

funds and cannot get finances elsewhere, and uses these funds for emergencies such as paying for car repairs so a single mother can keep her job. Betsy's enthusiasm and commitment to her community have been the driving force behind Helping Hearts & Hands, and her efforts recently secured a grant of \$12,000 from a Colorado foundation.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Betty Proctor here today before this body of Congress and this nation and congratulate her on receiving the "Power of One" award. Cynthia Hessin of KRMA-TV selected Betty for this honor, and it is a well-deserved testament to her dedication to public service in Jefferson County and the State of Colorado. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING INDIANA STATE
REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD W.
MANGUS ON THE OCCASION OF
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Indiana State Representative Richard W. Mangus. He will be retiring from the Indiana House of Representatives this year after a long and distinguished career.

Representative Mangus was first elected to the Indiana House of Representatives in November, 1972. Since that time he has served the people of St. Joseph and Elkhart counties honorably; always seeking to improve the legislative process while representing the needs and sentiments of his constituents.

During his sixteen terms in office, Representative Mangus has served as the Ranking Member on the Environmental Affairs Committee; Ranking Member on the Constitutional Law Committee; Ranking Minority Member on the Natural Resources Committee; Chairman of the Elections and Reappointment Committee; Chairman of the House Environmental Affairs Committee; a Member of the House Human Affairs Committee; and a member of the House Public Policy Committee. He is currently serving as the Ranking Minority Member on the House Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Rural Development.

He has been honored and recognized by many organizations and fellow legislators throughout his sixteen term career. Some of these distinguished awards have been: Fraternal Order of Police Legislator of the Year; Professional Firefighters Legislator of the Year; District Soil and Water Conservation Special Recognition Award for Support of District Programming; 4-H Leadership 20 Year Service Award; Izaak Walton League Environmental Achievement Award; State of Indiana Sagamore of the Wabash Award; and the Jr. Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award.

Representative Mangus was born in Lakeville, Indiana, in 1930. He and his wife Mary still remain in Lakeville where their five children were raised. Representative Mangus is a member of the Lakeville Lions Club, Lakeville Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, Scottish Rite, Order of the Eastern Star, Lakeville Commerce Association, County Line Brethren Church, and Toastmasters.

Mr. Speaker, I know the citizens of St. Joseph and Elkhart counties join me in congratulating Representative Mangus and wish him continued success in the future.

BOY SCOUTS PRESENT SEN. BOB
MELLOW WITH DISTINGUISHED
CITIZENS AWARD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my very good friend, the Democratic Leader of the Pennsylvania Senate, Bob Mellow, as he receives the Distinguished Citizens Award from the Boy Scout Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

I ask that my colleagues pay tribute to him as he is honored at a dinner tonight at Genetti's in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Sen. Mellow is a lifelong resident of Peckville, in Lackawanna County and he has dedicated more than two decades of his life to public service. Thanks to his fine leadership in the redistricting process, I am now proud to be Sen. Mellow's Congressman.

Sen. Mellow was first elected as senator from the 22nd district in 1970, and is now serving a district-record ninth term. He was twice elected as Senate president pro tempore, the third highest constitutional office in the Commonwealth.

Sen. Mellow attended Lackawanna Junior College, the University of Scranton and Bethel College in Tennessee, where he received his bachelor of science degree in accounting. He also attended graduate school at Marywood University and served in the Pennsylvania National Guard from 1962 to 1968.

One of Sen. Mellow's hallmark moves as Senate president pro tempore was opening the Senate to television coverage. This has become a permanent part of Senate proceedings and is an important mechanism that encourages public interest in our government.

Sen. Mellow was an early advocate of measures to protect the environment, an issue that he and I both hold close to our hearts. Sen. Mellow was instrumental in passage of the Hazardous Waste Act of 1980. When Northeastern and Central Pennsylvania fell victim to giardiasis in the water supply in 1984, Sen. Mellow introduced legislation to respond to the outbreak of the waterborne disease. Even as he worked on statewide legislation to improve the lives of all Pennsylvanians, he also dedicated himself to improving the environment of Northeastern Pennsylvania, including a park in Peckville named in his honor.

Sen. Mellow sponsored a bill that provided early retirement for public school and state employees in 1991. He co-sponsored workers' compensation legislation in 1993 that lowered insurance costs while eliminating abuses in the system and maintaining legitimate injury claims. Sen. Mellow and I have worked closely on a number of economic development issues important to Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Sen. Mellow is president of the Chic Feldman Foundation and a member of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Association, the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce, the state and national societies of public accountants, Knights of Columbus and the Italian-American Democratic League.

Sen. Mellow serves on the board of directors of the Old Forge Bank, the Lourdesmont School and the advisory board of the Worthington-Scranton Campus of Penn State. He is also a steering committee member of the Colleen Giblin Endowment Fund for Child Neurology Research and was honored in 1999 as co-chairperson of the Lupus Foundation of America.

There is no finer or harder-working public servant in Pennsylvania than Bob Mellow. Prior to the most recent redistricting, I admired from afar his tremendous skill and political acumen he displayed in leading the Democrats of the Pennsylvania Senate. Now that our districts overlap and I have become more familiar with his activities in his home district, I am even more impressed by the degree to which he is devoted to the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania and the effort he exerts to improve the quality of their lives. He understands above all that government must be responsive to the needs of the people and he never loses sight of the very real needs of individual constituents.

In the Mellow household, public service is a family affair. I am sure that Bob would be the first to admit that much of his success can be attributed to the unwavering support of his lovely wife, Diane. She and their daughters Melissa and Tressa are often by Bob's side during public events, sometimes even accompanied by Tressa's daughter Hali. The entire Mellow family is an asset to Northeastern Pennsylvania, and I am proud to have them as constituents and friends.

Mr. Speaker, as elected officials, our time in public service is extremely limited. We can only hope to have an impact as lasting as the legacy Sen. Bob Mellow has already attained in Northeastern Pennsylvania and throughout the entire state.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TERRI
KLEMENTS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to pay tribute to Terri Klements, and congratulate her on receiving the "Power of One" award at the 2004 Colorado Woman Conference for her tremendous work with youth in Mesa County, Colorado. Every year, a local newswoman selects an honoree for making a positive impact in their community, and Terri could not be a worthier recipient.

For twenty-two years, Terri worked in hospital administration before she felt a calling to dedicate her efforts to the youth in her community. In 1999, she established the Tree House, a safe haven for youths who felt they had no place else to go. The center is open unconditionally to all youths, providing them a place to go when they need to talk to someone. Terri also serves as a member of the Mesa County Suicide Prevention Coalition, as Chair of the Homeless Youth Task Force, and is a registered director for RAINBOWS, an international peer support program for grieving teens.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Terri Klements today before this body of Congress and this nation, and congratulate her on

receiving the "Power of One" award. Keira Bresnahan of KREX-TV selected Terri for this honor, and it is a well-deserved testament to her dedication to the youth in Mesa County and the State of Colorado. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

COMMENDING KRISTIN KLENK

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, proudly rise today to congratulate Kristin Klenk, a science teacher from South Kingstown High School in the second Congressional District of Rhode Island. Ms. Klenk, a resident of Hope Valley, has been awarded the 2003 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Since 1983, the National Science Foundation has administered this award to exemplary math and science teachers, nominated from all 50 states and four U.S. jurisdictions. Recipients are selected and recognized for leadership in the field of mathematics and science and serve as role models for their colleagues. Ms. Klenk, known for her hands-on teaching of science and active engagement of her South Kingstown High School students, has now been recognized as one of the best teachers in this country. For her dedication to teaching science to America's children and her service to Rhode Island, I thank Kristin Klenk and congratulate her on receiving this prestigious award.

THE CHILD HEALTH CARE AFFORDABILITY ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to help working Americans provide for their children's health care needs by introducing the Child Health Care Affordability Act. The Child Health Care Affordability Act provides parents with a tax credit of up to \$500 for health care expenses of dependent children. Parents caring for a child with a disability, terminal disease, cancer, or any other health condition requiring specialized care would receive a tax credit of up to \$3,000 to help cover their child's health care expenses.

The tax credit would be available to all citizens, regardless of whether or not they itemize their deductions. The credit applies against both income and payroll tax liability. The tax credits provided in this bill will be especially helpful to those Americans whose employers cannot afford to provide health insurance for their employees. These workers must struggle to meet the medical bills of themselves and their families. This burden is especially heavy on parents whose children have a medical condition; such as cancer or a physical disability that requires long-term or specialized health care.

As an OB-GYN who has had the privilege of delivering more than four thousand babies, I know how important it is that parents have

the resources to provide adequate health care for their children. The inability of many working Americans to provide health care for their children is rooted in one of the great inequities of the tax code—Congress' failure to allow individuals the same ability to deduct health care costs that it grants to businesses. As a direct result of Congress' refusal to provide individuals with health care related tax credits, parents whose employers do not provide health insurance have to struggle to provide health care for their children. Many of these parents work in low-income jobs; oftentimes, their only recourse for health care is the local emergency room.

Sometimes parents are forced to delay seeking care for their children until minor health concerns that could have been easily treated become serious problems requiring expensive treatment! If these parents had access to the type of tax credits provided in the Child Health Care Affordability Act, they would be better able to provide care for their children, and our nation's already overcrowded emergency rooms would be relieved of the burden of having to provide routine care for people who otherwise cannot afford it.

According to research on the effects of this bill done by my staff and legislative counsel, the benefit of these tax credits would begin to be felt by joint filers with incomes slightly above \$18,000 per year, or single income filers with incomes slightly above \$15,000 per year. Clearly, this bill will be of the most benefit to low-income Americans balancing the demands of taxation with the needs of their children.

Under the Child Health Care Affordability Act, a struggling single mother with an asthmatic child would at last be able to provide for her child's needs, while a working-class family will not have to worry about how they will pay the bills if one of their children requires lengthy hospitalization or some other form of specialized care.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress has a moral responsibility to provide tax relief so that low-income parents struggling to care for a sick child can better meet their child's medical expenses. Some may say that we cannot enact the Child Health Care Affordability Act because it would cause the government to lose revenue. But, who is more deserving of this money, Congress or the working parents of a sick child?

The Child Health Care Affordability Act takes a major step toward helping working Americans meet their health care needs by providing them with generous health care related tax cuts and tax credits. I urge my colleagues to support the pro-family, pro-health care tax cuts contained in the Child Health Care Affordability Act.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KIM TUCKER PFENNIGS

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity and congratulate Kim Pfennigs of Colorado Springs, Colorado on receiving the "Power of One" award at the 2004 Colorado Woman Conference for raising

awareness for childhood cancer. The conference recognizes individual women, selected by Colorado newswomen, who have made an extraordinary difference in their community. It is my privilege to acknowledge Kim and her efforts before this body of Congress and this nation today.

When her son Jonah was diagnosed with cancer, it became Kim's mission to raise awareness for childhood cancer throughout Colorado. Whether she raised awareness on radio, television, or even the local grocery store, Kim wanted to let as many people as possible know about childhood cancer, and the organizations that help families fight this disease. For Kim, helping with organizations like Make A Wish, Ronald McDonald, Starlight Foundation, and the National Childhood Cancer Foundation is a modest way to give back to the people who diligently work to get her son healthy.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Kim Pfennigs before this body of Congress and this nation and congratulate her on receiving the "Power of One" award. KOAA-TV's Jennifer Baker selected Kim for this award, and I am happy to say Jonah's cancer is now in remission. I would like to thank Kim for her efforts in raising awareness for childhood cancer, and wish her and her family all the best.

RESOLUTION ON THE RECENT VIOLENCE IN KOSOVO

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution which expresses the sense of the House regarding the recent violence in Kosovo. Supporting the resolution as original co-sponsors are my colleagues on the Helsinki Commission: Mr. CARDIN, Mr. PITTS and Mr. HASTINGS.

Last week, close to 30 people were killed, hundreds were wounded and over 3,000 persons were displaced by renewed ethnic violence in Kosovo. In addition, considerable property was damaged or destroyed, in particular Orthodox Churches. In retaliation, protesters in Serbia damaged or destroyed several mosques.

This violence was noteworthy mostly in its scale. As a practical matter, the situation for minority communities in Kosovo, including Serbs and Roma, has not been good since the United Nations, backed by a NATO-led peace operation, took control in 1999. A few weeks ago, I met with Serbian Orthodox Bishop Artemije, who presented documentation of attacks on churches and monasteries in Kosovo.

As Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I recall the horrors which Slobodan Milosevic and his regime inflicted on the Albanian population of Kosovo. Attacks on places of worship and the lack of measures to stop these obviously vulnerable sites from being attacked again and again are inexcusable, as are the attacks on innocent people, be they Serbs, Albanians, Roma or anybody else.

This resolution says that the violence must stop. It supports Kosovo achieving benchmarks which, if met, would effectively mean the protection of human rights and democratic