upon her graduation, Pat became part of the first group of volunteers to travel to the newly independent southern Africa with the United States Peace Corps. Braving extreme weather conditions and relying on a horse as her only means of transportation, she lived in a Lesotho village for more than two years. During that time she grew to love the lands and people of the most remote regions of Africa, and her experience in the Peace Corps became the inspiration that she would draw upon in traveling through and working on behalf of Africa throughout the rest of her life.

Returning to the U.S. in 1970, Pat used her knowledge and experience to work as a volunteer to raise funds to start Africare, an organization dedicated to providing funds for water supply, health resources, and agricultural development in drought-stricken West Africa, or the Sahel. During this time, Pat worked as a teacher at McKinley High School, and also worked briefly for the D.C. government. She was later able to work full-time at Africare as its first Director of Communications and Chapter Development, a capacity in which she traveled across the country in order to identify and coordinate cities with development projects in the Sahel.

In the mid-1970s, Pat was recruited by the U.N. Development Program's newly established Women-In-Development project. Known for her expertise in working in rural and isolated villages in Africa, Pat was the ideal choice to work on this project, which sought to increase women's productivity through income-generating projects. Her background led also to later appointments as the Executive Director of the Black Women's Community Development Foundation, the Director for Africa of the Overseas Education Fund of the League of Women Voters, and various contract projects with USAID, the Peace Corps, and other groups. Pat's work in these areas led her to spend the better part of twenty years traveling through twenty-two African countries, often with few companions and little more than a single suitcase, but always with an eagerness for knowledge and full immersion within the culture of each group she encountered. Whether she was passing through the caves of Mali's Timbuktu, the pyramids of Egypt, or Zambia during the Rhodesian War and subsequent Lancaster conference, Pat lived as one with the African people whose lives she shared throughout her journey.

After returning to the United States in 1983 for the birth of her son, David, Pat took a position as the Director of West Africa for the D.C.-based African Development Foundation. In 1986, she made the decision to settle in the U.S., and began teaching English again, this time at Wilson Senior High. Later advancing to the position of Director of the school's International Studies Program, Pat drew upon the richness of her experiences abroad not only to

encourage students to seek out knowledge and understanding of foreign affairs and cultures, but also to encourage career exploration in the international arena, especially among minority students.

On November 20, 2004, Patricia Eaton will be honored in Washington, D.C. for the impact her life and work has had on her students in the U.S., the people who came to know her in Africa through her decades of work there, and everyone else who has been fortunate enough to have her in their lives. On this day we take time not only to honor her memory, but also to give thanks for the spirit of giving and mutual understanding that shaped her work in life, and that will continue to impact the lives of future generations for years to come. On behalf of the 9th Congressional District and the District of Columbia, we salute the life and work of Pat Eaton. Her example is a true inspiration, and she will be greatly missed by all.

SHEILA SUESS KENNEDY'S INDIANAPOLIS STAR ARTICLE: "WE THE PEOPLE BELIEVE IN VALUES"

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I submit the attached article, "We the People Believe in Values" for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This article was written by Sheila Suess Kennedy, associate professor of law and public policy at the Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs in Indianapolis. It originally appeared in the November 15, 2004 edition of the Indianapolis Star.

[From the Indianapolis Star, Nov. 15, 2004]

WE THE PEOPLE BELIEVE IN VALUES
(Sheila Suess Kennedy)

Pundits tell us that voters came out on Nov. 2 to vote for "values." They sure didn't vote for mine.

Let me be quite explicit about my values, which are shared by millions of others—values that infuse the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, values that are absolutely central to what it means to be American.

We believe in justice and civil liberties—in equal treatment and fair play for all citizens, whether or not we agree with them or like them or approve of their life choices.

We believe that no one is above the law—and that includes those who run our government.

We believe that dissent can be the highest form of patriotism. Those who care about America enough to speak out against policies they believe to be wrong or corrupt are not only exercising their rights as citizens, they are discharging their civic responsibilities.

We believe that playing to the worst of our fears and prejudices, using "wedge issues" to marginalize gays, or blacks, or "East Coast liberals" (a time-honored code word for Jews) in the pursuit of political advantage is un-American and immoral.

We believe, as Garry Wills recently wrote, in "critical intelligence, tolerance, respect for evidence, a regard for the secular sciences."

We believe, to use the language of the Nation's Founders, in "a decent respect for the

opinions of mankind" (even European mankind).

We believe in the true heartland of this country, where people struggle to provide for their families, dig deep into their pockets to help the less fortunate, and understand their religions to require good will and loving kindness.

We believe that self-righteousness is the enemy of righteousness.

We really do believe that the way you play the game is more important, in the end, than whether you win or lose. We really do believe that the ends don't justify the means.

In our America, borrowing from our grandchildren so that we can pay for a costly war without taxing the president's buddies and campaign contributors is not moral.

Dividing the Nation into red and blue, gay and straight, moral and immoral, welcome and unwelcome, is not moral. Excusing our own sins by pointing to the sins of others—torturing people, or engaging in "holy war" because "they" do it too, is not moral. Lying—about sex or weapons of mass destruction or an opponent's war record—is not moral.

On Election Day, claimants of the "values" label came to the precinct where my youngest son was working to "vote against the queers."

In my precinct, when I handed a Democratic slate to a voter, he accused me of being a "friend of Osama." A friend's son registering voters for Baron Hill in a church was called a "fag lover."

The people who live in my America need to reclaim the vocabulary of patriotism and values from those who have hijacked the language in service of something very different.

DEATH OF CHARLES W. CHERRY, SR.

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to pay my respects to Charles W. Cherry.

I was extremely saddened upon hearing the news of the death of Mr. Charles Cherry. I knew Mr. Cherry since my days at college, and fondly remember him as an outstanding civil rights advocate, and a fighter for the civil rights of the African American community. Mr. Cherry was, most of all, an extremely effective community leader, and always stood up for the poor and the underprivileged, even in the most adverse circumstances.

On a biographical note, I think it is important to recognize that Charles and his family were the founders of the Daytona Times, an influential weekly African American community newspaper, and a Member of The City Council. Additionally, Mr. Cherry should also be recognized as being only the second African-American student to receive both a Juris Doctor and an MBA from The University of Florida.

He was an activist and an entrepreneur who fervently believed that underprivileged communities thrive when offered economic opportunity.

He moved to Daytona Beach in 1952 and became active in the civil rights movement, participating in sit-ins and other efforts in the 1960s to bring about integration.

He became president of the Volusia County branch of the NAACP in 1971, was president

of the State of Florida NAACP from 1974 to 1984, and later headed the local chapter again. He served on the NAACP's national board for 12 years starting in 1977.

All Floridians are grateful for the leadership he provided and will miss his presence and persistence when it came to the issues he championed.

I will miss him dearly, and his family will remain in my thoughts and prayers.

IN RECOGNITION OF OLYMPIC
GOLD MEDALIST HEATHER
O'REILLY

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Heather O'Reilly, one of America's most talented rising soccer players and student-athletes. Heather has been a vital member of the U.S. national soccer team and the University of North Carolina soccer team.

Heather, along with her teammates, earned the 2004 Olympic Gold medal in soccer. During the semifinal game against Germany, Heather netted the key goal in overtime, sending the team into the Olympic gold medal soccer finals. She has been apart of the national team since 2002 and has scored over eighteen goals.

Born in East Brunswick, New Jersey, on January 2, 1985, Heather lived with her parents, Andrew and Carol O'Reilly and three brothers. She attended East Brunswick High School, where she played soccer and basketball. Heather is one of New Jersey's finest players; she was All-Conference, All-County, and All-State all four years. She was a three-time NSCAA All-American and a Parade All-America. As a senior, Heather was the Parade National Player of the Year and the Gatorade National High School Girl's Soccer Player of the Year. She scored 143 goals in High School and led the Lady Bears to a state championship in 2001. She was the top soccer college recruit in the country.

At the University of North Carolina, despite suffering an injury, Heather helped lead the Tar Heels to a perfect record (27-0-0) and a Division I NCAA Championship. She earned All-American honors and named Freshman Player of the Year from numerous soccer organizations across the country. On November 13, 2004, she tied the NCAA tournament record for most assists in a game in the Tar Heels' quest for another championship.

Apart from playing soccer, Heather is a model student-athlete. While in high school, Heather was a member of National Honor Society and now as a college student, she continues to maintain a strong grade point average.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire 12th district of New Jersey, I would like to recognize Heather O'Reilly for her Olympic gold medal in soccer, and commend her for representing the state of New Jersey and our country with pride and excellence.