

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to express my support for the job that EDA has been doing in Florida and around the country in addressing local economic development needs. I look forward to working with the EDA officials in our region on the Motorsports Exhibition Center project.

TRIBUTE TO DAUGHTERS OF MIRIAM CENTER

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 1996

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to The Daughters of Miriam Center, a nonprofit geriatric and rehabilitation center, which will be celebrating 75 years of excellence, with the opening of the Gallen Institute for Subacute Care on October 27, 1996.

Mr. Speaker; as you know, one of America's greatest assets is the wisdom of our seniors. As Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter once said, "Wisdom too often never comes, and so one ought not to reject it merely because it comes late." The Daughters of Miriam Center realizes the same sentiments that Justice Frankfurter once espoused. The 13 acre Daughters of Miriam Center campus consists of 340 beds with various services available to over 700 elderly persons.

Mr. Speaker, the Daughters of Miriam Center was founded in 1921 by Nathan Bennet, a former Paterson mayor. It served as a shelter for elderly persons and orphaned children. Today, the Daughters of Miriam Center is acknowledged as one of the leading facilities in the Nation for the care of the elderly. It offers a nursing facility, subacute unit, the Gallen Institute for Subacute Care, sheltered workshop, medical day care, program for the elderly with outpatient alzheimer disease unit, two apartment buildings which offer congregate services, and the B.I. Cohen Family Building.

Mr. Speaker; on behalf of my colleagues in Congress, I wish the Daughters of Miriam Center success in the opening of the new Gallen Institute and another 75 years of continued success.

PRIVATE PROPERTY CONGRESSIONAL VOTE INDEX

SPEECH OF

HON. WES COOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 1996

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I bring to my colleague's attention the 1995-96 Private Property Rights Congressional Vote Index created and published by the League of Private Property Voters in Battle Ground, WA.

This index, first published in 1990, was developed in response to actions of Federal agencies that result in the taking of private property without just compensation. The current index is sponsored by several hundred grassroots-wise use and private property rights groups. Among the Oregon cosponsors are Oregon Cattlemen's Association, Oregon Farm Bureau, Oregon Lands Coalition, Oregonians for Food and Shelter, and Oregonians in Action.

I urge my colleagues to read and study this index to learn more about the concerns of private property rights advocates.

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The votes listed below show how the House supported (S) or opposed (O) the League of Private Property Voters position. A description of each vote is listed below along with the scorecard.

You will gain the greatest benefit by first looking up your Representative to see what his private property score was on the right side of the scorecard. Then read each vote description. The league private property position listed near the top of the scorecard shows how we believe your Representative should have voted on each issue. Check to see whether you Representative supported (S) or opposed (O) the League private property position.

U.S. HOUSE VOTES

HOUSE VOTE #1: WEAKENING UNFUNDED MANDATE REFORMS

H.R. 5 requires a Congressional Budget Office cost analysis and specifics on how a bill or regulation would be financed on any measure imposing costs of more than \$50 million on state and local governments. Representative James Moran (D-VA) offered a substitute amendment to severely weaken H.R. 5 by removing a provision in the bill blocking the consideration of legislation that does not provide money for meeting a federal mandate. The Moran substitute was rejected February 1, 1995 on a 152-278 vote. Private property rights supporters voted NO.

HOUSE VOTE #2: REGULATORY MORATORIUM

H.R. 450 would temporarily prohibit federal agencies from implementing new federal regulations. The freeze would be in effect until December 31, 1995, or when the regulatory revisions in the "Contract With America" were enacted, whichever is sooner, and would retroactively cover regulations proposed or put into effect since November 20, 1994. The bill would exempt routine regulations and those that address an "imminent threat to health or safety." H.R. 450 passed 276-146 on February 24, 1995. The President's position was a no vote. Private property advocates voted YES.

HOUSE VOTE #3: STRENGTHENING RISK ASSESSMENT AND COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS FOR NEW REGULATION ACT

H.R. 1022 requires that any new regulations affecting the environment, health and safety that would likely cost the economy more than \$25 million annually must first undergo an assessment of risk and the relative costs and benefits. Representatives Joe Barton (R-TX), Mike Crapo (R-ID) and Billy Tauzin (D-LA) offered an amendment to strengthen H.R. 1022 by establishing a process whereby citizens could petition federal agencies to review EXISTING regulations. The Barton-Crapo-Tauzin Amendment was rejected on a 206-220 vote on February 28, 1995. Private property rights advocates voted YES.

HOUSE VOTE #4: PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS—30 PERCENT THRESHOLD

H.R. 925 was a private property rights bill that would provide for landowners to be compensated for the loss of the use of their land caused by federal regulations. The Goss Amendment (Porter Goss (R-FL)) would have weakened H.R. 925 in two ways. First it would have raised the threshold to 30% from 10% before the bill would kick in and require compensation to the landowner. Second, the Goss Amendment would have required that the 30% apply to all the landowners property, not just the portion affected by the regulation as stated in H.R. 925. The Goss Amendment was defeated 210-211 on March 2, 1995 (the House eventually settled on a 20%

threshold). The property rights position was a NO.

HOUSE VOTE #5: PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

H.R. 925 would require federal agencies to compensate private property owners for federal actions taken under the Endangered Species Act, the Wetlands provisions of the Clean Water Law and the 1985 Farm Bill, and certain laws affecting Western water rights that reduce the value of any section of their properties by 20 percent or more. If a regulation took 50% or more of the property value, the landowner would be able to force the government to buy out his property. H.R. 925 passed 277-148 on March 3, 1995. The President's position was a no vote. Private property advocates voted YES.

HOUSE VOTE #6: EMERGENCY HARVEST OF DEAD AND DYING TREES ON FEDERAL LANDS

During the last five years a net of 21 billion board feet of dead and dying timber has accumulated on Forest Service lands nationwide. Unfortunately, existing federal barriers have prevented these trees from being harvested before they deteriorate and lose commercial value. They merely rot and provide no employment for rural timber economies and increase the cost of forest products used to build houses. H.R. 1158, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations and Rescissions bill, contained a common sense provision by Representatives Charles Taylor (R-NC) and Don Young (R-AK) which established expedited procedures for removing these dead and dying trees while still retaining important environmental safeguards. An amendment by Rep. Sidney Yates (D-IL) to strike the Taylor-Young provisions and thus retain existing barriers to harvesting these trees was defeated on March 15, 1995 by a 150-275 vote. Private property rights supporters voted NO.

HOUSE VOTE #7: WETLANDS DEFINITION AND COMPENSATION

H.R. 961 is a bill to revise the Clean Water Act and regulation of wetlands. The Boehlert Amendment (Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY)) would have gutted H.R. 961. It would have broadened the definition of wetlands to cover more land and eliminated the provisions of the bill that would require federal compensation for private landowners affected by wetlands regulation. This amendment was supported by 39 moderate Republicans and opposed by 51 conservative Democrats. The Boehlert Amendment was defeated 185-242 on May 16, 1995. The private property vote was a NO.

HOUSE VOTE #8: MORE FUNDING FOR CONVERTING PRIVATE PROPERTY INTO FEDERAL PROPERTY

H.R. 1977, the FY 1996 Interior Appropriations bill, contained \$51 million for federal agencies to acquire only the highest priority lands for national parks, national forests and wildlife refuges. Representative George Miller (D-CA) offered an amendment to increase this amount by \$183 million which is offset by a corresponding cut in fossil fuel research and development funding. The Miller Amendment was defeated 170-253 on July 13, 1995. Private property rights supporters voted NO.

HOUSE VOTE #9: FUNDING FOR NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

An amendment to the Fiscal year 1996 Interior Appropriations bill (H.R. 1977) by Rep. Tim Hutchinson (R-AR) would have eliminated the \$3.5 million provided in the bill for the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The House Appropriations Committee had already decided to defund the trust over 2 years but the Hutchinson Amendment would have cut the funds immediately. The Hutchinson Amendment was defeated 129-281 on July 13, 1995. The private property position was YES.