

This terrible human tragedy must not be forgotten. Like the Holocaust, the Armenian Genocide stands as a tragic example of the human suffering that results from hatred and intolerance.

The Ottoman Turkish Empire between 1915 and 1923 massacred one and a half million Armenian people. More than 500,000 Armenians were exiled from a homeland that their ancestors had occupied for more than 3,000 years. A race of people was nearly eliminated.

It would be an even greater tragedy to forget that the Armenian Genocide ever happened. To not recognize the horror of such events almost assures their repetition in the future. Adolf Hitler, in preparing his genocide plans for the Jews, predicted that no one would remember the atrocities he was about to unleash. After all, he asked, "Who remembers the Armenians?"

Our statements today are intended to preserve the memory of the Armenian loss, and to remind the world that the Turkish government—to this day—refuses to acknowledge the Armenian Genocide. The truth of this tragedy can never and should never be denied.

And we must also be mindful of the current suffering of the Armenian, where the Armenian people are still immersed in tragedy and violence. The unrest between Armenia and Azerbaijan continues in Nagorno-Karabakh. Thousands of innocent people have already perished in this dispute, and many more have been displaced and are homeless.

In the face of this difficult situation we have an opportunity for reconciliation. Now is the time for Armenia and its neighbors to come together and work toward building relationships that will assure lasting peace.

Meanwhile, in America, the Armenian-American community continues to thrive and to provide assistance and solidarity to its countrymen and women abroad. The Armenian-American community is bound together by strong generational and family ties, an enduring work ethic and a proud sense of ethnic heritage. Today we recall the tragedy of their past, not to replace blame, but to answer a fundamental question, "Who remembers the Armenians?"

Our commemoration of the Armenian Genocide speaks directly to that, and I answer, we do.

SENATOR PAUL SIMON FEDERAL BUILDING

SPEECH OF

**HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 21, 2004*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to support S. 2022, a bill to honor our former House and Senate colleague Paul Simon and I commend Mr. Costello for introducing the House companion bill H.R. 3713. Both House and Senate bills have bi-partisan support.

Paul Simon began his public career in 1954 with his election to the Illinois House. In 1962, he advanced to the Illinois Senate and in 1968 he was elected Lieutenant Governor. During his 14 years in the state legislature he won the Independent Voters of Illinois "Best Legislator Award" in every session.

After teaching at Sangamon State University, and the John F. Kennedy School of Gov-

ernment at Harvard, Simon returned to public life in 1974 with his election to the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1984 he upset Senator Percy to win a seat in the U.S. Senate. In 1990 he won re-election to the Senate by defeating his opponent with 65 percent of the vote and by nearly a million votes—the largest plurality of any contested candidate for senator of either party that year.

In the Senate he became the champion of new, direct college loan programs, and was the chief democratic sponsor of the balanced budget amendment. He was active in addressing violence in television programming, and wrote the National Literacy Act, the Job Training partnership amendments, and several provisions of the 1994 Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Simon held numerous honorary degrees and wrote several books on such topics as world hunger, political science, historical biographies, and monetary policy. Paul Simon was a true gentleman, thoughtful and courteous. The American public benefited from his service both in House and Senate.

Upon his retirement and until his untimely death in December 2003, Senator Simon taught political science and journalism at Southern Illinois University—Carbondale campus.

It is most fitting and proper we honor the legacy of our colleague and friend with this designation. I urge support for S. 2022.

RABBI ISRAEL ZOBERMAN OF VIRGINIA BEACH, VA, THE FOUNDING RABBI OF CONGREGATION BETH CHAVERIM IN VIRGINIA BEACH, ON HIS CELEBRATION OF 30 YEARS IN THE RABBINIC MINISTRY

**HON. J. RANDY FORBES**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2004*

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Rabbi Israel Zoberman, rabbi of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach, on his celebration of 30 years in Rabbinic Ministry.

Rabbi Zoberman is the first rabbi to earn a doctor of ministry degree from McCormick Theological Seminary, affiliated with the Presbyterian Church, USA.

From 1985 to 1995 Rabbi Zoberman's synagogue was the only one in the world to meet in a Catholic facility, the Church of the Ascension in Virginia Beach. While at the Church of the Ascension in 1993, Rabbi Zoberman invited Muslims to join in the first Jewish-Muslim joint prayer in Tidewater, celebrating the beginning of the peace process in the Middle East.

With a penchant for community and a natural leader, Rabbi Zoberman became the first rabbi to serve as Chair of the Community Relations Council of the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater; the first rabbi from Hampton Roads to serve on the National Board of Directors of The Jewish Council for Public Affairs; and the first rabbi to serve as President of the Virginia Beach Clergy Association. Rabbi Zoberman has twice served as president of the Hampton Roads Board of Rabbis.

Rabbi Zoberman is the only rabbi who is a volunteer police chaplain in Hampton Roads,

serving with the Virginia Beach Police Department.

In recognition of his many pioneering activities on behalf of the Hampton Roads community, Cox Cable recognized Rabbi Zoberman in 1989 as a "Great Citizen of Hampton Roads".

In 1999, Mayor Meyera Oberndorf of Virginia Beach proclaimed April 23, 1999 as "Israel Zoberman Day" upon his 25th anniversary in rabbinic ministry, and his alma mater, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati awarded him an honorary doctor of divinity degree.

Throughout his 30-year career in Virginia Beach, Rabbi Zoberman has consistently demonstrated a remarkable spirit of ecumenism in his relations with leaders of other faiths and an equal level of enthusiasm for serving the Hampton Roads community. Because of Rabbi Israel Zoberman's resounding success, and his dedicated years of service the Hampton Roads community has benefited immensely from his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Rabbi Israel Zoberman for his leadership, his commitment to Rabbinic Ministry and the many contributions he has made to his community.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POLIO VACCINE FIELD TRIALS

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2004*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to join the March of Dimes in commemorating the 50th anniversary of the polio vaccine field trials. This day in April holds great significance for the nation as it was this day in 1954 that the first dose of the Salk vaccine was distributed to children at Franklin Sherman Elementary school in McLean, Virginia, as part of the National Field Trial Program.

On that April day, thousands of parents drove their school-age children to designated sites across the country for immunizations of an experimental vaccine that they hoped would stop the raging polio epidemic that was leaving young Americans paralyzed and even, in some cases, dead. Organized by the March of Dimes, this was the largest voluntary clinical field trial ever undertaken.

One year later, some 1.8 million children, known as the "Polio Pioneers" in 44 states from Maine to California eventually took part in the three-inoculation sequence—about 4,000 children just at Franklin Sherman. Following these trials, the Salk vaccine was declared safe, potent and effective and polio was virtually eliminated from North America. By the end of 2003, poliomyelitis had been eliminated worldwide in all but six countries.

The March of Dimes, formerly known as the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, funded Dr. Jonas Salk's groundbreaking work on the Salk polio vaccine and then, through its volunteers and health networks, organized the vaccination clinics, record keeping, parents' meetings, blood samplings, stand-by transportation, and make-up clinics for absentees at each of the clinical trial sites.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me today in commemorating April 26 as

the 50th anniversary of the Salk polio vaccine field trials.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT  
O'TOOLE

**HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2004*

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a man whose professional life has been dedicated to improving the lives of working men and women in Massachusetts and across our nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is my duty to inform the Membership of the house that my dear friend, Bob O'Toole is retiring from the post of Business Manager-Financial Secretary Treasurer of the Pipefitter's Local Union 537 in Boston, Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, Bob O'Toole is a remarkable leader with a long and illustrious career in the American Labor Movement. Bob started his career as a pipefitter over 37 years ago and his shining example of dedicated service to his union, his community and his family is worthy of Congressional recognition and deserving of the appreciation of his nation. He will be sorely missed by his union membership and their families who have benefited from Bob's ability to lead by example and quiet dignity. Bob's personal integrity, hard work and determination illustrate the best characteristics of those who serve the working men and women of this country.

As a member of the Massachusetts State Legislature and Chair of its Commerce and Labor Committee, I witnessed Bob's tireless advocacy on behalf of working families. From securing benefits for workers who had lost their jobs, to training the next generation of America's workers, Bob has worked to ensure that the views and interests of working people are at the forefront of our state and national policy.

Mr. Speaker, Bob O'Toole has also been a man committed to his community and has dedicated many hours and much energy to various charities including Julie's Place, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the Family Inn, the St. Francis House for the Homeless, the Special Olympics and the American Red Cross.

And most importantly, Bob has had the enormous pleasure and tremendous good fortune to be married to his wife Marie for over 40 years. Additionally, Bob has been blessed with three children, Terri, Bobby and Kathy, and is the proud and from what I hear doting grandfather to Timothy, Holly, Michael and Kyle.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take the floor of the House today to join with Bob's family, friends, and brothers and sisters in the Labor Movement to thank him for his service and congratulate him on his much-deserved retirement. I hope my colleagues will join me

in celebrating Bob O'Toole's distinguished career and all his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM DeMINT**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2004*

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, I was absent during roll call votes 126, 127, 128, 129, and 130. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call votes 126, 127, and 130. I would have voted "nay" on roll call votes 128 and 129.

HONORING SCHURZ HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2004*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Schurz High School of Chicago for its achievement on winning the fourth place title in the citywide Academic Decathlon and the fifth place position at the Illinois Academic Decathlon competition on March 13, 2004.

The Academic Decathlon is a team competition wherein students are tested through a diverse group of scholastic categories, including art, economics, essay interview, language and literature, mathematics, music science, social science and speech.

With up to nine members from each team competing in all 10 events of the decathlon and representing a diversity of scholastic aptitude, the true spirit of this year's "America: The Growth of a Nation" theme has been advanced.

The decathlon, which was first created by Dr. Robert Peterson, has helped maximize the learning potential of young minds through competitive challenge. Schurz High School has shown its ability to shine among the best and brightest of Chicago's academic community.

As finalists in the citywide Academic Decathlon, the nine students from Schurz High School went on to compete in the Illinois Academic Decathlon. I commend each of its competitors: Gloria Andujar-Garcia, Dalia Galvan, Laura Neamt, Yazmin Pulido, Arthur Lon, Ana Ponce, Edith Vazquez, Valerie Giraldez and Stephanie Losik.

Reaching this level of competition is a tremendous achievement and one that deserves special recognition. Indeed, Schurz students set the standard for scholastic excellence that the Academic Decathlon seeks to attain.

Mr. Speaker, I join with all residents of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois in congratulating Schurz High School on its achievement. I wish the Academic Decathlon competitors continued success as their education continues. I am very proud of these young and fu-

ture leaders of tomorrow, and it is my privilege to represent them in the United States Congress.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LARRY EDWARD  
PENLEY

**HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 2004*

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Larry Edward Penley as the thirteenth President of Colorado State University and third Chancellor of the Colorado State University System.

Dr. Penley came to Colorado State University from Arizona State University, where he served as the Dean of the W.P. Carey School of Business for 12 years. He also held the Robert Herberger Arizona Heritage Chair while he was a professor of management at Arizona State University.

Dr. Penley earned his doctorate in management from the University of Georgia and a Bachelor's Degree in psychology and a Master's Degree in communication from Wake Forest University. Dr. Penley has also served on staff for many other colleges and universities, including University of Texas at San Antonio, Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, and Universidad de Carabobo in Venezuela.

Colorado State University has contributed much economically, historically, and culturally to Fort Collins and the State of Colorado. With Dr. Penley serving as the President of CSU, the tradition, history, and distinct achievements of Colorado State University will be further exemplified.

So far, with Dr. Penley serving Colorado State University, he has accomplished many goals, some of which include:

Working to strengthen the university's profile as one of the Nation's finest public research universities;

Making an effort to listen to students and faculty and enhance the quality of the undergraduate experience, including refinements to the first year semester;

Focusing the institution's efforts on recruitment of Colorado's top high school students from the States, without regard for origin, background, or socioeconomic status;

Launching a comprehensive strategic planning effort to position Colorado State University for success as a 21st century land grant university.

As an alumnus of Colorado State University myself, and now representing CSU in the United States Congress, I have had a determined interest in CSU's mission to benefit our great State. I am proud to know that the tradition and excellence synonymous to Colorado State University will be carried on through the dedicated work of Dr. Larry E. Penley.