

ago, most teleworkers worked for small to medium-sized organizations.

By not taking advantage of modern technology and establishing successful telework programs, small businesses are losing out on a host of benefits that will save them money, and make them more competitive. By establishing successful telework programs, small business owners would be able to retain these valuable employees by allowing them to work from a remote location, such as their home or a telework center.

In addition to the cost savings realized by businesses that employ teleworkers, there are a number of related benefits to society and the employee. For example, telecommuters help reduce traffic and cut down on air pollution by staying off the roads during rush hour. Fully 80 percent of home-only teleworkers commute to work on days they are not teleworking. This also gives employees more time to spend with their families and reduces stress levels by eliminating the pressure of a long commute.

Mr. Speaker, our legislation seeks to conserve the energy consumption of the Federal workforce and to extend the benefits of a successful telework program to our Nation's small businesses.

Specifically, each agency shall take such actions as are necessary to reduce the level of fuel consumed by vehicles of employees of the agency. Due to the needs to reduce our dependence on imported oil, the bill directs all Federal agencies to find ways to reduce energy consumption by 10 percent in the year following the bill's passage. Agencies can achieve this reduction through telework, carpooling, bicycling and walking to work, fuel-efficient trip planning, public transportation use, and limiting travel.

Further the bill establishes a pilot program in the Small Business Administration (SBA) to raise awareness about telework among small business employers and to encourage those small businesses to establish telework programs for their employees.

Additionally, an important provision in our bill directs the SBA Administrator to undertake special efforts for businesses owned by, or employing, persons with disabilities and disabled American veterans. At the end of the day, telework can provide more than just environmental benefits and improved quality of life. It can open the door to people who have been precluded from working in a traditional office setting due to physical disabilities.

The legislation is also limited in cost and scope. It establishes the pilot program in a maximum of five SBA regions and caps the total cost to five million dollars over two years. It also restricts the SBA to activities specifically proscribed in the legislation: Developing educational materials; conducting outreach to small business; and acquiring equipment for demonstration purposes. Finally, it requires the SBA to prepare and submit a report to Congress evaluating the pilot program.

Several hurdles to establishing successful telework programs could be cleared by enacting our legislation. The bill will go a long way towards educating small business owners on how they can draft guidelines to make a telework program an affordable, manageable reality and demonstrating the willingness of the Federal Government to expand their own telework policies.

Here is a brief outline of the bill's provisions—

Section One—provides a short title, namely "Federal and Small Business Telework Promotion Act."

Section Two—sets forth findings regarding the potential benefits of increasing the extent to which employees have the option of teleworking.

Section Three—amends the National Energy Conservation Policy Act by adding a new subsection requiring Federal agencies to act so far as possible to reduce the amount of fuel used by its employees by at least 10 percent during the year after enactment. Military use of fuel would not be affected. An agency could seek to achieve this reduction through increased telework opportunities; more carpooling; more people bicycling or walking to work; fuel-efficient trip planning; greater use of public transportation; or by limiting use of vehicles for business travel.

Section Four—directs the Small Business Administration to carry out a pilot program to raise awareness of telework among small businesses and to encourage them to offer telework options to their employees. This program is to include special outreach to businesses owned by or employing people with disabilities, including disabled veterans. Priority for locating the pilot program will be given to regions where Federal agencies and small businesses have demonstrated a strong commitment to telework. The pilot program will terminate after 2 years. This section also authorizes appropriation of \$5 million for implementation by SBA.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM A. BECKER

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2006

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor Major General (Retired) William A. Becker, a distinguished veteran of World War II and Vietnam.

A Kaufman County native, William Becker was born on his family homestead in 1919. He graduated from Kaufman High School in 1936. He later attended Texas A&M College, where served as cadet corps commander during his senior year. Upon graduation in 1941, he was given a diploma, a commission as 2nd Lieutenant of field artillery, and orders to report within eight days to the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Maj. Gen. Becker was sent to fight in the Southwest Pacific Theater during WWII, and in four years, he advanced from the rank of 2nd Lieutenant to Lieutenant Colonel.

Maj. Gen. Becker also served in Vietnam. Over his 30-year career he had a variety of other commands and assignments. His last active duty assignment was to the Pentagon with the Office of the Secretary of the Army, as Chief of Legislative Liaison, working with the United States Congress from 1968–1971.

During his years of service he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal twice with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Legion of Merit with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star with one Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Air Medal with 10 Oak Leaf Clusters.

Upon retirement from the Army, Gen. Becker returned to his home community with his

wife, Fran, and their four children. In the early 1970's he established a real estate brokerage and is still active with that business. He also served as President of the Kaufman-Van Zandt Board of Realtors and Director of the Texas Association of Realtors.

President Calvin Coolidge once said, "The Nation which forgets its defenders will itself be forgotten." As a veteran, Gen. Becker understands that better than most Americans. On behalf of the grateful citizens of the Fifth District of Texas, it is my pleasure to honor Maj. Gen. Becker today in the United States House of Representatives. It is because of his service, we are able to enjoy freedom, peace, prosperity, and the many other blessings that God has bestowed upon this great land, the United States of America.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARJORIE S. ANTHONY

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2006

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay great honor to a dear friend and colleague of mine, Marjorie S. Anthony of South Windsor, Connecticut, who passed away on March 27, 2006. Marge was wonderfully unique in the way she pursued politics and community service. She did it with enthusiasm and love, candor and spirit.

Marge was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. My heart goes out to her family, her loving husband of 48 years, Peter T. Anthony, Sr. Marjorie will be greatly missed by her four children and their spouses: Katherine Kennison and her husband, Ed, of South Windsor; Marybeth D'Onofrio and her husband, Tom, of Ellington; Patty Antonaras and her husband, Sam, of Ellington. Marjorie will also be deeply missed by her 12 grandchildren, Ashley Kennison, Shannon and Trevor Anthony, Matt, Rachel and Vinny Metacarpa, Katie, Tommy, and Christopher D'Onofrio, John, Brittany and Mikala Antonaras. Marjorie leaves behind five exceptional brothers, Charles J. Sullivan and sister-in-law, Maureen, of Riverton, NJ; Michael Sullivan and sister-in-law, Tina, of Atlanta, GA; Thomas Sullivan and sister-in-law, Carole, of South Bend, IN; Patrick Sullivan and Chris Domenick of Marlborough; and Kevin Sullivan of Hartford; her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Thomas and Jane Anthony of Rocky Hill. Marjorie will also be deeply missed by her many nieces, nephews and cousins who were all a close knit family.

Marge led a tremendous life and was an active member of her community. Marge lived in South Windsor for 48 years of her life and graduated from Bulkeley High School. For 30 years of her life, Marjorie was a private business owner, Justice of the Peace, member of St. Francis of Assisi Church and Ladies Society, and State Central Connecticut Woman. Marge served as Past President of the South Windsor Democratic Women's Club, Past Vice-Chair and Secretary of the Democratic Town Committee, Past Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Chairperson of the Economic Development Commission, Chairperson of the South Windsor Committee for St. Patrick's Day Parade, Past Corresponding Secretary of the South Windsor Historical Society,

and Past President of the South Windsor Athletic Booster Club. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the Greater Hartford Transit District, Board of Directors of the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce, and an Advisory Board member for Rockville Bank.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the life of Marjorie S. Anthony. Marge will be missed by her family, friends and her community. She was a dear friend of mine and my family who join with her family in mourning her passing but rejoicing in her life.

TRIBUTE TO ELI SEGAL

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2006

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary American, Eli Segal, who passed away on February 20, 2006 at the age of 63.

Eli Segal was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1943. He graduated Brandeis University in 1964 and received a law degree from the University of Michigan in 1967.

Mr. Segal began a distinguished political career in 1968 when he joined Senator Eugene McCarthy's presidential campaign. Though Senator McCarthy lost, Mr. Segal was not deterred and served in key positions in several Democratic presidential campaigns, culminating with President Clinton's 1992 campaign, which was Mr. Segal's first campaign victory.

Mr. Segal then served as Assistant to the President in the Clinton White House, and within months established the Corporation for National Service, better known now as AmeriCorps. Thanks to his skilled management, the once controversial program has become an acclaimed success, and 400,000 young Americans have been enrolled in the program and helped to improve their communities and their country. Mr. Segal also took an active interest in City Year, another service program he eventually chaired. At the request of Nelson Mandela, he helped launch City Year in South Africa.

In 1996, when President Clinton signed welfare reform into law, Mr. Segal took on the challenge of creating opportunities for former welfare recipients who were required to work. He began asking American companies to make commitments to hire former welfare recipients, and his "welfare-to-work partnership" grew from five companies to twenty thousand. As he did with AmeriCorps, Mr. Segal left a great legacy in his contribution to the success of welfare reform.

Mr. Segal is survived by his wife Phyllis, his son Jonathan and his daughter Mora, two grandchildren, and his brother Alan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring an outstanding American and an extraordinary public servant, and extending our deepest sympathy to his family. He touched the lives of many Americans and changed our nation for the better.

HONORING ATHENS FIRST MAYOR

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2006

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor Mr. John Matthews McDonald, the first known Mayor of Athens, Texas. John Matthews McDonald (1827–1883) was born in North Carolina but came to Texas in 1848 and lived first at Larissa, Cherokee County and then Mound Prairie, Anderson County, where his brother Murdoch earlier settled. Two years later, he moved to the young town of Athens and became a teacher and a lawyer.

He also served as the town's first mayor. He wed Mary Ann Elizabeth Pinson (1842–1931) in 1858, and the couple had ten children. During the Civil War, McDonald fought with the Confederate Army as part of Hood's Texas Brigade.

Active in public service, he held the offices of Justice of the Peace, County Judge and State Representative. His pioneer leadership proved vital to the early development of this adopted home.

On behalf of the citizens of Athens and the Fifth District of Texas, it is my pleasure to honor John Matthews McDonald in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROSE BOUZIANE NADER

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2006

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished constituent in my district, Rose Bouziane Nader of Winsted, Connecticut, whose incredible life has provided inspiration to all who have come in contact with her. Rose was a devoted mother, teacher and civic advocate, who passed away on January 20, 2006.

Rose Nader lived just 18 days short of her 100th birthday and led a life fulfilled by the inspiration she gave and the nurturing compassion she provided. Rose inspired America's foremost consumer advocate, her son Ralph Nader, and further inspired the rest of her children who are all dedicated to giving back to their community. The following are but glittering excerpts from the outpouring of people who spoke from their heart about this shining example for humanity.

"We have been brought together today by our mother, who was the light of our lives, the anchor, the compass and the vision. These are a few of her main qualities, qualities that we see in many good people. They represent the heights of human beings."—Ralph Nader.

"She was not a person of many words, but her content contained much memorable wisdom."—Claire Nader.

"On child-rearing formulas, Mom observed that, 'there is no recipe.' On supporting each other, it was 'operation cooperation.'"—Laura Nader.

"She was as fine an expression of the human spirit as I have ever met, and I say this from my heart."—Phil Donahue.

"I thought she was a remarkable person who lived a remarkable life, going literally from one century to another.

"She was strong, loving, hard-working and modest. All of the virtues were hers. I used to ponder how much she and her husband had seen in their lives for it was a great American story. They had come here in the Twenties with little more than their hopes and their capacity for hard work, and in just one generation they had seen their own children prosper—enriching what was around them and being enriched at the same time.

"What I will remember is her kindness to our family over the years, her sense of obligation to others, and a belief that citizenship demanded a daily commitment. And of course her modesty, in the midsixties, back when Life Magazine was still powerful, the editors put Ralph on the cover. My mother, thrilled by this, immediately called Rose to tell her.

"Yes," said Mrs. Nader, "that's nice. I must get out and get a copy." We all loved that, the 'a copy' reference." David Halberstam Journalist, Author, Historian.

It has been my experience that what makes this country great are those humble people amongst us who live day to day and perform unheralded deeds for their community. Rose was one of those people. Her life was a testimony of inspiration, humor and compassion, and the love and satisfaction that comes from giving of oneself.

How blessed her family is to have had such an influence, how fortunate the community that her works lives on. Epitomized by her world famous son, Ralph, and her daughters, Claire and Laura, who never forget their community and their mother's devotion.

President Kennedy was fond of saying that communities reveal a lot about themselves in the memorials they create and the individuals they honor. How fitting it is for the family to establish the Rose Nader Circle: For the Agitation of the Caring Mind. I know all Americans join in saluting Rose Nader. I personally want to be part of the planting of roses throughout Winsted. What a fitting tribute to an extraordinary lady. I am both humbled by her virtue and honored to place her name in the annals of the United States Congress, an institution that could learn much from this incredible American.

IN HONOR OF SERGEANT RICHARD F. LITTO, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2006

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and honor that I rise today to pay tribute to Sergeant Richard Francis Litto, United States Marine Corps and a resident of South Boston, MA.

Upon graduation from South Boston High School in 1976, Sergeant Litto joined the Marine Corps Active Reserve Unit. In 1990, Richie was called to active duty in Operation Desert Shield and assigned to the Military Police Criminal Investigations Division. During his tenure in Desert Shield, Richie received several accolades for his exemplary work ethic. One in particular, The Meritorious Mast, was awarded to Richie for his outstanding service.