

Affordable Act will help these middle class students by allowing them, or their parents or guardians who claim them as dependents, to deduct the cost of college tuition as well as the cost of student loan repayments.

The Make College Affordable Act will also help older or nontraditional students looking to improve their job skills or prepare for a career change, by pursuing higher education. In today's economy, the average American worker can expect to change jobs, and even careers, several times during his or her working life, making it more important than ever that working Americans be able to devote their resources to continuing their educations.

Helping the American people use their own money to ensure every qualified American can receive a college education is one of the best investments this Congress can make in the future. I therefore urge my colleagues to help strengthen America by ensuring more Americans can obtain college educations by co-sponsoring the Make College Affordable Act.

HONORING JAY LLOYD

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jay Lloyd on the occasion of his retirement from Philadelphia's KYW News Radio after 35 years of dedicated service and exemplary accomplishment.

Jay Lloyd began his career in broadcast journalism at ZBM Radio and TV in Bermuda after a tour of duty in the Korean War. He then moved overseas to a new position in the Netherlands where he covered news and feature stories for the Dutch International Radio Service. While living abroad, Mr. Lloyd did a weekly music show on Dutch Radio where he featured American music for his Dutch listeners utilizing the radio name of "Chuck Holiday." Mr. Lloyd's international career also took him to the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico before he returned to Philadelphia in 1961 to work for Channel 48 and the Philadelphia Bulletin's radio station.

In 1969, Mr. Lloyd joined KYW News Radio as a general assignment reporter. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Lloyd was promoted to the position of transportation reporter. On January 1, 1971, Mr. Lloyd took control of the KYW Suburban Bureau and has since reported on some of the area's most important news events. Such stories have included the near disastrous nuclear power plant accident at Three Mile Island and the Susan Reinert murder case.

Mr. Lloyd was again given the opportunity to go overseas some years later when he traveled to Spain's Canary Islands to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' historic voyage to the Western World. He then returned to the United States to cover other important news events, including that occurring September 11, 2001 when American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon. Mr. Lloyd immediately traveled to the scene to cover the breaking story for his listeners in the Philadelphia area.

Mr. Lloyd has also been deeply involved in the political arena during his years at KYW, reporting on major events and covering numerous important elections. He has either met

with or interviewed every President of the United States since John F. Kennedy. On November 2, 2004, Mr. Lloyd celebrated his 70th birthday by covering his final presidential election.

In recognition of his involvement in significant world events over the past 35 years, Mr. Lloyd has won several industry awards including the Associated Press Broadcasters Association Award for Enterprise Reporting and for commentary on international affairs. These awards offer clear evidence of Mr. Lloyd's exemplary professionalism and skill.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Jay Lloyd. He has provided invaluable service to the people of Southeastern Pennsylvania during his outstanding 35 year career in broadcasting. Jay Lloyd's dedication to his work has been extraordinary and he should be acknowledged for the many distinguished contributions he has made to the quality of life in the Philadelphia region throughout his career with KYW News Radio.

INTRODUCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I am again introducing the Environmental Justice Act.

I am proud that Congresswoman HILDA SOLIS and Representative ROB ANDREWS are joining me as original cosponsors of this bill. Representative Solis and I introduced a similar bill in the 108th Congress.

Reintroduction of the bill reflects continued concern about the way federal actions have had disproportionately adverse effects on the health, environment and quality of life of Americans in minority and lower-income communities.

Too often these communities—because of their low income or lack of political visibility—are exposed to greater risks from toxins and dangerous substances because it has been possible to locate waste dumps, industrial facilities, and chemical storage warehouses in these communities with less care than would be taken in other locations.

The sad fact is that in some eyes these communities have appeared as expendable—without full appreciation that human beings, who deserve to be treated with respect and dignity, are living, working, and raising families there.

This needs to give way to policies focused on providing clean, healthy and quality environments within and around these communities. When that happens, we provide hope for the future and enhance the opportunities that these citizens have to improve their condition.

Our bill would help do just that. The bill essentially codifies an Executive Order that was issued by President Clinton in 1994. That order required all federal agencies to incorporate environmental justice considerations in their missions, develop strategies to address disproportionate impacts to minority and low-income people from their activities, and coordinate the development of data and research on these topics.

Although federal agencies have been working to implement this order and have developed strategies, there is clearly much more to do. We simply cannot solve these issues overnight or even over a couple of years. We need to "institutionalize" the consideration of these issues in a more long-term fashion—which this bill would do.

In addition, just as the current policy was established by an administrative order, it could be swept away with a stroke of an administrative pen. To avoid that, we need to make it more permanent—which is also what this bill would do.

It would do this by statutorily requiring all federal agencies to—make addressing environmental justice concerns part of their missions; develop environmental justice strategies; evaluate the effects of proposed actions on the health and environment of minority, low income, and Native American communities; avoid creating disproportionate adverse impacts on the health or environment of minority, low-income, or Native American communities; and collect data and carry out research on the effects of facilities on health and environment of minority, low-income, and Native American communities.

It would also statutorily establish two committees:

The Interagency Environmental Justice Working Group, set up by the Executive Order to develop strategies, provide guidance, coordinate research, convene public meetings, and conduct inquiries regarding environmental justice issues; and

A Federal Environmental Justice Advisory Committee, appointed by the President, including members of community-based groups, business, academic, state agencies and environmental organizations. It will provide input and advice to the Interagency Working Group.

In a nutshell, what this bill would do is require federal agencies that control the siting and disposing of hazardous materials, store toxins or release pollutants at federal facilities, or issue permits for these kinds of activities to make sure they give fair treatment to low-income and minority populations—including Native Americans. The bill tells federal agencies, "In the past these communities have endured a disproportionate impact to their health and environment. Now we must find ways to make sure that won't be the case in the future."

For the information of our colleagues, here is a short analysis of the bill:

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACT

Summary: This bill would essentially codify a Clinton Administration Executive Order which directed a number of federal agencies and offices to consider the environmental impact of decisions on minority and low-income populations.

Background: On February 11, 1994, President Clinton issued Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations." The President also issued a corresponding Memorandum to all federal departments and agencies further explaining the order and how the agencies should implement it to address environmental justice issues. The Order and Memorandum called for the creation of an interagency working group to provide guidance on identifying disproportionate impacts on the health and environment of minority and low-income populations, develop strategies to address such disproportionate impacts, and provide a report on that

strategy. Since the order was promulgated, the affected agencies have developed reports and strategies.

Need for the Bill: Although federal agencies and offices have been complying with the Executive Order, disproportionate impacts related to human health and the environment still exist for many minority and low-income communities. These impacts must be addressed over the long term. In addition, due to the lack of resources and political clout of many of these impacted communities, vigilance is required to make sure that disproportionate impacts are reduced and do not continue. As the effort to date has been primarily administrative based on the presidential order and memorandum, these strategies need to be incorporated into the routine functioning of federal agencies and offices through federal law.

The bill—

Requires federal agencies and offices to: include addressing environmental justice concerns into their respective missions; conduct programs so as not to create disproportionate impact on minority and low-income populations; include an examination of the effects of such action on the health and environment of minority and low-income populations for actions that require environmental analyses under the National Environmental Policy Act; create an environmental justice strategy to address disproportionate impacts of its policies and actions, and conduct and collect research on the disproportionate impacts from federal facilities.

Creates an Interagency Environmental Justice Working Group to develop strategies, provide guidance, coordinate research, convene public meetings, and conduct inquires regarding environmental justice issues.

Creates a Federal Environmental Justice Advisory Committee composed of members of community-based groups, business, academic, state agencies and environmental organizations which will provide input and advice to the Interagency Working Group.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
RON KUNTZ

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to today in honor and recognition of acclaimed sports photographer Ron Kuntz, for his masterful artistry in capturing defining moments in Cleveland sports history, a legacy that spans more than fifty years and continues today, and for his ministry of the heart, a vocation that continues to provide light and solace for those living without hope.

Beyond his unwavering dedication to his family and to his profession, Mr. Kuntz shares his stories, photographs and compassion with prisoners in Ohio and across the country. His outreach began thirty years ago, when Mr. Kuntz first volunteered with the Bill Glass Prison Ministry. Mr. Kuntz' gifts of spiritual guidance and kindness continues to serve as a source of comfort and support for those who live in desolate isolation.

The inspiring photographs of Mr. Kuntz jump with energy and emotion from the pages and wires of local and national publications. His ar-

tistry is evidenced in every picture, highlighting his unique ability to seize the true essence of a remarkable moment. From the dark room to the newsroom, Mr. Kuntz brings the emotion and movement of a moment already gone, back to life—a split-second portrait of the human condition framed by athletic competition.

His work chronicles the great legends and legendary moments of professional athletes and teams of Cleveland, especially the Cleveland Indians—from the glowing victories to the crushing defeats. Armed with an affable nature and quick smile, Mr. Kuntz garnered the respect, trust and admiration of everyone around him. His joy for life is reflected in the photographs he has taken, and within his outreach to others.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Ron Kuntz brilliant photographer, dedicated family man, and compassionate volunteer, whose work and ministry continues to be a gift to our entire community. As he journeys onward from here, we offer him blessings of health, happiness and peace. We look forward to the continued artistry of Ron Kuntz, a man of heart, integrity and deep sense of service to others, whose very life continues to elevate the lives of others, with a snapshot, handshake, kind word and a smile.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DARRYL KEHRER

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Darryl Kehrer, Staff Director for the Subcommittee on Benefits of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, who is retiring after 37 years, 33 of which were devoted of public service to our nation's veterans.

Darryl's distinguished career in public service began with active duty in the United States Air Force from 1966–1970, after which he received an Honorable Discharge as Staff Sergeant. Since then, he has served with distinction at the Department of Veterans Affairs, the United States Senate, and as Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Benefits of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs at the United States House of Representatives. Furthermore, he served as Executive Director of the Congressional Veterans Claims Adjudication Commission, and Staff Director of the Panel on Veterans' Benefits for the Congressional Commission on Servicemembers and Veterans Transition Assistance.

Darryl has dedicated his career to improving the lives of our nation's veterans and to provide them with the very best with respect to benefits and services in their transition to civilian life. He has made significant contributions to the development and enactment of veterans' legislation to improve education, employment, and transition assistance, to name just a few of his accomplishments.

As the Chairman of the Veterans Benefits Subcommittee during the 107th Congress, Darryl's strong work ethic and commitment to the issues was unwavering. He worked tirelessly with me to enact the Jobs for Veterans Act (PL 107–288), and since then he has continued his work with the Department of Labor to ensure the legislation is reaching veterans

and helping them make the transition from military service to civilian employment. His comments and insight into issues affecting veterans was invaluable to me when I served as the Chairman and continues to be today.

Darryl has been a guest instructor at the University of Missouri and the Harry S Truman Library, the John Stennis Institute of Government at Mississippi State University, West Potomac and Annandale High Schools in Virginia, the United States Military Academy, and the United States Air Force Academy. Using the Montgomery GI Bill as an example of how legislation is made, he developed a case study on the enactment of this significant piece of veterans legislation, providing students with a hands-on approach to law-making. He has accompanied me to both West Point and the Air Force Academy, where we visited with instructors and spent time with the cadets. At the Air Force Academy, we did a joint presentation to students regarding the Member and staff perspectives of the U.S. Congress. His success as a guest instructor is clearly demonstrated by how frequently these renowned institutions ask him to return.

Darryl's passions are teaching, mentoring, and baseball. He has spent the past fifteen years volunteering for the Annandale Little League, and the League established an ongoing scholarship in his name. Called the "Kehrer Cup," it is awarded to the youngster who personifies the values of Little League Baseball and includes a \$550 scholarship to the Little League Baseball International Summer Camp. He also received the Ellie Doyle Award for his exemplary partnership with the Fairfax County government in youth sports activities. A self-proclaimed "baseball fanatic," Darryl has used his passion to instill the love of the game and the ideals of sportsmanship in children and young adults.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his career as a public servant and volunteer in the community, Darryl has exemplified the highest ideals of family, community, and public service. With his retirement, we are losing an exemplary public servant and true friend of our nation's veterans. Thank you, Darryl, for your many years of dedicated service to our nation.

RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE
AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF YOGI
BHAJAN

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution honoring the life and numerous contributions of Yogi Bhanjan, the chief religious and administrative authority for Sikhism in the West. Yogi Bhanjan passed away in Española, New Mexico on October 6, 2004 at age 75.

A native of India, Yogi Bhanjan introduced thousands around the world to Sikhism, a religion that carries the message of truthful living and the fundamental unity of humanity, and reaches out to people of all backgrounds to work together for world peace. When he came to the United States in 1968, Yogi Bhanjan recognized immediately that the experience sought by many young people through drugs could be alternatively achieved through