

A bitter and ultimately unsuccessful Typographical Union strike at the Star-Citizen in 1966, over job-depleting automation and the companies' rejection of the union's demand for a pension plan, ended Albert's 12-year stint with the daily newspapers. Fortuitously for Albert, El Tucsonense was in the process of folding and he and a partner, Oscar Araiza, bought his uncle's printing shop. Araiza retired in 1991 and Albert has run Old Pueblo Printers alone since then.

Upon taking control of the business in 1966, Albert and his partner began doing printing work for Tucson-area labor union locals and Democratic Party candidates for political office. One of the first campaigns for which Albert's shop printed the political literature was one of the late U.S. Representative Morris K. Udall's bids for office. Udall continued to use his services after that, as did Robert Kennedy for his assassination-truncated 1968 presidential campaign. Albert printed campaign materials for Raúl Castro, who was elected as the first Latino governor of Arizona; for Ed Pastor, who was elected as the first Latino congressman from Arizona; and for longtime Pima County Supervisors Sam Lena and Dan Eckstrom. I, too, came to Albert for my printing needs when I first launched what became a 12-year stint on the Tucson Unified School District Board. I continued to use Albert's services through 13 years on the Pima County Board of Supervisors and, finally, on my 2002 bid for Congress.

During his career, Albert supported labor leader César Chávez of the United Farm Workers, he supported the efforts of local Latino activists to get their fair share of federal funds to improve the homes and neighborhoods of their people, and he supported a landmark lawsuit forcing Tucson Unified School District to desegregate its schools. Albert always has been, and still is, fighting battles against those who seek to use their financial influence to their own advantage—and at the expense of ordinary working people.

Albert M. Elías deserves special recognition, honor and respect for his five decades of union membership—and for his meritorious achievements during that time on behalf of working people and the less fortunate of Pima County and Southern Arizona.

ON THE TERRORIST ATTACK IN MADRID, SPAIN

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, again a horrendous act of terrorism has been perpetrated on freedom-loving people in the world. Today, our friends in Spain are in mourning in the face of another cowardly attack by the enemies of freedom. News reports indicate that at least 173 people were killed and more than 600 injured in a series of explosions on Madrid's railway network at the height of morning rush hour.

Spain has suffered terrible losses from terrorism for decades, and the United States stands by its side today in grief. Our hearts go out to the Spanish people in this difficult time.

As I stated in September 2001, we—and our allies around the world—will show our re-

solve to our enemies. The free nations of the world will remain steadfast in our commitment together to ensure that those who hate freedom and liberty will not succeed. There are only two sides in this war: Ours and the enemy's. We reaffirm this today in light of the attacks in Madrid.

Lastly, it was President Franklin D. Roosevelt that stated that this Nation and its allies will defend ourselves to the uttermost and work to make certain that acts of war should never be permitted to endanger freedom-loving people again. Quote, "With confidence in our Armed Forces—with the unbounded determination of our people—we will gain the inevitable triumph—so help us God." This quote remains just as true today, as it did in December 1941.

FIRST ALL-FEMALE GRADUATING CLASS OF PICKER ENGINEERING SCHOOL OF SMITH COLLEGE

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor to congratulate the first all-female graduating class of the Picker Engineering School of Smith College. The Picker Program is committed to advancing opportunities for women in engineering. The engineering science program emphasizes an integrative teaching approach that will reinvent the standards of engineering and change the future.

The Picker Engineering Program has reinvented the role of engineering and thus expanded the way in which engineering students view the world. The 20 young women in the graduating class of 2004 have been exposed to an interwoven study of humanities and engineering. The creators of the academic department have redefined the standard curricula of engineering by integrating liberal arts education with traditional scientific and mathematical principles. The Picker Engineering Program stresses the importance of serving humanity and the protection of natural resources. The importance placed on environmental sustainability and social responsibility has raised the standards needed for an engineering degree.

The Picker Engineering School of Smith College will provide endless opportunities for students seeking an unparalleled education. It has already attracted a dedicated faculty and will continue to recruit superior staff and faculty. One of the highest percentages of women faculty, more than sixty percent, of any engineering programs in the country are employed by Smith College. The Picker program is a leading innovator in educating the next generation of engineers.

While women account for 45 percent of the American workforce, merely 9 percent of engineering careers are held by females. Smith College is dedicated to eliminating barriers to women in engineering while promoting interdisciplinary study. I speak on behalf of the second district of Massachusetts and the entire State in congratulating Smith College and welcoming the Picker Engineering School and its students to western Massachusetts.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, in passing the Congressional Accountability Act (CAA) back in 1995, Congress affirmed a very important principle: if a law is right for the private sector and the rest of the federal government, it is right for Congress.

In passing CAA, we brought ourselves under 11 labor and employment laws from which we had previously been exempt, but it has become clear our work is not complete.

Today, we introduced the Congressional Accountability Enhancement Act to try to further curtail the double standard that exists between Congress and the private sector by bringing Congress under even more of the laws it has passed for the rest of the country.

Specifically, the CAA omitted Title II of the Civil Rights Act, which prohibits racial discrimination in places of public accommodation—like Member's offices or the Capitol building—to Congress. Additionally, CAA did not include whistleblower protections or require that the disabled have equal access to all electronic information, like Members' websites and committee hearing broadcasts.

In addition to extending these important protections, the Congressional Accountability Enhancement Act would ensure Legislative Branch employees are protected from discrimination or termination for serving jury duty, declaring bankruptcy or having their wages garnished for debt—protections inadvertently excluded from CAA.

We don't tolerate those kinds of discrimination in the private sector, and we certainly should not make excuses for them here in Congress. We have a responsibility as the Nation's lawmakers not only to lead by example, but also to share the burden we ask others to bear.

The bottom line is, Congress should not be above the law. Our bill will help ensure we live by the laws we've passed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, on roll-call vote No. 50, I inadvertently voted "aye" instead of "nay." I ask unanimous consent that the RECORD reflect that I was opposed to the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. ANDREWS.

STOPPING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to an epidemic plaguing our Nation—violence against women. Too often we

hear appalling statistics highlighting this fact; particularly regarding cases of domestic violence.

Nearly one-third of American women report being physically or sexually assaulted by a husband or boyfriend during their lifetime. The violence is not limited to adult women: One in five high school girls reports being abused by a dating partner.

In 2002 in my home State of New Jersey there were 79,844 domestic violence offenses reported by the police. Women were the victims in over 77 percent, or 61,715, of all these domestic violence offenses. In New Jersey, one act of domestic violence occurs every 6 minutes and 35 seconds.

In Passaic County, New Jersey there were 4,892 reported cases of domestic violence. The numbers are shocking. The crimes: heinous—3 Homicides, 6 Criminal Sexual Contacts, 2,825 Assaults, 280 Criminal Mischief cases, 469 Terroristic Threats, 48 Burglaries, 8 Kidnappings, 23 Criminal Trespass cases, 6 Criminal Restraint cases, 1,183 Harassment cases, 3 False Imprisonments, 20 Stalking cases, and 18 Sexual Assaults. Women were the victims in at least 3,767 of these cases.

We have a responsibility to reverse these unacceptable statistics. The women of Passaic County, of New Jersey and the entire Nation, deserve better. No woman should live in fear of domestic violence.

In addition to the terror, domestic violence is a serious health care issue that affects thousands of women and their children. The health-related cost of domestic violence against women exceeds \$5.8 billion each year.

Health care providers are on the front lines of the battle as they often identify domestic violence and provide victims with care and support. That is why I support the Domestic Violence Screening, Treatment and Prevention Act, which would provide research on the health impact and prevention of family violence; training for health care professionals regarding identification and treatment for families experiencing family violence; and health care coverage for domestic violence identification and treatment.

There is great need for both women and men to join together to speak out and stop the violence. Stop the violence against women. As a Congress, as a Nation, we must work to protect the rights of women and ensure that they have the support and services necessary.

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT FOR H.R. 3936

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today, along with Mr. EVANS, and Mr. SKELTON, I am introducing H.R. 3936, a bill to authorize the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, now located in commercial office space in the District of Columbia, to seek a new location in the greater national capital region. This measure would also express the sense of Congress that a dedicated Veterans Courthouse and Justice Center should be provided for the court and the veterans it serves. It would be located, if possible, on one of

three small parking lots next to I-395 on the Pentagon Reservation.

The court, created by statute in 1988, is an independent Article I judicial tribunal that for the first time gave our Nation's veterans the right to judicial review of the Department of Veterans (VA) benefits decisions on their disability, pension, education and other claims. It should, like all other article I courts, have a permanent courthouse.

In addition to the court, occupants of the new Courthouse would be members of those constituencies that regularly practice before the court, for example, the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program, the National Veterans Legal Services Program, and the appellate attorneys of veterans service organizations. The court and the offices of its constituents pay over \$3.7 million per year for their rent. The General Services Administration anticipates that the court's rental costs will increase substantially in the not-too-distant future, so it would be desirable to relocate the court on a government-owned site, if possible.

H.R. 3936 would also require the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Administrator of General Services to submit a joint report to the House and Senate Committees on Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs on the feasibility of locating a new Veterans Courthouse and Justice Center at an appropriate site owned by the United States that is part of or near the Pentagon Reservation.

Mr. Speaker, given the past, present, and future sacrifices of the many men and women of our Armed Forces, I cannot imagine a better use for one of the present parking lots near the Pentagon, than a stand-alone, dedicated Veterans Courthouse and Justice Center to embody the gratitude and respect this Nation has for the service of every veteran.

I invite my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation as a first step toward a Veterans Courthouse and Justice Center for the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

VETERANS ACCESS

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, many veterans in the first district of Idaho, which I represent, live in rural areas where access to VA healthcare facilities is limited.

In Idaho, access for many veterans is limited by geography; mountain ranges, rivers, and great distances. These veterans deserve better access to the health benefits they've earned by serving our country.

While there are no easy solutions to these problems, I feel the VA has worked hard to provide veterans living in rural areas some opportunities to receive care.

A number of programs including outpatient clinics, temporary clinics, and mobile care units have all helped to address the access problem in these areas.

While these programs have shown some success, I believe there are other innovative ways we can address the access issue.

One such way is limited outsourcing. I am a cosponsor of H.R. 3777, the HEALTHY Vets Act, which was introduced by my colleague

SCOTT MCINNIS. This bill creates opportunities for Veterans in rural areas to access timely healthcare from doctors and hospitals in their communities.

Many rural communities understand the value of their community doctors and hospitals. Rural healthcare is expensive, and these communities are fighting hard to maintain these resources. Allowing veterans access to community hospitals makes sense for our veterans and our communities.

I have a deep appreciation for the men and women who have risked their lives for America's freedoms and feel our Nation should keep its promises to our veterans.

Throughout our history our Nation has been forced to maintain our commitment to freedom, and likewise, we must continue our commitment to our Nation's veterans.

COOPERATIVE RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENT (CREATE) ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 2004

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation. I cannot overstate the importance of encouraging collaboration when it comes to developing new technologies, particularly in the medical field. That is why Congress amended the patent laws in the mid-1980's to allow the patenting of inventions even when the inventions were not developed by a single person.

Unfortunately, the Federal courts have interpreted the law in a way that vitiates our intent in enacting it in the first place. The Federal Circuit ruled in the OddzOn case that an inventor's knowledge of "secret prior art" could prevent the issuance of a patent unless the inventor basically worked in the same organization that developed the prior art.

This ruling is having a detrimental impact on innovation. Because many universities and other non-profits do not enter into the formal structures envisioned by OddzOn when they work to develop drugs and other technologies, they are losing patent protection and an incentive to work together. We will see a decline not only in collaborations but also in the development of life-saving drugs and other inventions.

That is why I am pleased we are considering this bill, of which I am an original cosponsor. H.R. 2391 reiterates the importance of research collaborations by allowing them to obtain patent protection without entering into formal relationships. This legislation will encourage collaboration and spur innovation.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO IRENE COLLINS

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, last week my district lost a beloved member of our community and, with great sorrow, I pay her posthumous tribute today.