

Mr. Speaker, many people from across the United States and across the globe have taken note of the contributions of Luis Ferré and his life of public service on the islands of Puerto Rico. Most notably, former President George H.W. Bush awarded Ferré with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1991, the highest government award a civilian can receive. Ferré is one of four Puerto Ricans to receive this Presidential honor.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support the people of Puerto Rico and I am pleased that this body is honoring a great American and a great Puerto Rican. I extend my condolences to Luis Ferré's family and to all the people of Puerto Rico who cherished this man and his contributions.

COUNTER-TERRORIST AND NARCO-TERRORIST REWARDS PROGRAM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2004

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, the Counter-Terrorist and Narco-Terrorist Rewards Program Act, H.R. 3782 seeks to expand the reward tools needed to encourage informants with data to come forward and help prevent or resolve acts of international terrorism against U.S. citizens and property throughout the world. Rewards also can be paid for information leading to the arrest or conviction of terrorists who attempt, commit, conspire, or aid and abet terrorist acts. Informants with the knowledge of a location or the identification of terrorist leaders can also be rewarded.

Secretary of State Powell has authorized a reward of up to \$25 million for information leading to the capture of bin Laden and other key al Qaeda leaders, under the provisions of the USA Patriot Act of 2001. That act specifically authorizes the Secretary of State to offer and pay rewards of greater than \$5 million if it is determined that a greater amount is necessary to combat terrorism or to defend the United States against terrorist acts. As we approach the fourth anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the United States, it is clear that a greater amount is necessary to entice informants and that the reward program must be publicized widely.

An especially important component of the bill would publicize the existence of the rewards program. The measure would provide additional authority to buy radio, television and newspaper advertisements to publicize the rewards program. It also would change the name of the program from the Rewards for Justice Program to the Terrorism and Narco-Terrorism Rewards Program.

The rewards incentives work. Twenty-nine people whom provided credible information that put terrorists behind bars or prevented acts of international terrorism worldwide have been rewarded with a total of more than \$49 million over the last seven years by the United States. Reward incentives played a significant role in the arrest and conviction of terrorist Ramzi Yousef, for the 1993 World Trade Center bombing.

This bill would also empower the Secretary of State to make rewards in any combination

of money and non-monetary instruments, including automobiles. This provision is important because people who have specific knowledge about perpetrators or their acts of terrorism may more highly value material objects, like a new tractor for their farm. The bill would also expand the eligibility criteria of informants seeking to receive a reward.

The bill would increase the maximum amount that can be paid by the Department of State for information and assistance. The maximum amount of a reward increases from \$5 million to a maximum of \$25 million and the Secretary of State may further authorize a reward of up to \$50 million for the capture of or information leading to the capture of Osama bin Laden.

The bill clarifies that any information that disrupts terrorist financing networks, including information related to illicit narcotics production or international trafficking, is eligible for reward. The money laundering information does not need to be tied to a specific act of terrorism. This is particularly important, because we face threats in our own hemisphere from narco-terrorists. The common denominator for each of the many threats, however, is their funding stream. Being able to seize terrorist money has an immediate impact on their ability to conduct their horrific operations. Compensating an informant for financial information is just as vital as learning of the whereabouts of a particular actor.

The provisions in this bill dramatically improve the power of the tools available to the Department of State and law enforcement agencies to attract and compensate knowledgeable informants. We can't hope to place undercover operatives into the places where terrorist and narco-terrorist leaders plan their deeds. The advanced warning of an attack and the corresponding pre-event interdiction is priceless. Therefore, a reward is easily justified.

ON THE LOSS OF A GREAT AMERICAN, JEFF SCHROCK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute a great American: Jeff Schrock.

Jeff died last month after battling brain cancer. Sadly, he leaves behind a loving wife, Cass, and two doting children, Jenny and Max.

I pay tribute to him as a fallen hero. Why? Because this was a man who represented the best of what America is—a loving husband, a good father, a solid citizen. Jeff Schrock and all the "Jeff Schrocks" of the world are what makes this a great country, are the kind of person that forms the intricate fabric that binds us as a Nation, are the unsung heroes who serve as the massive middle class that exemplifies the American nature at its best.

I loved Jeff. He was as generous a soul as one could hope to meet. His love of the outdoors and business acumen came together in a well-known business that he owned and which became a beach-front institution in Monterey: Monterey Bay Kayaks. At his kayak shop he patiently taught people to explore and enjoy the ocean, up close and personal. And

for someone like me, he rarely giggled when I squeezed into a full-body wet suit and ringed my waist with a rubber spray skirt. I will miss my friend, the gentleman with such aplomb and discretion!

It is sad to lose anyone so close. I want you to know how much I respected and admired Jeff and looked up to him. He was an American hero. He lived a life that bespoke the best of husbands and fathers everywhere. The dedication he showed to his family, the sense of community he exhibited in the way he ran his business, the daily comings-and-goings of Jeff Schrock, Everyman, is how we all ought to live our lives. Why? Because the end result is a life of integrity and honor, a life of quiet determination, and a life full of love. It is the hallmark of how the core principles of American life are manifested in our Nation. Jeff, in his way, knew this and revealed in it. He chose to be a leader for his family by showing compassion and generosity. He chose to be a leader by introducing his business associates to the wonders of economic profits through environmental preservation. He chose to be a leader by getting involved in community issues. He was a beacon for all of us, and those who follow his lead, will be part and parcel of a stronger America, as Jeff truly was.

Mr. Speaker, I miss my friend Jeff Schrock. I lament the death of the fellow who helped me squeeze into a kayak and who opened, so for many of us, an amazing Window to the wonders of Monterey Bay and our world's oceans. I share the grief of his wife and children. But above all, I honor the role model he was and will be for those he left behind.

HONORING LARRY AND JEAN ELLIOTT

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a couple from my district, Larry and Jean Elliott, whose lives tragically ended in Iraq this week.

In life and death, the Elliots saw service as God's calling. Missionaries for the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, they intermittently stayed at the mission house of First Baptist Church in Cary when they were in North Carolina. Long stationed in Honduras, they were watching CNN one day when they saw a broadcast of an Iraqi man pulling dirty water from a hang-dug well. It was a scene that struck a chord with Larry. In Honduras, he and Jean had spent years building schools, developing water purification systems to provide fresh water to rural residents, coordinating visits by medical and dental teams from the U.S., and translating for other relief workers. They knew the importance of taking care of basic human needs as a ministry of compassion and sacrifice.

Larry and Jean were not deterred by the dangers of Iraq, and they went without hesitation. A friend said their courage stemmed from a sense of peace and a belief that their destiny was in God's hands.

They were scouting the best location for their water purification project when they became casualties of the war: they were killed in a drive-by shooting in Mosul on March 15. It

happened just two weeks before they were scheduled to return home.

Mr. Speaker, family and friends say Larry and Jean were totally dedicated to missionary work. They served without question—not for glory or recognition, but simply because they felt it was the right thing to do. They were the embodiment of the spirit of Christianity, and we are honored to claim them as North Carolina's own.

Three children, Gina, Scott and Todd, survive the couple, and their many friends and admirers grieve for them at First Baptist. The Elliotts' deaths leave a tremendous void, but they also inspire the rest of us to work harder and to practice our faith in ways that honor their service.

We thank God for the joy Larry and Jean Elliott found in their faith and honor all the candles they lit in lives around the world.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARVIN
AND LUGENE SOLOMON FOR 50
YEARS OF MARRIAGE

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to extend congratulations to Marvin and Eugene Solomon of Southern California, who are celebrating their 50th year of marriage in a relationship that blends artistic talents with creative business acumen.

Although Eugene is a native of Oklahoma, the Solomons have lived a California dream since they met while attending the University of California. At the time, Eugene was juggling her studies with a starring role as Babs Riley in the television show "The Life of Riley."

Fifty years after they were married, Marvin and Eugene are still at work. Eugene now applies her artistic talents through a successful cloisonné pin and embroidered patch company, C. Sanders Emblems, which provides logos and uniform patches for groups and companies across America.

Marvin's first company, Nuclear Supplies, was started in 1963 specializing in nuclear radiation detection equipment and was later absorbed by his test and measurement instrumentation company Soltec Corporation, based in Los Angeles. Marvin, the CEO and founder of Soltec, leads a team of scientists and engineers with a world-class reputation for designing integrated engineering solutions to modern day challenges in both the public and private sectors. The company's hand-held radiation detection equipment has saved lives and protected the health of many people in both government and industry.

The Solomons have lived in San Marino, California, for the past 30 years, where they raised their two daughters, Jennifer Solomon and Kimberly Fortier. They are also the proud grandparents of three grandchildren. Eugene loves foreign languages and keeps current as a bi-lingual speaker of French in their travels abroad and in spending time at their apartment in Paris. She is also active in theatre and opera groups.

Mr. Speaker, Marvin and Eugene Solomon have forged successful independent careers even as they have shared their lives for the past 50 years. I ask that you and my col-

leagues join me in congratulating them on their perseverance, and wishing them well in their future endeavors.

HONORING DR. BRIAN APRILL
UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM
THE U.S. NAVY

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises to pay tribute to Dr. Brian Aprill, Captain in the U.S. Navy, on the occasion of his retirement from the U.S. Navy on May 1, 2004.

Dr. Aprill has accompanied the House of Representatives' delegation to NATO Parliamentary Assembly meetings, on seven separate occasions, in his capacity as the delegation's physician. As Chairman of the House Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, this Member would like to thank Dr. Aprill for his truly outstanding performance in his professional competence, good nature and fine assistance to the delegation which is greatly appreciated by all Members of the delegation.

Dr. Aprill is a graduate of Whittier College and Washington University School of Medicine. Currently, he is the Staff Endocrinologist in the Endocrinology and Metabolism Division, Department of Internal Medicine at the Bethesda National Naval Medical Center. In addition, he is the Assistant Professor of Medicine, Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, and Program Director, Transitional Year Program. In 1991, Dr. Aprill received the Navy Achievement Medal and in 1996, the Navy Commendation Medal.

This Member, in behalf of himself and the House delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, commends Dr. Aprill on his outstanding career with the U.S. Navy and wishes him well in his new capacity as a Staff Endocrinologist with the Frist Clinic in Nashville, Tennessee.

CONGRATULATING MOUNT
CLEMENS GENERAL HOSPITAL

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mount Clemens General Hospital on the opening of their new Radiology Oncology Center and the completion of the first phase of the Ted B. Wahby Cancer Center. I also want to join the staff and trustees of Mount Clemens General in honoring my friend Ted Wahby for his long dedication to providing quality health care and to the service of Macomb County.

Ted currently serves as Macomb County Treasurer and has a long record of dedicated public service. He was voted one of Crain's Detroit Business 25 most influential leaders last year. Prior to his service as Treasurer, he was the long-time mayor of St. Clair Shores and a trustee of the Lakeshore School District Board. Among his many charitable efforts, he serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Mount Clemens General Hospital and has

played an active, instrumental role in making this much-needed cancer center a reality.

Macomb County currently experiences a higher cancer rate than its neighboring counties. The county is also growing faster than any other Michigan County. In the next 50 years, the number of Macomb County cancer cases will double and the number of cancer cases among those over 85 will increase fourfold.

The good news is that more and more, we're winning the battle against cancer. The National Institutes of Health estimates that more than 59 percent of those diagnosed with cancer will survive at least five years, and advances in early detection and treatment could soon increase that rate to 75 percent.

The bad news is that it's still a long, hard battle. In Macomb County, it has been made harder by patients having to travel to multiple locations, some of them far away, in order to receive care. In 2001, nearly 70 percent of Macomb County residents were unable to get all the cancer care they needed in their own county.

The new facility will combine state-of-the-art medical technology with a warm, welcoming environment for patients and their families. Patients will have access to clinical trials, interdisciplinary teams of doctors, nurses, pharmacists, social workers, and dietitians, but will also be able to stay in homelike rooms and visit a healing garden.

Ted Wahby's leadership and dedication were indispensable to the building of this new facility. On behalf of myself and the people I represent in the 12th district of Michigan, I thank him warmly for his efforts and congratulate him on the honor of having this fine facility bear his name. It is indeed well-deserved.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I regret that my vote on the Scott/Watt Amendment (#6) to H.R. 339, the Personal Responsibility in Food Consumption Act was recorded as "no." I would like the record to reflect that my vote should have been "yes."

I recognize and appreciate the important work states have done to prevent and reduce chronic health diseases and obesity-related health conditions. As a former member of the Arkansas State Senate's Public Health, Welfare and Labor Committee, I worked diligently with state agencies and health providers to promote positive statewide health strategies.

According to the underlying bill, a person is defined in section 4(3) of the bill to include governmental entities. Consequently, states could be limited in bringing legal complaints against violators of state consumer protection statutes. The Scott/Watt Amendment would have protected a state's attorney general's option to protect consumers in accordance to consumer protection laws.