

own wine. In fact, this activity goes hand-in-hand with his other passion, cooking. Mr. Raymondo is known for his distinguished Italian cooking among his friends and family. Mr. Raymondo also enjoys working with his hands by taking part in other activities such as woodworking and photography. Thus, Mr. Raymondo has a wood shop and a photography lab within his house.

Mr. Raymondo has volunteered countless hours for school fundraisers to gather funds to purchase school utensils for schools. He is known as a very generous person that enjoys helping people. The fire and police department has also benefited from Mr. Raymondo generosity. He has volunteered his time to these two agencies.

Professionally, Mr. Raymondo broke through barriers within the Granitize Products, Inc. Mr. Raymondo began his career/profession with Granitize Products, Inc., as a cleaner in the chemical room in 1954. Having excelled as a cleaner, Mr. Raymondo moved up the ranks quickly and worked his way through every job in the company until holding the title of President and CEO, the position he holds today. Mr. Raymondo was the one responsible in venturing out into different markets other than just the automotive market.

He took the initiative thirty years ago to seek other potential markets. As a result, he found fiberglass manufacturing beneficial to society and lacking the proper wax to combat molds. Thus, he worked to create a new product to combat various types of molds that would allow manufacturers to make more products, more efficiently, and with fewer problems, and he showed them how. He created the formulas that are still used today in the TR Division of Granitize. Today Granitize and TR combine to serve and sell

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS
WITH RESPECT TO COMMEMORATION
OF WOMEN SUFFRAGISTS

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 59, which honors and commemorates the contributions of women suffragists who fought for and won the right of women to vote in the United States.

The women's suffrage movement began with women speaking out for women's rights when their efforts to participate equally with men in the great reform movements of the mid-1800s—including antislavery and temperance—were rebuffed. These early feminists demanded a wide range of changes in women's social, moral, legal, educational, and economic status.

Although women in this country now have the right to vote, we must look back at the efforts of these pioneers and apply their passion to the continued fight for women's equality today.

Since 1920, when the Nineteenth Amendment finally granted women the right to vote, women have made great strides. Women have voted at a slightly higher rate than men in every Presidential election since 1964. What is even more encouraging is that more and more

women are seeking elected office. For 20 years after Jeanette Rankin of Montana was elected to Congress in November 1916, the number of women in Federal office following each election never exceeded 9. I am proud to say that that number has dramatically increased since then. In 1980, women comprised 4 percent of the Congress. In 1990, 6 percent. Currently, in the 109th Congress, there are 83 women serving—69 in the House of Representatives and 14 in the Senate—over 15 percent of the Congress.

We have come a long way, but we still have a long way to go. So today, as we honor the women who fought for the rights so many of us today enjoy, we recommit ourselves to the ongoing fight for equality for women and all who are oppressed in this country and around the world.

SUPPORTING GOALS AND IDEALS
OF NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER
WEEK

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 289, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Health Center Week. From August 7–13, numerous organizations will collectively promote quality and preventative medical care through local health centers.

It has become increasingly apparent that our healthcare system is not only lacking, but also failing those it is meant to serve. There are currently an estimated 45 million uninsured individuals living in America. This group not only includes 8.4 million children, but also homeless and migrant populations across the country. Of those that do have health coverage, studies have estimated that as many as 65 million individuals remain underinsured. Countless others lack easy and affordable access to quality care providers.

Health centers are an indispensable component of the continuing effort to secure medical care for underserved individuals. These community-based, non-profit organizations bring health services to impoverished areas, which are disproportionately affected by these ever-present health care disparities. Through partnerships with churches, businesses and other community initiatives, health centers are able to touch those that are typically unreachable or marginalized by existing healthcare conglomerates.

Health centers have become American institutions and fundamental elements our daily lives. These organizations, operating with minimal resources and small, committed staffs are able to serve hundreds within their communities. In the state of Florida alone, approximately 500,000 residents are annually served through local health centers.

Mr. Speaker, this weeklong celebration of health centers brings recognition to the unsung heroes of the healthcare industry. By raising awareness we are not only showing our appreciation to those that contribute to these efforts, but we are also bringing attention to the healthcare alternatives that are available to our communities. I urge my colleagues to lend their support to this resolution.

U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT REPORT ON SECTION 40 OF THE BRETTON WOODS AGREEMENTS ACT

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, Chairman OXLEY, and I have discussed section 6 of my bill that requires the Department of the Treasury to provide a report on how Section 40 of the Bretton Woods Agreements Act "can be better clarified administratively to provide for improved and more predictable evaluation."

We share the understanding that the Bretton Woods Agreements Act implements the international agreements that established the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group. As such, there is limited scope of action for the United States Government acting "administratively" to change how the IMF and the World Bank Group operate internally in order to achieve "improved and more predictable evaluation."

Therefore, to clarify this provision, our intent here is that any report prepared by the Treasury Department would respect these limits. It is also our understanding and intent that any report by the Treasury Department pursuant to this section should provide insight regarding how the Treasury Department and the United States Executive Directors to the IMF and the World Bank Group seek to promote U.S. exchange rate policies within those organizations.

I note that substantially similar language has been considered by the Secretary of the Treasury in the past and those limitations were respected. The Department of the Treasury currently provides some of this information to the United States Congress in other forms. We believe that a discussion of U.S. policy and actions within the IMF and the World Bank Group would be a helpful addition to the policy debate in the U.S. Congress. However, we are not requesting that the Treasury Department submit a report suggesting that the United States Government alone can work administratively to improve IMF and World Bank Group analysis and policy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 25, 2005, I was unable to cast my floor votes on rollcall numbers 417, 418 and 419.

The votes I missed included a motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.J. Res. 59, expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the establishment of an appropriate day for the commemoration of the women suffragists who fought for and won the right of women to vote in the United States; a motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H. Con. Res. 181, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Life Insurance Awareness Month, and for other purposes; and a motion to suspend the rules and pass,

as amended H. Res. 376, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Federal Trade Commission should investigate the publication of the video game "Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas" to determine if the publisher intentionally deceived the Entertainment Software Ratings Board to avoid an "Adults-Only" rating.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 417, 418 and 419.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NIALL
CASEY, NEW AMERICAN CITIZEN

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Mr. Niall Casey of Ballyheigue, County Kerry, Ireland, as he becomes a fellow American citizen. It is a pleasure to extend a warm welcome to him.

Mr. Casey's journey to America began when he traveled to the beautiful island of Nantucket, Massachusetts in September 1994. Soon he was a part of the Nantucket community, working diligently and earning a reputation as an outstanding carpenter/craftsman. He is well-liked for his engaging personality, warm sense of humor, and impressive knowledge of American history and current events.

Mr. Speaker, America and Ireland have enjoyed a strong and enduring bond of friendship over the years. Those who have come here to begin a new chapter of their lives have enriched America tremendously by sharing their ideas, their literature, their music and their traditions. One of our most beloved Presidents, JOHN F. KENNEDY, drew us closer to his ancestral homeland through his wit and wisdom and made all Americans proud. As we continue to strengthen our ties with the people of Ireland, we are pleased to open our hearts and our doors to Mr. Niall Casey.

After taking his citizenship oath, Mr. Casey will celebrate with neighbors and well-wishers, including Carrol F. White III, a friend and colleague.

Mr. Speaker, we are all fortunate to live in this land of opportunity, and Mr. Casey embodies the qualities that have made our nation great: a spirit of entrepreneurship, industriousness, devotion to community, and love of country. I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Casey on becoming an American citizen and in wishing him continued success.

IN LASTING MEMORY OF JACKSON
T. STEPHENS

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a charitable and respected Arkansan, Jackson T. Stephens. Mr. Stephens passed away on July 23, 2005 at the age of 81. He was a businessman and philanthropist who lived an exemplary life of

tremendous accomplishments and I wish to recognize his life and achievements.

Born in Grant County on August 9, 1923, Mr. Stephens grew up on a farm near Prattville, Arkansas, the youngest of six children. A child of the Great Depression and humble beginnings, Mr. Stephens learned the importance of hard work and how to earn his keep. Prior to attending college, Mr. Stephens joined his father on the family farm, and by the age of fifteen, held numerous jobs at the Barlow Hotel in Hope. Upon graduation from high school, Mr. Stephens attended the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1946.

After graduation from the naval academy, Mr. Stephens joined his brother, Witt, in Little Rock at a municipal bond house. By 1956, Mr. Stephens and his brother bought the Fort Smith Gas Company, calling it Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Company, and an oil and gas exploration firm, renaming it the Stephens Production Company. Stephens, Inc. became the umbrella organization for the businesses, and later Stephens Media Group. Mr. Stephens served as Chief Executive Officer of Stephens, Inc. for 29 years, until 1986.

In addition to becoming one of the world's most successful entrepreneurs, Mr. Stephens was extraordinarily charitable. In 2002, he donated \$48 million dollars to the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, the largest donation the University of Arkansas has ever seen. Mr. Stephens also gave \$20 million to the Episcopal Collegiate School, \$20.4 million to the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, \$5 million to Harding University, and \$10 million to his alma mater, the U.S. Naval Academy. Mr. Stephens once said, "There are only two pleasures associated with money. Making it and giving it away." For 20 years, Mr. Stephens was the primary contributor for The Delta Project, a program aimed at educating underprivileged children in the Arkansas Delta. Mr. Stephens' immense generosity did not end with education. Mr. Stephens was also a remarkable supporter of the arts, and permanently donated to the Arkansas Arts Center in Little Rock his personal collection of artwork that include the likes of Degas, Monet, Picasso and Wyeth.

Mr. Stephens also had a tremendous love for golf as evidenced by his enviable handicap of five. He was invited to join the prestigious Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia in 1962, and served as the chairman of the institution from 1991-1998.

Mr. Stephens' contributions to his community and the state of Arkansas did not go unnoticed. In 1965, Mr. Stephens was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Citation from the University of Arkansas and in 1985, was bestowed an honorary law degree by the University. He received the Horatio Alger Award in 1980 and the J. William Fulbright Award for international trade development in 1989. Mr. Stephens was not only a proud member of the Arkansas State Golf Hall of Fame, but also the Arkansas Business Hall of Fame and the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame.

From a Grant County farm boy raised during the depression, Mr. Stephens turned a small business acquisition into a global enterprise. Mr. Stephens will not only be remembered for his savvy business entrepreneurial skills, but also for his tremendous generosity to underprivileged children, education, and a tremendous appreciation of the arts.

I extend my deepest and sincerest sympathies to Mr. Stephens's wife, Harriet, their sons, Steve and Warren, their six grandchildren, Caroline, Jackson, Mason, Miles, John, and Laura; two great grandchildren, Sydney and Bruce; and two adopted children, Kerry LaNoche and James.

POSTAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND
ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 22) to reform the postal laws of the United States:

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Chairman, it is about time Congress took up this important postal reform bill. This legislation is long overdue and I am happy a bipartisan compromise was reached that meets the needs of postal professionals and the Postal Service.

For years I have been hearing from letter carriers, postmasters, mail handlers and other postal employees about the obstacles that prevent them and the postal service from serving our taxpayers in their fullest capacity. I have also heard about their struggles to retain their benefits and receive a livable wage.

That's why I am happy to support H.R. 22 today. This postal reform legislation takes a positive step for the future of the United States Postal Service. Now it will be able to remain competitive while protecting hundreds of thousands of jobs held by dedicated workers. Universal service will continue to expand and meet the demands of our modern mail system. Delivery will improve, rates will become more affordable and communities will have better access to mail services.

Mr. Chairman, again I am pleased that this compromise has advanced, and I look forward to an even greater postal system for our Nation.

COOK COUNTY LEADS THE NATION
IN SUPPORT OF IMMIGRATION
REFORM

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, last week, the Cook County Board of Commissioners passed unanimously an historic resolution in support of S. 1033 and H.R. 2330, the Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act of 2005. The resolution urges the passage of common sense and realistic legislation that gives a path to citizenship for America's hard-working immigrants. This is the first resolution of its kind in the nation and was supported by the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, leaders from business, labor, community organizations and diverse faith traditions, as well as Governor Blagojevich.

America is a nation of immigrants. Nowhere is that more evident than in the 9th Congressional District of Illinois. We rely on the labor