

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN H. ADAMS
FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, today I want to honor John H. Adams, executive director of the Pittsburgh Regional Minority Purchasing Council, who will be retiring after 25 years of distinguished service.

John Adams has devoted his energy and skills over the past quarter century to increasing opportunities for minorities to participate fully in the U.S. economy as entrepreneurs and business leaders. He had been a driving force in the Pittsburgh area in the struggle to sweep away the still lingering effects of racial discrimination. His work has been instrumental in opening doors to men and women who for too long had been denied a chance to compete fairly in our society.

Mr. Adams will be honored at a luncheon on Friday, June 16, in Pittsburgh at the Allegheny Club. He has served longer than any other council director in the 47-member national organization and is highly regarded around the country as the dean of directors. The Business Resource Center was formed in 1972 under the auspices of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development to develop a program for corporations to increase their purchasing with minority businesses. The conduit organization, The Regional Minority Purchasing Council, has served as the catalyst for purchasing agents in Pittsburgh to increase minority participation in providing and bidding on goods and services contracts. The corporate membership of 100 firms includes Westinghouse, ALCOA, Allegheny General Hospital, The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, and the major area financial institutions.

John Adams has also been active in the Pittsburgh area as a civic leader. He made Pittsburgh and Rotary International history, when in 1979 and 1980, he served as president of the Pittsburgh Rotary Club, one of the largest rotary clubs in the United States. Throughout his life, John Adams has excelled at breaking through longstanding barriers and providing a role model for others in his community.

Mr. Speaker, John Adams deserves to be commended for his outstanding effort to break down barriers to African-Americans, women, and others in our society who have long been denied fair opportunities to participate fully in the benefits of our Nation's free enterprise system. It is fitting that the U.S. House should have this time to reflect on the work of John Adams and the continuing need to ensure that all Americans can compete fairly for a chance to succeed as businessmen and women.

BUDGET CUTS AFFECT REAL
PEOPLE

HON. FRANK TEJEDA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. TEJEDA. Mr. Speaker, on June 6, the San Antonio Express-News published an editorial reminding all of us, particularly here in Congress, that budget cuts affect real people. The article appropriately points out that the seemingly abstract reductions being debated in Washington these days will have a concrete impact on the people back in our districts. The editorial painfully describes the impact of a \$40,000 reduction in Federal money on the services provided by San Antonio's Sexual Assault Crisis and Resource Center.

Mr. Speaker, as we begin consideration of the large budget reductions being proposed and the spending priorities of the Federal Government, we, as representatives of the people, must constantly remember the impact our actions will have on the hundreds of thousands of people in my district and the hundreds of millions in those of my colleagues. The text of the editorial is set forth below.

BUDGET CUTTING HITS REAL PEOPLE

"A billion dollars here, a billion there—eventually it adds up to real money," the late U.S. Senate Minority Leader Everett Dirksen, R-Ill., used to grouse when freespending Democrats forgot that they were doling out real dollars paid by real taxpayers.

His political heirs, now in the majority in both houses of the 104th Congress, rightly understand that they are spending real money. What they need also to recognize just as dearly is that congressional spending—and cuts in it—affect real people, too.

A good example locally is the impact earlier federal spending cuts already are having on San Antonio's Sexual Assault Crisis and Resource Center.

The center which also receives state, United Way and other private funding, lost \$40,000 in federal money for fiscal year 1995, San Antonio Express-News Staff Writer Marina Pisano recently reported.

Those cuts came before the Republicans—committed to even deeper cuts in the federal budget—took control of Congress.

Unlike the billions of dollars Dirksen accused congressional Democrats of mindlessly squandering, \$40,000 may not seem like much money. But its impact on real people is proving to be significant.

As reported rapes increase dramatically in the Alamo City—during the first quarter of 1995, up 37.5 percent from a year ago—the crisis center will be able to serve fewer clients because of the cut in federal funding.

The center will have to rely more heavily on private funding.

Unfortunately, though, donations from nongovernment sources, particularly foundations, are significantly down, said Rita Velasquez, the center's acting director.

The private sector will be increasingly hard-pressed to make up the difference caused by ever-deeper cuts in government spending at all levels. Real people with real

needs and real problems—not just nameless, faceless statistics—will suffer accordingly.

Congressional budget writers should never forget this very real impact that their decisions have on so many real Americans.

TRIBUTE TO THE REVEREND
GEORGE S. FLEMING

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to a man who has given so much to his church and his community, Baileys Crossroads, VA. Father George Fleming is retiring after serving 27 years as the priest at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The Reverend George S. Fleming, born in 1930 in Brooklyn, NY, received his B.A. from Brooklyn College [CUNY] in 1953, and graduated from Philadelphia Divinity School, Philadelphia, with honors in 1956.

Following ordination as an Episcopal priest in 1956, he served as curate of St. Andrew's Church, Williston Park, NY, 1956–58, where he was a founding member of the Williston Rotary Club and member of the Anglican Society.

During his 27 years at St. Paul's he served as a member, and often convener, of Baileys Ministerial Fellowship, as a member of the Falls Church Kiwanis Club, a founder and member of the board of the Bethany House of Northern Virginia; board member, HOPE of Northern Virginia; member of the board of trustees of Goodwin House; field education supervisor, Virginia Theological Seminary; and regional dean of the Diocese of Virginia from 1991–94. He also led the effort for use of St. Paul's Church as a location for the Fairfax Community Action Program academy for drop-out youth in 1970, and for the Northern Virginia Hispanic Ministry of the Episcopal Church.

Due to the tragic death of a homeless man on Christmas Eve, 1983, Reverend Fleming served as chairman of the Christian Emergency Temporary Shelter, an organization of churches that provided care for homeless people during the winters of 1984 and 1985. This group served as impetus for the founding of the Baileys Community Shelter for the Homeless. Reverend Fleming has served continually on the board of the shelter.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in paying tribute to this fine man who has given so much of his time and energy to help make his community a better place to live. Without Father George Fleming's leadership, Baileys Crossroads would be a far different place. I know my colleagues join me in thanking George Fleming for his selfless contribution to his church and community and we wish him the best of luck in his retirement.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

A TRIBUTE TO CAPT. IAN WALSH

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, at 2:08 a.m. Central European time, on June 8, 1995, history was made. With unparalleled perfection that only comes with countless hours of training and preparation, a team of U.S. Marines rescued Air Force Capt. Scott O'Grady from behind enemy lines in Bosnia.

Among the Marines who risked their lives to save Captain O'Grady was Capt. Ian Walsh, whose parents, Laurence and Ellen, live in my congressional district in Providence, RI. Captain Walsh, 28, who piloted the Cobra attack helicopter which led the rescue mission, is no stranger to life-threatening missions. Having flown in Somalia and Haiti, Captain Walsh has made a typical day's work out of flying into hostile territory.

The rescue of Capt. Scott O'Grady, who courageously eluded the enemy for 6 days, was by no means simple. Captain Walsh had to not only fly through dense fog and had to remain extremely low in order to avoid mountain ranges and power lines, but he also encountered missile and gun fire from the Serbians. All this was worth it in once Captain Walsh made the first audio contact with the downed fighter pilot. As Captain Walsh related later to the Providence Journal-Bulletin, "It's one of those things you train and train and train, and you finally execute, and it pays off. I feel like I've actually made a difference—helped pull a guy out and saved his life. And that to me is probably the best feeling anybody could have."

With Captain O'Grady back in friendly hands, there is indeed much to celebrate. In our joy, however, we should not forget that men and women are still putting their lives on the line for our country every day. They are truly heroes and should be recognized as such. I am proud to say that Capt. Ian Walsh is one of them.

As Captain Walsh finishes the remaining 3 months of his tour stationed off the embattled shores of Bosnia, I want to let him know that this country and his friends are behind him. I wish for Ian a safe tour and speedy return home for one of Rhode Island's true heroes. I also offer best wishes to his wife, Charlotte of North Carolina, and his parents, Laurence and Ellen, all of whom must be very proud of Ian's dedication and service to his country.

IN RECOGNITION OF SAN LUIS OBISPO MOZART FESTIVAL—25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANDREA H. SEASTRAND

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join with the 22d Congressional District of California as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival. Presented during the weeks of July 21 through August 6, 1995, the festival is a superior salute to the music and life of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Over the past 25 years, San Luis Obispo residents and tourists from all over the world have enjoyed the festival's performances of works by composers of classical to contemporary. Audiences have a rare privilege to enjoy some of the greatest compositions of all time surrounded by the serenity and beauty of the San Luis Obispo County landscape. From vineyards to music halls and from quaint chapels to the historic Mission of San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, music lovers keep coming back year after year to enjoy the festival.

The San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival is also well known for its educational programs conducted in and around the performances. For adults, there is an Akademie lecture series which features music scholars from throughout the Nation. And for the children, the Akidamie provides an excellent opportunity for young people to gain an appreciation for music.

So, as the 22d Congressional District of California gears up for the 25th anniversary of the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival, I remind my colleagues that they are all invited to the central coast to enjoy this truly classic event. And to the festival itself, I say congratulations on a successful history and good luck for continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO VFW POST NO. 4087 AUXILIARY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise before you today to pay tribute to a very important organization in my district. The Davison Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Post No. 4087 received its charter on June 24, 1945. I congratulate the auxiliary as it celebrates its 50th anniversary on June 24, 1995, and thank them for their many years of dedicated service to the community. The auxiliary was originally formed around a mutual desire to serve the community.

The auxiliary is known throughout the entire country for their involvement in projects that touch many lives. One of the first projects the auxiliary accomplished was distributing toys to needy children at Christmas. That original gesture of generosity has not only prevailed, it has expanded into many other programs to assist the needy. Individuals, families, and particularly children have benefited as a result of the magnanimity of the auxiliary. Clothing, toys, food, scholarships, and athletic equipment have been provided when and where needed. Various youth groups have been advantaged by the auxiliary's largesse. Essential items, equipment, and extended use of Post No. 4087's building, and other facilities have been made readily available to those groups.

The Davison Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Post No. 4087 has traveled long distances, and donated many hours of time visiting veterans hospitals. These visits have served as a topic to the veteran who has been hospitalized as a result of illness, or from wounds received as a result of military service. The auxiliary has helped to carry the message of freedom by sponsoring the Voice of Democracy Program, and sponsoring flag presentations to local schools. The auxiliary color guard was formed in 1983, and since

then, has been invited to participate in parades and ceremonies throughout Michigan. The auxiliary color guard has also been the source of pride to the Davison community, as it has been the winner of numerous State and national awards, trophies, and commendations. The accomplishments of the auxiliary are too lengthy to list today. Suffice it to say they are great, and they are many.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I stand before you today, asking you and my fellow Members of Congress to honor the Davison Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Post No. 4087. For 50 years they have stood firmly behind their commitment to each other, the community, and this Nation. Their steadfast devotion to promoting the human dignity of all Americans serves as inspiration to us all.

CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF BUREAU OF RECLAMATION COMMISSIONER DANIEL P. BEARD

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my high regard and appreciation for the performance and accomplishments of Daniel P. Beard and my sadness at his decision to resign from his position as Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner.

As many of my colleagues may remember, prior to his current service in the Department of Interior, Mr. Beard was a staff member in both the House and Senate, serving as administrative assistant to Senator Max Baucus and staff director for the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Offshore Energy Resources, and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. In his 2 years with the Bureau of Reclamation, he has served his country with distinction and unparalleled effectiveness.

As Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, Dan was instrumental in turning the Bureau around and making it one of the premier agencies of the Department of Interior. In fact, Vice President Gore awarded the Bureau a Reinvention Hammer Award in 1994 for its reduced budget and effective downsizing of employees.

Commissioner Beard should be very proud of how well he has achieved his goal to make the Bureau of Reclamation the preeminent water resource management agency in the world. Dan led the Bureau to establish and support water conservation projects throughout the West, such as projects to bring new, drought-resistant water supplies to communities in arid areas, particularly in southern California. The Bureau also implemented a native American trust asset project policy and substantially expanded technical assistance to native American tribes in the West.

Our Bureau reforms instituted by Dan include a revision of agency operations to delegate greater decisionmaking authority to field personnel and the involvement of headquarters in everyday operating decisions. These changes have resulted in the elimination of several layers of management within the Bureau and the reduction of redtape. It is fair to say that customer service is now the foundation for the Bureau's operations.

I would like to congratulate and commend Mr. Beard for his outstanding service to the Nation. His achievements are worthy of high praise and appreciation and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL FUND
FOR IRELAND AND MACBRIDE
PRINCIPLES

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Friends of Ireland, I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the International Fund for Ireland and the MacBride Principles.

The time is right. The current peace process in the North provides a context in which our assistance will be most valued. And our willingness to reward nonviolent problem solving could not be shown more clearly.

Our historical tie to Ireland is a lifeline—not for victory in armed struggle, but for economic success in peacetime.

We have a humanitarian interest at stake, and an economic interest. Because Ireland has a highly skilled, educated work force. It is a gateway to Europe, and a potential market for American companies.

Regarding the MacBride Principles, I personally believe that despite the cease-fire and despite advances in the peace process, systemic prejudice still exists in the North. The MacBride Principles will guarantee that U.S. tax dollars are targeted at unemployment in the areas that will bring the best peace dividend.

Our economic assistance has helped Ireland get this far in its struggle for peace, and will continue to help create an infrastructure of hope.

I urge support for this measure.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMCORE
BANK AND THE ZION DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to recognize the accomplishments of the partnership between AMCORE Bank and the Zion Development Corporation. These two organizations, acting in unison, have stabilized and redeveloped a major portion of the Rockford community. Their commendable efforts were justifiably included by the Social Compact in their 1995 Outstanding Community Investment Awards program.

AMCORE Bank and the Zion Development Corporations have a long history of working together. AMCORE Bank, a major financial institution in Rockford, had been located for nearly 100 years on Seventh Street, directly across from the church that founded the Zion Development Corporation [ZDC]. The ZDC, established in 1982, has acted as an instrument to revitalize storefront and residential property in an urban neighborhood. Its mission

is to provide affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families of every background, as well as to train the residents of Rockford for worthwhile employment opportunities.

Neither AMCORE, nor the ZDC could have succeeded in creating safe, thriving areas within their neighborhood without the help of the other. Acting as a model for other businesses around the Nation, AMCORE granted generous and flexible loans to the ZDC, often financing close to 100 percent of the cost of the properties acquired by the ZDC. AMCORE went on to donate money directly to its partner, to establish a banking service for the residents of the new properties, and to help form the Seventh Street Area Development Council. The ZDC is, like AMCORE, a model itself. It is a nonprofit institution designed to positively impact citizens' lives directly. It has targeted and purchased the properties around Seventh Street which, in the past, have been infamous because of the prostitution and drug dealing that occurred there.

These two organizations have earned admiration and respect because of their service. They have been deservedly noted by the Social Compact and provide inspiration to the rest of Rockford, as well as the country, to never concede a neighborhood as lost to crime.

BISHOP STUDENT EXCELS IN
NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention today the fine achievement of Will Baylies and the leadership of his teacher, Mrs. Irene Sorenson, from Home Street Middle School in Bishop, CA. Recently, this remarkable student joined other students from across the country at the University of Maryland to compete in National History Day sponsored by the Constitutional Rights Foundation. The theme for this year's competition was conflict and compromise in history.

Will qualified for the national competition by first winning at the local, regional, and State levels. Will placed first in California for his research paper titled, "A Philosophical Conflict on Civil Rights, Integration or Separatism? Correspondence Between Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X." Will took the original approach of creating a series of letters between these two men that express an understanding of their philosophies. In reality, King and Malcolm X did not correspond so the content of the letters reflect the research done as well as critical analysis by Will.

This outstanding student and Mrs. Sorenson are a tribute to our public school system which remains the finest in the world. Although this student lives in a community of less than 5,000 people located 200 miles from a major library or university, he completed extensive research in his subject area and was highly competitive with students from the large metropolitan areas including Los Angeles County, San Bernardino County, and Riverside County. It is also remarkable that under the guidance of Mrs. Sorenson, a total of 16 students

made it all the way to the final State competition and exhibited their knowledge in 7 of the possible 8 categories.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, and friends in recognizing the fine achievement of these individuals. Their work is a reflection of education at its best. It is fitting and appropriate that the House of Representatives pay tribute to them today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAT WILLIAMS

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, family difficulties kept me from being here for the vote on the Kasich-Dellums amendment on deleting money from the authorization for additional B-2's.

Had I been in attendance I would have voted "aye".

TRIBUTE TO DELORES BOHANNON-
WILKINS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege and honor for me to rise today and pay tribute to one of Reston, VA's most beloved teachers and community leaders, Delores Bohannon-Wilkins who passed away last month after a long, prolonged battle with cancer. On June 15, 1995 the school where Mrs. Wilkins taught, Langston Hughes Middle School, will dedicate a hall in her memory.

At Langston Hughes Middle School Delores Bohannon-Wilkins served as a middle school mathematics teacher in Reston, VA. She was actively involved in professional educational pursuits. She originated and directed community mentor programs for children-at-risk in Fairfax County. Mrs. Wilkins served as a leader and presenter at professional educational conferences, seminars, and workshops. She also provided counselling for youths and their families in the Reston community.

Among her honors were the Golden Eagle award for outstanding educational contributions and being named Lady Fairfax for the Hunter Mill Magisterial District in Fairfax County [VA], at the Fairfax County Fair in recognition of her leadership contributions to the community. She was a member of several professional and civic organizations. Among these were the Reston Chapter of National Jack and Jill the National Council of Negro Women where she served as president.

Delores graduated from St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, VA. She pursued additional graduate studies at the University of Maryland, University of the District of Columbia, and the University of Virginia. She was married to Dr. Thomas A. Wilkins and was the mother of three children; Lisa, Thomas, and Mark.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring Delores Bohannon-Wilkins, a woman who served as a role model, mentor, and leader in Reston. She was a woman whose leadership in her community made it a

much better place to live than she found it. She will be missed by those who knew her, but her example of commitment and concern will remain a part of her legacy.

AMERICAN OVERSEAS INTERESTS
ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1561), to consolidate the foreign affairs agencies of the United States; to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal years 1996 and 1997; to responsibly reduce the authorizations of appropriations for United States foreign assistance programs for fiscal years 1996 and 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Chairman, I want to express my strongest opposition to the amendment proposed by my distinguished friend from New Jersey [Mr. SMITH]. I have the highest regard for my colleague, Mr. SMITH. He and I have worked together on many issues on human rights, and I fully share his abhorrence of coerced abortions that have been carried out in China. I have joined him on many occasions to protest in the strongest terms this egregious violation of human rights. While we have worked closely together on a large number of human rights issues, including coercive population control programs, and I look forward to working with him on a number of other issues in the future, I disagree in the strongest terms with this amendment that he has offered to the bill H.R. 1561.

I support the reasoned alternative that has been presented by our distinguished colleague from Maryland, Mrs. MORELLA, which is the same provision that Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas presented during full committee markup, and which was approved by a significant margin during that markup by the entire International Relations Committee.

Mr. Chairman, unchecked population growth in developing countries poses a serious and a growing threat to United States national interests throughout the world. It has serious implications for our international policy in areas of trade, security, environment and international migration.

To reduce the whole range of U.S. population assistance to the issue of abortion—which is what the amendment of our colleague from New Jersey does—does a great injustice to our pioneering work in the field of population planning, where the United States is a recognized leader and innovator.

U.S. population assistance addresses a broad range of critical needs—maternal health; child survival; primary health care, including the prevention of death due to pregnancy-related causes; and the prevention of the spread of sexually transmitted diseases; and contraception.

The aim of a family planning organization is not to promote abortion, but quite to the contrary—to prevent unwanted pregnancies and abortion, which is the leading cause of maternal mortality. The principal objectives of the Agency for International Development's Popu-

lation Program are to enable couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children, to improve individual health, and to reduce population growth rates to levels that are consistent with sustainable development.

U.S. population assistance is very much in our Nation's interest and—dollar for dollar—probably offers the best return on investment of any of our foreign assistance programs.

If effective action is not taken with this decade as today's 1.6 billion children in the developing world under the age of 15 reach their childbearing years, then the Earth's population could nearly quadruple to over 19 billion people by the end of the next century.

Such an unchecked explosion in population threatens the international community just as much as the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction or the increase in international crime, because the alarming rate of population growth underlies virtually every developmental, environmental, and national security problem facing the world today. In Algeria, Brazil, and India—to name but a few examples—we are seeing how growing populations hinder economic development, foster serious environmental degradation, and exacerbate political instability.

Experts estimate, Mr. Chairman, that 125 million people in developing countries want to delay or avoid childbirth, but they are not using contraception because they do not have access to means of birth control.

Population growth is outstripping the capacity of many nations to make even modest gains in economic development, leading to growing political instability in many countries. At best, this undermines the ability of these countries to be reliable members of the international community or good trading partners of the United States. At worst, it can contribute to massive unrest and violence, as we have witnessed in Rwanda.

The impact of exponential population growth is also evident in the mounting signs of depletion and overuse of the world's natural resources. We have only to see what is happening throughout the continent of Africa, in South Asia, and in many areas of South America to realize the serious and, I fear, irreversible environmental consequences of unchecked population growth.

At the International Conference on Population in 1984 in Mexico City, the Officials of the Reagan administration speaking for the United States Government announced a new policy of denying United States foreign aid funds to any foreign nongovernmental organization that provided abortion counseling, referral, or services. Initially called the Mexico City Policy, because it was announced at the U.N. conference in that city, it came to be known as the International Gag Rule.

While the ostensible purpose of that policy was to prevent abortion, the evidence has shown that restrictions did nothing to reduce reliance on abortion. In fact, the only impact of the restrictions was to interfere with the delivery of effective family planning services and appropriate medical care.

Current law and the explicit text of the Morella/Meyers language make it very clear that no United States funds can be used now or in the future to perform abortions abroad except in cases of rape, incest, or endangerment of the mother's life. No United States funds may be used to lobby for or

against abortion, and no United States funds will be spent by the U.N. Family Planning Agency in China.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to reject this effort to return us to the era of the International Gag Rule. The counter-productive and self-defeating Mexico City Policy was appropriately and rightfully rejected by the American people, and it was repudiated in the past by the Congress as well. It is necessary for us to reject this effort to turn back the clock. The Smith amendment is contrary to American national interests, and it is a policy that is contrary to the interest of stability and economic development in the Third World. It is time for us to move forward and face realistically and meaningfully the very serious population problems that we face in the world.

PROTECTING THE FLAG

HON. TOBY ROTH

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, today Americans across the Nation will unfurl Old Glory to celebrate Flag Day. Last Saturday, June 10, Appleton, WI held the Nation's largest Flag Day parade to honor our veterans who won World War II 50 years ago.

Fifty years ago, the U.S. Marine Corps invaded the rocky island of Iwo Jima. The month-long assault marked the beginning of the United States forces freeing the South Pacific from Japanese occupation. This epic battle was won at the staggering cost of 6,821 American lives.

One of the veterans of this battle was John H. Bradley, a native of Antigo, WI. When he died last year, Mr. Bradley was the last survivor of the six American servicemen who raised the U.S. flag on Iwo Jima. Their valor was captured in the unforgettable 1945 Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph by Joe Rosenthal.

Across the Potomac River from the Capitol, that flag-raising scene is brought to life in the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial. Day and night, American citizens and visitors from around the world come to pay homage to the six Americans who struggled to raise the flag on Mount Suribachi, the highest point on Iwo Jima.

The raising of the flag brought tears to the valiant Americans who were still struggling to vanquish the nearly impregnable Japanese defenses. The rippling red, white, and blue of Old Glory overhead instilled hope and courage to these weary marines.

To Americans, the flag is a symbol to revere, respect, and honor. At the 45th annual Appleton Flag Day parade, I saw rugged World War II veterans, as well as little boys and girls, snap to attention when the flag passed by.

For many years, Federal law and 48 State laws protected the flag from physical desecration. While Americans have always defended political dissent, we draw the line at burning our national symbol.

But in 1989, the U.S. Supreme Court nullified these laws with a nonsensical interpretation of the first amendment protection of freedom of speech.

Congress responded by passing a law to restore the protection of the flag, but the Court again defied the will of the people.

After that defeat, Congress tried but failed to pass a constitutional amendment that would allow flag protection laws.

Mr. Speaker, we didn't have the votes then. But this is a new Congress, a Congress that believes our national symbol deserves the protection of law.

In the coming weeks, the House of Representatives will try again—and this time, I believe we will win. House Joint Resolution 79, the American flag protection amendment, will restore the flag to its rightful honor. This amendment has sailed through the Committee on the Judiciary and is scheduled for vote in the near future.

On behalf of the patriotic citizens of Appleton, and of all the people in northeast Wisconsin, and of every State in America, I rise to urge the House to pass this amendment.

Flag Day is not just a celebration of the American flag, but a celebration of the American people and American ideals. Let us remember the stirring words of Longfellow:

"Take thy banner! May it wave
Proudly o'er the good and brave."

Mr. Speaker, the flag deserves protection from those who would defile it. On this Flag Day, as we remember the brave Americans who won World War II 50 years ago, this Congress must restore to the flag its rightful standing as a symbol to be honored, saluted, respected, and protected.

If we fail, then the tears of pride shed by the World War II veteran I saw in Appleton last Saturday will turn to tears of shame. Let us not disappoint this patriot who crossed an ocean and fought a war to defend the ideals embodied in our American flag.

TRIBUTE TO THE WILLIAMS HIGH
SCHOOL GOLF TEAM

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, it took them a year to avenge a heartbreaking defeat, but on May 16, 1995, the Williams High School golf team completed a yearlong quest by capturing the North Carolina 3-A high school golf championship. The Sixth District of North Carolina is proud of the Bulldogs for winning the State golf title with a 2-day total of 614, two strokes better than its closest rival, Northwest Guilford High School, another Sixth District high school.

What made the victory even sweeter was that it came over the same team, Northwest Guilford, that defeated Williams High School last year by one stroke. Head Coach Tommy Cole told the Burlington, NC Times-News that the bitter memory of last year's defeat drove the team all year long. "It feels good to come back and win this after the heartbreak of last year," Cole told the newspaper. "Everybody left here last year saying, 'If I hadn't missed that shot here,' or 'If I just made a putt there.' The mental stress on these kids has been unbelievable. They handled it great."

Congratulations must begin with Tommy Cole who was named North Carolina's 3-A golf coach of the year following the team's vic-

tory. The win was Cole's second State title in as many sports. Cole was the coach for the Graham High School boys basketball champions in 1983.

All five Williams golfers deserve equal praise for the team victory. Paul Daniel, Josh Moore, Tommy Ryan, Josh Petty, and Jason Nestor were better the second day than they were the first. Each improved his first-day total by at least one stroke. Paul Daniel followed his 74 on Monday with a 73 on Tuesday for a 2-day total of 147, and that was good enough to capture comedalist of the tournament.

Congratulations to principal Donald Williams, athletic director Tommy Spoon, the faculty, staff, students, and parents of Williams High School. The Sixth District of North Carolina is proud of the Williams High School golf team for winning the 3-A golf championship and keeping the title in the Sixth District.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1530) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 1996, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise to briefly discuss the amendment—included in the en bloc amendment—of the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. GILLMOR] and the gentleman from Texas [Mr. EDWARDS].

Mr. Speaker, although the Civilian Marksmanship Program is but a minuscule piece of the Federal Government, I think this is a historic occasion.

It is noteworthy because as the leading opponent of the Civilian Marksmanship Program in Congress over the past 3 years, I now support much of what the leading proponents are trying to do—change and reform this long outdated program.

My colleagues, it has taken 92 years to begin to do the right thing.

Founded in 1903 after the Spanish-American War, the program was intended to teach our new recruits how to shoot straight.

We won that War. And it is long past time to declare victory and get rid of this program.

But for nearly a century, U.S. taxpayers were called upon to spend their money—last year it was \$2.5 million—on a program which the Department of Defense said serves absolutely no military purpose.

Instead, the program gives away 40 million rounds of free ammunition, along with cut-rate guns to rifle clubs to use in target practice competitions.

It simply make no fiscal or military sense.

And lately, the Civilian Marksmanship Program took on a more sinister appearance, which the gentleman's amendment acknowledges. Investigative reporting uncovered clear links between participants in this program and extremist militias.

I am pleased that Mr. GILLMOR's proposal moves us in the right direction on a number of these issues.

First and foremost, the annual \$2.5 million giveaway of taxpayer money is gone.

The program will cease to be an instrument of the military—where it serves absolutely no purpose—and instead will become a private nonprofit corporation associated with the U.S. Olympic Committee.

I have always stated that I have no problem with teaching rifle safety and sharpshooting. But I consistently objected to the taxpayers footing the bill under the guise of military preparedness.

Mr. Speaker, I do have some very serious concerns about the amendment.

I am not at all comfortable with its provision to turn over an inventory of 70,000 M-1 rifles to the new corporation, and to allow a new type of weapon—.22 caliber rifles—to be sold as well.

It seems to me that we need less, not more, excess Government weaponry spread around our country. I will be watching this program very closely over the coming months to ensure that these weapons are not being abused.

As troubled as I am by this provision, it is clear that the gentleman from Ohio has the votes, and he and my friend from Texas, CHET EDWARDS, have made a good faith effort to reform this pork-ridden boondoggle.

The amendment, while not perfect, it a vast improvement over current law.

SALUTE TO JOAN ROSS: FOR AN
OUTSTANDING 26-YEAR CAREER
IN COMMUNITY SERVICE TO
WEST VIRGINIA

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, after serving southern West Virginia as head of the Southwestern Community Action Agency in Huntington, WV for 26 years, Joan Ross has made her decision to retire in order to spend more time with her husband, her children, and her grandchildren.

While her time and talents have been devoted almost solely to the Community Action Council which she has headed for 26 years, developing and implementing many "poverty programs" for the most needy people throughout southern West Virginia, Joan Ross began her public service prior to the 1964 enactment of the Economic Opportunity Act creating local and regional CAP agencies.

Joan first spearheaded a local demonstration project called Project Find, a research and demonstration program under which she trained older, low-income persons who had not dreamed of being called upon to show the kind of professional skill required of survey takers, and under Joan's supervision were more than able to conduct the necessary random survey, using a 22-page questionnaire, throughout a three-county area—Lincoln, Wayne, and Cabell. The findings determined by the questionnaires indicated specifically what and how extensive the human service needs were throughout the area, and how best to provide for those needs. Joan Ross followed up by developing a delivery system

for those human services, and she also wrote a report to Congress on her findings, entitled: "The Golden Years: A Tarnished Myth." Joan had found that the Golden Years for the elderly were not exactly golden—but she also knew what kind of help was going to be necessary in order to make them golden.

After that effort, Joan then served as the coordinating supervisor of the Neighborhood Youth Corps, responsible for developing and implementing an internal evaluation instrument, and recommending to management appropriate changes to make the program more efficient and effective for the youth intended to be served. These findings too became a written report to the U.S. Department of Labor and were used extensively to improve and enhance neighborhood youth corps programs.

In 1967, Joan became the interim executive director of the Southwestern Community Action Council, where she got so busy doing what needed to be done, she never left—until now.

Joan Ross knew long before Federal legislation was enacted, that West Virginia's southern area was very different from the rest of the Nation. More than 63 percent rural, the State had hidden poverty pockets that neighboring urban areas and officials knew nothing about, or not enough to pay attention.

When, in 1964, the Economic Opportunity Act was passed creating her agency, community schools and businesses, restaurants and movie theaters—were not yet integrated. Hungry school children were not receiving hot lunches, and health care was nonexistent in most rural areas. At that time, the mentally impaired or disabled child and adult were not mainstreamed into society—but were kept hidden, either in institutions or by their families. In 1964, Joan had already found that substandard housing was accepted as a consequence of poverty, but not as a contributing factor, and people who were poor were perceived as poor by choice—but Joan Ross knew better.

The enactment of the Economic Opportunity Act gave Joan Ross, and many other directors of CAP agencies nationwide the opportunity to bring people together who were concerned about their communities—their counties, cities and rural hamlets—people who wanted to find a way to help the poor help themselves.

Joan, along with the staff which she recruited and who have served with her for nearly the same length of years at Southwestern, took it upon herself to become a pioneer in Lyndon Johnson's war on Poverty, taking on new programs that no one else would touch—and making them work as they were intended to work: Helping the poor to help themselves.

The people in southern West Virginia, brought together by Joan Ross and kept together by her unstinting efforts over the years, were somewhat awed by the sight of bankers working with welfare mothers, rural folks with urban folks—young people with senior citizens—and volunteers with working people.

When Joan Ross began her service with the Southwestern Community Action Agency as its interim director 26 years ago, her job was to help organize and stabilize the agency. Over more than a quarter century, she has seen the program grow from a tenuous one to a multi-million dollars corporation—still receiving Federal support from a few remaining programs under the old OEA—but which has grown and

continued to survive because of the resources she has generated from other Federal programs, from private foundations, and local contributions.

Under her very distinguished stewardship, the Southwestern Community Action Agency has done everything from weatherizing existing substandard housing, to building housing projects, for the elderly, for the low-income families, for the homeless, and for the mentally impaired.

She pioneered the Head Start Program in our region, overseeing four county-wide Head Start Projects, as well as Head Start's Parent Child Centers, providing educational opportunities to pre-school children and their families, saw to the fluoridation of the water system, advocated for the mentally ill, conducted several national demonstrations, some of which have resulted in Federal legislation, provided services to the homeless and to troubled youth, provided training which has led to jobs for the unemployed, helped provide small low interest loans to low income people who were trying to start up their own business—and she piloted countless other programs designed to help the poor stop being poor.

The story of Joan Ross and her career in public service is about excellence. When it comes to bringing people together from all walks of life and inspiring them—challenging them—to work together and to make a big difference, she has no equal. Joan Ross did all this regardless of anyone's cultural, ethnic, or racial origins. She did it regardless of a person's age, or whether they were from rural or urban settings, and all other socio-economic factors were taken into consideration for residents throughout her service area.

Joan Ross's life has been about uniting people, never dividing them.

While Joan spent 26 years counseling, cajoling, inspiring and challenging people from all walks of life—from County Commissions to the State Legislature to the U.S. Congress—from the poorest to the richest in our region—ultimately getting them to do the right thing—she was completely and selflessly involved at every other level of community service. How she found the time or the energy, we will never know. For example: During these 26 years Joan served as a member of the Junior League of Huntington, was active in her church, served as chairperson of the board of trustees of the greater West Virginia Employees Health and Welfare Trust, served as president of the WV Community Action Directors Association, served on the Greenbrier Mission Development Fund, was chairperson of the State Visiting Committee of West Virginia University, as chairperson of the Cabell-Huntington Red Cross, as the national vice president of the Council of Agriculture Research, Extension and Training, served on the West Virginia Mental Health Planning Committee, as well as with the West Virginia Alliance for the Mentally Ill, as president of the Prester Center for Mental Health, Chaired the Policy Committee of the WV State Jobs Training Coordinating Council, president of the Forest Management Corporation, and still serves as a member of the Huntington Hospital for Rehabilitation Board of Directors. And all this time, Joan was raising her four children and being a supportive wife to her husband, Dr. Thomas Ross.

I have known Joan Ross for all of these years, and have been both inspired and hum-

bled by her always dynamic, often gentle and compassionate approach to getting all the jobs done that were hers to do, and getting them done by, and for, the right people. By her example she brought dignity and a quality of life to thousands of men, women and children in southern West Virginia who had, until Joan began her life-long career of outreach to the poor, remained immersed in poverty.

She will be sorely missed as she returns to the heart of her family to spend some quality time with them—but knowing Joan, she will always be involved in the affairs of her community and indeed in public affairs throughout the State.

AMERICAN OVERSEAS INTERESTS ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1561), to consolidate the foreign affairs agencies of the United States; to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal year 1996 and 1997; to responsibly reduce the authorizations of appropriations for United States foreign assistance programs for fiscal year 1996 and 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Chairman, I want to express my strong support for the amendment proposed by my distinguished friend from Florida, Mr. HASTINGS. His reasonable amendment calls for restoration of funding for the development fund for Africa to the levels allocated for this program in the past. I welcome this amendment by my distinguished colleague, and I urge my colleagues to support the adoption of his fair and sensible proposal.

Development assistance to Africa now is a preventive medicine against future more grave problems, such as those that have plagued Somalia and Rwanda in recent years. The peoples of Africa are among the most vulnerable people on earth, the peoples most in need of our help anywhere. If we can encourage the advancement of the African countries through programs that focus on economic and political development, this will be important in preventing future problems. Assistance now will help prevent crises in the future. As with medical care, prevention is far more cost-effective than post-crisis intervention. A few million dollars today to assist the countries of Africa deal with their very serious problems can save our Nation billions in the future by preventing or minimizing the development of humanitarian emergencies and totalitarian regimes that could some day once again threaten the peace and stability of that continent.

Development assistance is an investment in the future stability of that Continent. We need only remember the horrifying television pictures of the crisis in Rwanda last summer to be reminded of the dreadful cost of instability and crisis in Africa. To the extent that we are able to prevent such humanitarian disasters by fostering economic development and political stability, we are saving resources and contributing to global stability, goals which are clearly in our national interest.

The amendment of my friend from Florida to maintain development aid to Africa at current modest levels will be an important impetus to further economic and political development in South Africa. All of us in this Congress were cheered a year ago to see the first free, universal and multi-racial elections take place in South Africa. For years Americans have followed closely and sought to encourage developments in South Africa to bring about an end to apartheid and to encourage democratic development. While all of us have been delighted with the progress that has taken place thus far, the democratic evolution of South Africa depends on economic progress in South Africa. Furthermore, the progress in South Africa could be undermined if development lags and instability increases in the rest of Africa.

Furthermore, our assistance is not simply altruistic. Africa is a continent of rapidly growing countries, countries which are potential markets for United States products which our workers and our factories produce. These countries are sources of important goods and products that the American people and the American economy require. It is in our own national interest to foster economic development and progress for the peoples of Africa.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly support the amendment of Mr. Hastings.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. JAY KIM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1530) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 1996, and for other purposes:

Mr. KIM. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Gilman amendment which modifies section 563 of the pending bill regarding the determination of whereabouts and status of missing persons.

First, though, I want to take a moment to recognize the unselfish support and dedication our colleague BEN GILMAN, the chairman of the International Relations Committee, has given to trying to help realize the fullest possible accounting of American POW/MIA's. Since coming to Congress in 1973, BEN GILMAN has been a responsible voice in protecting the rights of the families and trying to find answers to the questions about the fates of their missing loved ones. I think we all owe a debt of gratitude to Chairman GILMAN for his never-ending service and commitment to this most complex and frustrating of issues.

Section 563 of the National Defense Authorization Act would require the Secretary of Defense to centralize the oversight and policy responsibility for accounting for missing personnel. It also codifies and standardizes the procedures for accounting for members of the Armed Forces or civilian employees of the Defense Department who become missing as a result of military operations.

The Gilman amendment further refines and improves these new procedures:

First, it requires that the State Department, the Transportation Department, and the Central Intelligence Agency and other relevant agencies appoint an officer responsible for handling missing person issues. Among the 2,204 Americans still missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam war are civilians associated with the State Department and Coast Guard personnel.

Second, it directs the Defense Department office to coordinate with these other agencies thereby ensuring a common, focused approach to achieving the fullest possible accounting of missing Americans.

Third, it changes from 24 hours to 30 days the time allotted to a family member in responding to the Defense Department board of inquiry.

Fourth, it extends the time after which the Defense Department can terminate the board after first notice of a disappearance from 20 to 30 years. Many of the still unresolved POW/MIA cases from the Vietnam war date back to a loss over 20 years ago.

Fifth, it provides the family of the missing American the right of judicial review for any finding of death made by the board.

I support this effort to improve the system of determining the status of missing Americans. While some may claim the system does not need fixing, the last 22 years of very frustrating experiences by the families of missing Americans underscores to me the need for statutory reforms. I think this measure goes a long way in implementing the kinds of changes these trying experiences have identified.

However, that is not to say that section 536, even with the improvements offered by the Gilman amendment, is perfect. I have reviewed the concerns raised by the Defense Department about these proposed changes and I believe further refinements are in order to address some of these issues.

Furthermore, I am concerned about the lack of definitive language regarding the rights of the primary next of kin, especially with regard to other family members. While I understand the interest in expanding the decision-making process to include other family members, I am aware of the complications this can present to both the Government and the families themselves. The present set of rights and responsibilities accorded to the primary next of kin should be maintained. This relationship in its current form appears to have worked well. In fact, I believe that some of the overall concerns raised by the Defense Department could be mitigated by clearing defining the principal role of the primary next of kin.

I am sure that these further improvements can be made during consideration of this issue by the other body or during the House-Senate conference on the fiscal year 1996 National Defense Authorization Act.

Hopefully, with more comprehensive accounting from Vietnam and these new procedures for determining the whereabouts and status of missing personnel, we will be able to bring a close to this final chapter of the Vietnam war.

FLAG DAY

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate not a person, not a place, but a symbol. That symbol is the flag of the United States of America. Today, on Flag Day, we celebrate all this symbol has come to represent.

During World War II the Marines planted Old Glory at Iwo Jima; the U.S. astronauts placed the flag on the Moon; and every day our flag hangs behind the Speaker's chair as an individual reminder of why each one of us here in the House of Representatives have chosen to come to our Nation's Capitol. It is to insure the preservation and enhancement of the greatest form of government ever conceived.

Mr. Speaker, as you may be aware, evidence from archaeological digs proves that individuals created flags as early as 3500 B.C. These findings have shown that national pride symbolized by a flag has existed for thousands of years. It is no wonder that immediately upon colonization America's first settlers raised colonial flags; and that upon unification of the United States, one flag was raised to symbolize the birth of our new Nation.

The American flag is not merely a piece of cloth, rather it is a concrete symbol of what is valued in America. Almost 80 years ago on this day President Woodrow Wilson said:

This flag, which we honor and under which we serve, is the emblem of our unity, our power, our thought and purpose as a nation. It has no other character than that which we give it from generation to generation. The choices are ours . . .

Having the honor of being a Congressman from the State of New Jersey, I am proud of the contribution our State has had to the creation of the flag. Francis Hopkinson, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and a resident of New Jersey, was responsible for the stars in the U.S. flag.

Since a New Jerseyian helped create the flag, I am pleased to help take steps to forbid the desecration of the American flag.

Congressman GERALD SOLOMON (R-NY) has introduced H.J. Res. 79, a Constitutional amendment to prohibit physical desecration of the Flag of the United States. Some individuals will argue that this issue deals with the constitutional issue of free speech. I would argue that freedom of speech should be exercised and celebrated, and that even the freest of societies needs a common baseline of decency that should not be crossed. Without this baseline, a free society could quickly become an anarchical one. If it were not for our system of government and its institutions, these rights would not exist. As the symbol of those institutions, the flag deserves our respect and should be protected from gross defamation.

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of H.J. Res. 79. I am convinced this amendment to our Constitution is one of the best ways in which we can restore the proper sense of respect and appreciation for our flag and our institutions.

AMERICAN OVERSEAS INTERESTS
ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM P. LUTHER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1561), to consolidate the foreign affairs agencies of the United States; to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal year 1996 and 1997; to responsibly reduce the authorizations of appropriations for United States foreign assistance programs for fiscal year 1996 and 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Chairman, I am committed to ensuring that all efforts are taken to recover our American POW's and MIA's from the Vietnam and Korean wars. After 27 years of families waiting for news and information about loved ones, the time has come to renew our national commitment to those American soldiers still unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.

We must do all we can to achieve the fullest possible accounting of our POW/MIA's. We must reach out to the families of POW/MIA's and listen to their stories. We must continue to seek answers to the questions that remain, and we must address our past failures and develop more positive future solutions.

One of those stories is the story of Joan O'Brien, a constituent of mine and an active member of the Minnesota League of POW/MIA's. Her brother, Sgt. Eugene Allen Handrahan has been missing in action since October 10, 1968. She is convinced that the POW/MIA's issue has been seriously mishandled and is frustrated by our inability to adequately address the lack of information available to her family about her brother. She feels as though our Government has stopped looking for positive solutions. I understand her feelings and am concerned with the Department of Defense's unwillingness to provide this family with complete information.

Today we have before us a positive approach. I applaud my colleague, Representative FRED UPTON for his provision in the American Overseas Interest Act, adopted in the manager's amendment, which I voted for and fully support. Representative UPTON's language enables us to reach out to citizens of countries who may have access to information about our missing service personnel. This provision grants asylum in the United States to any citizen of Laos, Vietnam, or Cambodia who personally delivers into the custody of the U.S. Government a living American POW or MIA from the Vietnam war, and to any citizen of North Korea, South Korea, or China who delivers an American POW or MIA from the Korean war.

Mr. Chairman, this is the least we can do to show our support and appreciation to those who risk their lives to bring American soldiers home. It is the least we can do to answer to the millions of families still waiting for positive solutions.

SAUDI ARABIA STILL DELAYS
PAYMENT TO UNITED STATES
COMPANY**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my continued and growing concern and frustration over the delay by the Saudi Arabian Government in paying the \$43.4 million claim of my constituent Gibbs & Hill Inc. I have risen numerous times on the floor of this House to urge Saudi Ambassador Bandar to favorably resolve this last remaining claim, as has been committed to repeatedly by the Kingdom, and thereby complete his mandate for satisfactory resolution of these claims under the special claims process.

On Friday, we passed the American Oversight Interest Act (HR 1561) which contained a provision sponsored by myself and Representative SMITH to further this policy objective of our Nation. Section 3312, Notification of Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia, requires the President to notify to Congress of all arms sales to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia until such a time as the Secretary of State certifies that the Kingdom has satisfactorily resolved all claims identified in the June 30, 1993, report of the Secretary of Defense pursuant to the section 9401(c) of the fiscal year 1993 Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Now is the time for Ambassador Bandar to address this issue, meet with the company, and implement the payment of the claim. Ambassador Bandar's authority to implement payment of the claim is certain as was confirmed to Members of Congress and the company as recently as May 2, 1995, by U.S. Ambassador Raymond Mabus. Ambassador Mabus has steadfastly advocated the State Department's position that the claims be satisfactorily resolved by Ambassador Bandar under this mandate. In his May 22, 1995, conversation with the company and Members of Congress, Ambassador Mabus noted that he had been assured by a member of the Saudi royal court, on the authority of the King, that the claim would soon be paid. Despite this direct and unequivocal commitment, the Kingdom has yet to pay the claim. The unresolved claims between American companies and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia continue to place a strain on our relationship with the Kingdom. On April 7, 1995, I and several of my colleagues wrote to Chairman GILMAN requesting that a hearing be scheduled as soon as practical to consider U.S. bilateral relations with the Kingdom. I renew my call to Chairman GILMAN to schedule hearings on this subject so that we may fully explore our commercial relationship with the Kingdom.

AMERICAN OVERSEAS INTERESTS
ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 1561), to consolidate the foreign affairs agencies of the United States; to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal year 1996 and 1997; to responsibly reduce the authorizations of appropriations for United States foreign assistance programs for fiscal year 1996 and 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Chairman, I want to express my opposition to the amendment proposed by my distinguished friend from Illinois, Mr. HYDE. I have the highest regard for my friend from Illinois. He and I have worked together on many issues, and we agree on many of the most fundamental of those issues. I respect his principled opposition to the War Powers Act, and I have heard him express his disagreement with that legislation on many different occasions over the years as we have served together on the Foreign Relations Committee.

Like Congressman HYDE, I have serious reservations about the way in which fundamental questions regarding the decision to commit United States troops abroad have been made over the years. I have had disagreements with Republican presidents and with Democratic presidents, and it will come as no surprise to my colleagues to know that I have not hesitated to express those differences both publicly and privately. As Chairman of the Subcommittee on International Security, International Organizations, and Human Rights in the last Congress, I chaired a number of hearings related to this issue.

I have the highest regard for my distinguished friend from Illinois, and I acknowledge that his amendment to repeal the War Powers Act and to establish provisions that provide for Executive-Legislative consultations is a serious and thoughtful effort to deal with the problem of the commitment and involvement of American military forces abroad.

At the same time, however, Mr. HYDE's amendment suffers from the same fundamental flaw that undermines the entire bill that is before us today, Mr. Chairman. It is a partisan document that has been imposed by the Republican majority, first in the International Relations Committee and now, I fear, in the House of Representatives. Our foreign policy should be a bipartisan effort that jointly involves the Administration and the Congress, and both of our political parties. Furthermore, it is again being done without thoughtful deliberate consideration and evaluation by the Committee of jurisdiction.

There were no hearings in the International Relations Committee on the specific amendment Mr. HYDE is presenting to us here today; There was no effort to solicit the thoughtful views of the Administration about mechanisms to assure consultation between the Administration and the Congress; there was no effort to seek the views of scholars and lawyers and historians about the potential impact of those changes; there was no attempt to develop an amendment that had input from and reflected the concerns of the Democratic members of the International Relations Committee.

Regrettably, Mr. Chairman, with Mr. HYDE's amendment we are simply continuing the partisan politicization of our foreign policy at the very time that we should be working together to deal with the serious challenges that our Nation faces in the post-cold war world. There

may be merit in the proposals of my distinguished friend from Illinois, but this amendment should be thoughtfully considered and evaluated, not presented as an amendment to this piece of legislation without proper reflection.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose the amendment.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "BOXING SAFETY, RETIREMENT, AND RE-TRAINING ACT OF 1995"

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Boxing Safety, Retirement, and Retraining Act of 1995. This bill would create a Government corporation that would oversee the boxing industry, ensure that healthy working conditions exist, and eliminate the widespread corruption and exploitation that runs rampant within the sport. The bill places special emphasis on assuring the health and safety of boxers.

Boxers are never privileged individuals. They primarily are minorities from disadvantaged areas, easily susceptible to the unscrupulous business practices of boxing promoters. Traditionally, minority youth have viewed a boxing career as a way to leave behind a life of poverty and gain wealth and stability for themselves and their families.

Often these men have no other hope. They are poorly educated and face an inhospitable job market. Boxing promoters exploit the dreams of young boxers by promising lucrative careers. Once boxers enter the business, they surrender all control over their careers. They are used like property for the financial gain of others.

The industry is controlled by a few organizations, manipulated like puppets by a small number of immensely powerful promoters. In this equation, the boxer is powerless. He must play by their rules or not play at all. If he complains, he is not allowed to fight. If he speaks publicly about negative conditions, he faces banishment and an end to his financial support. If he wants to fight in title matches, he must sign contracts rife with clauses that direct money to the promoter's family and friends. This situation becomes especially problematic when the boxer has little education, might not speak English, and has no other financial resources.

The boxing industry might say that it is being unfairly singled out because the Government does not directly regulate any other professional sport. But the reason we do not directly regulate other sports is because we do not need to; they have proven over time that they can manage their own affairs. Through players' unions, most professional athletes have recourse against unfavorable working conditions. Golfers, bowlers, and baseball, football, and basketball players, all have an avenue that prevents them from being exploited. Boxers have none.

This bill is not the first attempt by Congress to get involved in an industry that cannot monitor itself. When working conditions became intolerable, the Federal Government stepped in and formed the Occupational Safety and

Health Administration [OSHA]. When financial transactions became suspect, the Securities and Exchange Commission [SEC] was created. When some States proved to be irresponsible on civil rights issues, the Federal Government initiated the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. The boxing industry has had over 100 years to get its act together, and it has failed. It is time for Congress to get involved.

Only a handful of States conduct oversight over boxing, and only a few of those do it effectively. Too often, State agencies have been co-opted by those with a financial interest in the sport. My bill would create an unbiased board whose members would be unable to reap monetary reward from the industry while serving. The board would be comprised of neurological specialists, average citizens, and a representative from the boxing world. The board's members would be given the responsibility of establishing minimum standards to which States must adhere. States with effective agencies would be able to maintain autonomy, but states with little or no oversight would be forced to improve.

Without this bill, the unconscionable practices of this sport will continue. Oversight responsibility will continue to be left to those individuals who have proven that greed is their motivating force. Unsuspecting minority youth will still be exploited. Boxers will never be able to voice objections to working conditions. And an elite group of promoters will keep becoming very, very rich.

I am in no way asking for a ban of the sport, just some oversight. Amateur boxing programs in neighborhoods have been successful in getting young people off the street and giving them confidence. It is the professional arena where the problems lie. For the sake of the young men involved and fostering the integrity of the sport, I urge my colleagues to pass this legislation.

OBSERVING THE FIFTH ANNUAL DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD

HON. FLOYD H. FLAKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to support the observance of the African Child on June 16, 1995.

I come to you today with this request simply because it only seems suitable, coming from a country that invests in human capital, that each and every Member should be able to look within their hearts and realize that the African, specifically the South African, child has been traumatized over the course of apartheid and the demoralization of Africa as a whole.

The Day of the African Child commemorates the June 16, 1976 massacre of school children in Soweto, South Africa. Since the original designation by the Organization of African Unity in 1991, it has become an event that has mobilized communities around the world to look at the situation of all African children and to celebrate the diverse cultures and traditions of the large continent.

The theme of this years Day of the African Child will deal with children in armed conflict. Amazingly enough, a study showed that 75 percent of the children in Rwanda has seen mass killings. In several African countries,

boys as young as 11 years old have been recruited into military training. It is quite obvious that the future of these children is very bleak, that is without proper intervention.

Moreover, since we always only focus on the hardships of Africa, this day is a time to also look at the accomplishments of the continent. For not every child in Africa suffers from disease and malnutrition, or is impoverished or illiterate.

I thank all of my colleagues for their attention to this important matter and I hope that each and everyone of you will participate in this observation.

It is up to us to let these children know that their struggles were not in vain.

A TRIBUTE TO SOUTH GLENS FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL VOLUNTEER/MENTOR PROGRAM

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today and pay tribute to a program which provides a tremendous service to the students and community of South Glens Falls. The Volunteer/Mentor program is completing its 2nd year of service helping elementary and middle school children with their self-esteem, allowing them to meet their academic and personal potential.

Young people comprise America's greatest asset. In that respect, a program like this one is invaluable and representative of that uniquely American concept of volunteerism. In this day and age especially, our children are subject to an alarming range of negative influences. Therefore, it is critical that we call upon the entire community to assist our young people in overcoming problems with their self-esteem by countering the impact of damaging social ills. That is why the service of the 60 volunteers in this program is so critical.

Allow me to recount some of the efforts of these mentors. They meet with the students in small, or even one to one settings for at least 45 minutes per week. This relationship between mentor and child lasts for a minimum of one school year, whereby affected children receive the degree of attention they need to ensure they reach their maximum potential. These volunteers and the children often establish such strong bonds that many mentors have extended their service for a 2nd year.

This type of devotion exemplifies those qualities which make Americans, and America, great. I have always felt that there are three distinct reasons for this greatness, American pride, patriotism and volunteerism. The American people have been noted for this voluntary service, be it in the fire departments, civic and community organizations or extracurricular programs at our schools.

Mr. Speaker, the United States of America is the longest continuing democracy in the world and a model for emerging countries. In that same mold, people like those who comprise the Volunteer/Mentor program in the South Glens Falls Central School District are models for all of us here. To that end, I have always been one to judge people based on what they return to their community. By that measure, these volunteers are truly great

Americans. I ask, Mr. Speaker, that you, and all fellow Members, join me in paying tribute to this program that works to protect our future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LEWIS
AND CLARK RURAL WATER SYS-
TEM ACT OF 1995

HON. TIM JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation, along with my colleague, Representative DAVID MINGE of Minnesota, to authorize the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System. I introduced similar legislation last year during the 103d Congress, with Representative MINGE and then Representative Grandy of Iowa as original cosponsors. I look forward to again working closely with my colleagues for timely consideration of this important measure.

The Lewis and Clark Rural Water System is made up of 22 rural water systems and communities in southeastern South Dakota, northwestern Iowa, and southwestern Minnesota who have joined together in an effort to cooperatively address the dual problems facing the delivery of drinking water in this region—inadequate quantities of water and poor quality water.

This region has seen substantial growth and development in recent years, and studies have shown that future water needs will be significantly greater than the current available supply. Most of the people who are served by 10 of the water utilities in the proposed Lewis and Clark project area currently enforce water restrictions on a seasonal basis. Almost half of the membership has water of such poor quality it does not meet present or proposed standards for drinking water. More than two-thirds rely on shallow aquifers as their primary source of drinking water, aquifers which are very vulnerable to contamination by surface activities.

The Lewis and Clark system will be a supplemental supply of drinking water for its 22 members, acting as a treated, bulk delivery system. The distribution to deliver water to individual users will continue through the existing systems used by each member utility. This regionalization approach to solving these water supply and quality problems enables the Missouri River to provide a source of clean, safe drinking water to more than 180,000 individuals. A source of water which none of the members of Lewis and Clark could afford on their own.

The proposed system would help to stabilize the regional rural economy by providing water to Sioux Falls, the hub city in the region, as well as numerous small communities and individual farms in South Dakota and portions of Iowa and Minnesota.

The States of South Dakota, Iowa, and Minnesota have all authorized the project and local sponsors have demonstrated a financial commitment to this project through State grants, local water development district grants, and membership dues. The State of South Dakota has already contributed more than \$400,000.

Mr. Speaker, I do not believe our needs get any more basic than good quality, reliable

drinking water, and I appreciate the fact that Congress has shown support for efforts to improve drinking water supplies in South Dakota. I look forward to continue working with my colleagues to have that support extended to the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System.

AMERICAN OVERSEAS INTERESTS
ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1561), to consolidate the foreign affairs agencies of the United States; to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal year 1996 and 1997; to responsibly reduce the authorizations of appropriations for United States foreign assistance programs for fiscal year 1996 and 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Chairman, I want to express my strong support for the amendment proposed by my distinguished friend from New York, Mr. ACKERMAN. His reasonable amendment calls for reports by the Congressional Budget Office and the Office of Management and Budget prior to implementing the provisions of this legislation requiring the consolidation of the functions of the Agency for International Development, the United States Information Agency, and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency into the Department of State.

The organizational changes that are mandated in this legislation are the most sweeping and comprehensive changes ever proposed to the structure and function of the agencies charged with the conduct of our Nation's foreign policy. None of the Members of the Congress—no matter how long they have been serving in this House or in the other chamber—have dealt with changes in our foreign policy agencies of this massive a scale and none of us have any sense of what the unforeseen consequences may be.

Before the Department of Defense scaled back and reorganized our national defense effort, a Bottom-Up review was conducted to assess our Nation's defense requirements in the post-cold war world. But here in the case of the Department of State, we have had only a few general hearings before the International Relations Committee earlier this year on reorganization in general. After the specific provisions of this legislation were drafted, the International Relations Committee held a single hearing on the specific reorganization proposals in this legislation—a hearing, I should add, which was requested by the Democratic members of the Committee to provide the administration with the opportunity to comment on the language in the bill.

Mr. Chairman, our Nation is facing unprecedented challenges and threats to the security of our Nation as we face the uncertainty of the post-cold war world. No effort has been made to assess the nature of the perils we face, no effort has been made to assess how our Nation's foreign policy agencies can best address these threats, no effort has been made to determine the impact of this massive restructuring of our foreign policy organizations.

In view of the scope of the changes that have been proposed, the amendment of Mr. ACKERMAN is a reasonable, prudent, and thoughtful effort to consider the impact and evaluate the consequences of consolidation before that irreversible step is taken. In the last few months, Mr. Chairman, this House has not been given to actions that are reasonable, prudent, and thoughtful. In this case, however, we are dealing with the national security of the United States—and caution is only appropriate and reasonable in this case.

If this consolidation policy is so all-important and self-evident, why did we not have such proposals from two presidents and four Secretaries of State in the previous administrations. Alexander Haig, George Schultz, Jim Baker, and Larry Eagleburger were obviously guilty of a tremendous dereliction of duty and responsibility for not proposing the wholesale downsizing of our foreign policy apparatus. If there is such urgency for this action, if there is such necessity to take these decisions without essential review, study, and reflection before acting, these previous Secretaries of State should have been able to see and make such recommendations for change.

Furthermore, Mr. Chairman, no effort has been made to consult and work with the Department of State and the administration to come up with a bipartisan consensus to deal with this consolidation. All of us agree that government can and should be made more efficient and that redundancies should be eliminated. But it is highly inappropriate for the Congress to dictate to the administration the structure of our foreign policy agencies. These are decisions that can and should be made cooperatively in a bipartisan fashion.

Mr. Chairman, during the 14½ years that I have served in this Congress, 12 of those years were with a Republican administration and a Democratically-controlled House of Representatives. During those 12 years, the Democratic members of the Foreign Affairs Committee consulted with our Republican colleagues on the Committee and with the Republican administration to try to achieve a truly bipartisan foreign policy. While there were some areas of disagreement, in the foreign policy realm we were remarkably successful in achieving broad bipartisan agreement.

Mr. Chairman, in coming up with the legislation that is now before us, I find that the procedure which we used through the years—of consulting with Republicans and Democrats to come forward with bipartisan proposals—is all gone by the board. I think it is a sad spectacle when the bipartisan foreign policy process of this Nation is torn asunder for cheap partisan political ends. This is not the way to build a superpower and enhance its ability to conduct foreign affairs in the 21st century.

What we see in this legislation—in this rush to consolidation with no regard for the consequences and with no consideration of alternatives—is rampant isolationism in action. As I told my colleagues in the markup of this legislation in the International Relations Committee, this is nothing more than pathetic, preposterous partisan posturing. It is cutting to shreds the international capabilities of the one remaining superpower on the face of this planet. It was aptly and accurately described by Dr. Tony Lake, the National Security Advisor to the President, as unilateral disarmament.

Mr. Chairman, the amendment of Mr. Ackerman is a rational approach, a thoughtful recommendation in dealing with a process of consolidation that should be given serious and careful consideration before it is implemented. For these reasons, Mr. Chairman, I strongly support the Ackerman amendment.

LAW ENFORCEMENT LEGISLATION

HON. JIM LIGHTFOOT

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. LIGHTFOOT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to urge my colleagues to support legislation I have recently offered. Regardless of what we in Congress believe is the best way to approach crime control, we can all agree there is no more important resource in that effort than the men and women who serve our Nation's communities as law enforcement officers.

The legislation I am referring to is H.R. 1805. This legislation would allow off-duty and retired law enforcement officers to carry concealed weapons. As a former law enforcement officer, I can tell you that the daily duties of police officers are regularly fraught with danger. And just by virtue of doing their jobs, police officers make many enemies within the criminal community. Those who have served in law enforcement have many legitimate concerns about their safety and the safety of their loved ones. Allowing those officers who are off-duty or retired to carry concealed weapons can help allay those fears.

In addition, regardless of whether they are on or off duty or retired, police officers know what to do in the event of a crime, how to minimize threats to the public safety and how best to apprehend a criminal. Providing those who are the most knowledgeable about how to catch and restrain criminals with the ability to carry weapons makes such action easier. This legislation gives us an additional tool with which to fight violent crime. I would also tell my colleagues who have legitimate concerns about the availability of firearms that this measure was crafted to ensure that it pertains only to those who are either retired or current full time police officers charged with the authority to make arrests, and those who are required to regularly qualify in the use of a firearm. Furthermore, the legislation also requires that officers covered under this bill must be able to present a badge and photographic identification.

This legislation has the strong support of the 270,000 members of the National Fraternal Order of Police and I ask unanimous consent that a letter to that effect from FOP President Dewey Stokes be inserted in the *The RECORD* at this point.

I hope my colleagues will agree with me that we owe it to our Nation's law enforcement officers not to stand in the way of their efforts to protect themselves and others. I believe this legislation meets that goal. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1805.

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE,

Washington, DC, June 13, 1995.

Hon. JIM ROSS LIGHTFOOT,

U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN LIGHTFOOT: On behalf of the 270,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I thank you for the introduction of HR1805, which will allow off duty and retired

state, local and federal officers to carry concealed weapons in all United States jurisdictions.

This legislation is critically important to public safety on two levels:

First, it provides state local and federal officers, who are increasingly targeted by the criminal element, with a legal means to defend themselves and their loved ones in off-duty situations or in their retirement years.

Secondly, this legislation will have the immediate effect of putting trained, qualified, dedicated officers in a position to assist their brother and sister officers and citizens no matter where or when the need occurs.

The careful drafting of your bill, paying special attention to the qualification and identification of officers permitted to carry concealed weapons, makes HR1805 preferable to other similar legislation, because HR1805 provides better safeguards against officers endangering one another through mistaken identity.

Again, the rank and file law officers of this country thank you and we look forward to working with you on this and the many other police issues in which you have taken a leadership role, most notably the HR878, the Police Officers' Bill of Rights.

Sincerely,

DEWEY R. STOKES,
National President.

A SENSIBLE ROLE FOR OF GOVERNMENT

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, June 14, 1995, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

A SENSIBLE ROLE FOR GOVERNMENT

The heart of the political debate today is over what is the core responsibility of government. Some insist that fairness requires federal standards for assistance and help to all who qualify. Others say those federal standards have created a mess and want to shift various social programs to the states. Some see a government responsibility to help rebuild neighborhoods and communities and to promote common moral and social principles. Others see an activist government as the problem, not the solution, and insist that government has destroyed peoples' sense of responsibility.

Most Americans would agree that government cannot solve all our problems but does have a role to play. Government is, after all, nothing more than people coming together to accomplish what they could not do on their own. It's about cooperation and helping each other for our mutual benefit. What Americans want is a government that works better and costs less; that is more responsive to the needs of the average American.

To develop a sensible role of government, I think we need to keep a few basic points in mind:

GOVERNMENT SUCCESS

First, there have been major government successes. In public meetings in Indiana I will often ask whether anyone can name a federal program that works well. Usually not a single hand goes up, even when the audience is filled with people who are getting social security checks every month, who drove to the meeting on the interstate highway system, or received a first-rate education because of the GI Bill.

There have, of course, been failings of government programs, but we should not let the shortcomings blind us to the very real successes of government programs. Social Security, for example, is the biggest federal program and is also one of the most successful. It has had an enormous impact on the lives of seniors. Without it, the poverty rate of seniors would jump from 14% to 50%. And Social Security's administrative costs are less than 1% of benefit payments.

Many other examples could be given. Programs to feed infants and pregnant women, to teach preschool children in Head Start classes, student loans, safe drinking water, medical research are all valuable programs. Our agricultural research and extension service has helped make U.S. farmers the world's best. The aerospace and computer industries owe their origins to federal programs. Even the enormously popular Internet was set up by the federal government. The FBI is the most respected law enforcement organization in the world. And our armed forces are preeminent in the world.

It may be unpopular to point out some good things about government, but it really ought to be done. We simply will never get a sensible role for government if people think of government as the enemy.

GOVERNMENT FAILURES

Second, there have been government failures. The "Star Wars" antimissile defense system, burdensome regulations on business, tax, subsidies that lead U.S. companies to move jobs overseas, all are wasteful. There is no reason to have 689 federal programs for rural development or more than 150 job training programs.

Every problem does not have a legislative solution, and legislators, who are used to solving problems, must remember that. One particularly bad procedure, often used in recent years, is to try to solve a national mega-problem with one huge mega-bill, consisting of thousands of pages. Congress must narrow its agenda.

Various federal programs—no matter how well intentioned and no matter how impressive the title—simply don't work. And we will never be able to develop a sensible role of government if we think otherwise.

SENSIBLE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

Third, our goal should not be big government, or small government, but effective government. The American public is very skeptical of government, and is demanding a less government-centered approach to national problems. Government still has many valuable roles to play, but only if it can do things more efficiently and more effectively. To get there we must be willing to think about the role of government less ideologically and more pragmatically—what, after all, works. Those government programs that work well should be kept or expanded; those that don't should be reformed, terminated, or turned over to someone else.

The private sector has taken this approach in recent years. Government should follow suit. Those companies which have been most successful in reforming themselves did not try simply to downsize—to cut costs or personnel by a certain amount—but to rethink what they have been doing—looking at their various missions and expanding on what they are doing well and abolishing what doesn't work.

The same should be true for government. From the President on down to the local level, public officials and citizens need to get engaged. We need to address several questions:

What should be the appropriate role of the federal government as we approach the 21st Century?

If the federal government weren't already carrying out a certain program, would it be created today?

Can we pay for whatever we decide the government ought to do?

Do states have sufficient resources and capability to resume the full role under the Constitution?

What should be the balance between the private sector and the public sector?

If we undertake this effort, I think we will be getting at the core of what bothers American about government and its performance. And we would be undertaking a comprehensive, objective review of the federal government that is clearly long overdue. We might not only get better government, but also government that is more broadly supported by the American people.

FEARLESS JACK'S WAR ON "NON-CRIMES"

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, the following Mike Royko column appeared in the Indianapolis News on June 8, 1995.

Apparently we should still seek the distinction between headlines and substance.

[From the Indianapolis News, June 8, 1995]

FEARLESS JACK'S WAR ON "NON-CRIMES"

(By Mike Royko)

If any criminal mastermind in Chicago has been planning a big-time caper, this might be an excellent time to get it going.

I've never given advice to a criminal before, but why shouldn't a newspaper try to be of service to all of its readers?

There is good reason to believe that the time is right. It can be found in a list of cops, prosecutors and investigators who are said to be working on the case of U.S. Rep. Mel Reynolds, D-Ill.

This list was provided to defense lawyers, as the law requires, by the office of Cook County State's Attorney Jack "Fearless Jack" O'Malley.

It is an impressive list. It appears to be almost as long as a college football roster.

On it are 10 Chicago police detectives and their supervisors.

There are 24 detectives from the state's attorney's investigative office.

And 10 assistant state's attorneys are listed as helping the two lead prosecutors assigned to the case.

We shouldn't forget the O'Malley publicity specialists, who show up in court for every Reynolds hearing and whisper advice to TV reporters on how to best extract a thrilling sound bite from that day's proceedings.

All of this manpower is devoted to proving beyond a reasonable doubt that U.S. Rep. Reynolds did indeed have a go at a woman, now 19, who says that she willingly hopped in the sack with him when she was 16.

The woman since has recanted her charge, but that hasn't discouraged Fearless Jack O'Malley. He's determined to prove that Reynolds did the dirty deed and persuaded the woman to change her story.

And that's why this army of investigators and prosecutors is scrambling for any information that could be used to nail Reynolds—or at least generate TV footage that makes him appear to be the most dangerous fiend since Vlad the Impaler, which he very well might be.

Only last week, O'Malley's office trotted out Reynolds' disgruntled former secretary,

who screamed at the TV cameras that Reynolds beat his wife.

The wife since has indignantly denied being beaten and says the ex-secretary is a nasty, politically motivated liar. But what does a mere wife know about such matters?

Of course, this is a noble pursuit of justice. I can't think of anything that could make the streets of Chicago and its suburbs safer than a successful proof that Reynolds frolicked with a consenting young bimbo. We finally could return to the good old days, when we didn't have to lock our doors at night.

It is comforting to know that investigators are out there knocking on doors and asking every female to whom Reynolds ever has said "howdy-do" if he ever leered, pinched, nibbled, oggled, drolled or breathed heavily in her presence.

And Fearless Jack is to be commended for his devotion to duty. Not only commended, but touted for higher office, which is the highest praise a Republican prosecutor can get for skinning a Democratic congressman.

But it is obvious that if you have limited manpower and payroll and you assign a dozen fulltime prosecutors, two dozen investigators, your publicity experts and political sex scandal—as earth-shaking as it might be—they can't find time to be gathering clues in Chicago's many cases of murder and mayhem.

Not that I believe for one minute that murder and mayhem and heavy dope dealing are as terrible a threat to the delicate fabric of our society as Reynolds allegedly having a tryst with a consenting tart who now says she doesn't give a hoot.

But as humdrum as murder, mayhem and other crimes can be, they still have to be dealt with. Even if the killers, maulers and dope profiteers beat the raps, as many of them seem to do, O'Malley still has to go through the motions. We can't have judges sitting around in empty courtrooms telling each other doctor jokes.

And who knows, some of the accused killers, maulers, dope profiteers and other lesser-known felons might have even more serious skeletons rattling around in their closets.

It's very possible that when you investigate a gangbanger for blowing away a rival, you also might discover that the nasty fellow has been doing you-know-what with a 16-year-old gun moll.

Ah, then you are really on to something. So the Reynolds case might only be the beginning of something really big.

Today Reynolds.

Tomorrow jaywalkers.

Go get them, Fearless Jack.

MEMORIAL DAY

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House to speeches written by some young students at Alpine Elementary School in my district. Jessica Herold, Kimberly Shoemaker, Tasha Voeltzel, and Travis McGrath have written what Memorial Day means to them and their words are something we can all be proud of. I ask that their speeches be submitted into the RECORD.

(By Jessica Herold and Kimberly Shoemaker)

Good morning Congressman Hunter, Mr. Miller, Teachers, Guests, and students.

We were asked to write about our flag or Memorial Day. We found it difficult to separate the two because both of these represent our nation and its beliefs.

We are a country because we wanted our rights and freedom. Many wars have been fought to keep us a free nation.

Students in the past have said the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag, today we continue to say the pledge. When we make this pledge, we are saying we believe in our country.

On Memorial Day, we salute the men and women who have fought for our freedom. It is our hope that each time you say the Pledge of Allegiance, you remember its meaning and that you take the time to think about the men and women that have fought to keep us one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WHY MEMORIAL DAY IS IMPORTANT

(By Tasha Voeltzel)

Good morning Congressman Duncan Hunter, Mr. Miller, staff, and students.

I think Memorial Day is important because it is a day that we need to salute to the people who have died, trying to save our country so we could be free. My dad fought in the Vietnam War while he was in a wheelchair, even though he didn't get hurt, I still salute him being that brave, and having the courage to fight for our country. I will always remember Memorial Day and look back to the wars and giving everyone who is dead or alive, the salute for freedom.

MEMORIAL DAY; A DAY TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO PAID THE ULTIMATE PRICE TO KEEP AMERICA FREE

(By Travis McGrath)

To us kids, Memorial Day weekend has come to mean several things. Sure it's a three day weekend. One more day added to the weekend that gives us the extra freedom to go on a picnic, to visit a special friend or relative, to go to the beach, the river, or the mountains. Freedom to relax, freedom to play.

Many Americans take to the road on Memorial Day. They sometimes drive hundreds of miles to visit a theme park, a national monument, another country or special place. Memorial Day has also come to signify the time of a special once a year event, like the Indianapolis 500.

For whatever reason Memorial Day may be significant to us all, let us not forget the real reason that this day is celebrated. Memorial Day is the day we honor and remember the men and women of the armed forces who have given their lives in the defense of liberty and freedom, home and abroad. From the battlefields of Bull Run to the sands of Iraq and Kuwait, brave Americans have fought for this Monday in May and all the days of the week to keep us safe and America free. So today, let us not forget that the freedoms we enjoy on this holiday and all year long have been paid for by Americans who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY,
SEBEWAING VFW POST 4115

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, there are debts that our country owes, and chief among them is the debt owed to our veterans. If it were not for the sacrifice made by many in the name of freedom and democracy, we would not be able to stand here and enjoy the wonders provided by our great Nation. I want to call special attention to the fact that Saturday, June

10, the Sebewaing Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4115 celebrated its 50th anniversary as a chartered Post.

There is a proud tradition of military service among the residents of Sebewaing and Huron County. They have always responded to Uncle Sam's call, demonstrating time and time again how great the people of this community are. This Post which currently has 97 members who meet the requirement of military service on foreign soil or in hostile waters in a campaign for which the United States Government has authorized a medal. They proudly continue to serve their community with several annual activities, including teen dances, participation in the annual sugar festival, participation in a scholarship program, the poppy sale in support of the Veterans' Hospital, and its ceremonial drill team.

As many of our colleagues know, the Veterans of Foreign Wars works to promote the welfare of veterans, patriotic activities, and to positively influence veterans' legislation. The strength of any organization depends upon the commitment of its members, and it has been by experience that VFW members, including those of Post 4115, are among the most committed and concerned people I have ever met. They know duty and obligation. They know loyalty. They fought for it. They demonstrated it. They deserve it. That is why I have said before and I will say again that veterans' programs are the wrong place to cut when we assess our Nation's spending priorities. One of the greatest threats to our way of life would be the creation of the impression that our Nation is not serious about taking care of the veterans who have taken care of our Nation.

Among the real sadnesses experienced by Post 4115 has been the loss of some of its members who have passed on to their eternal rewards. The memories that have been shared, the dependency on one another that has been exhibited in the height of battle will live on forever. I am sure that everyone of these veterans appreciated the valor of the current members of our Armed Forces who joined together in the best of traditions to effect the rescue of Capt. Scott O'Grady who had been shot down in Bosnia, and likened it to the demonstrations of courage they personally witnessed in their own participation in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the other conflicts to which our forces have been called. The loss of a friend is one of life's hardest demands, and the call to service is one of its most precious demands. Our veterans have the proud heritage of responding to both with honor and conviction.

As we remember our many veterans in this 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, I invite all of our colleagues to join me in this special thanks and tribute to the members of Sebewaing Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4115. We owe you much.

FLAG DAY

HON. JAY KIM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Flag Day and to express my strong support for the immediate passage of House Joint Resolution 79, a constitutional amend-

ment to protect this Nation's most valuable symbol—the American flag.

As a legal immigrant, I came to the United States in the hope of finding freedom, equal opportunity, religious tolerance and good will—all of which are symbolized by the American flag. It represents our place in the world, wherever Americans are around the globe. There is no other American icon more revered as the flag and it should be protected as such.

For more than 200 years, the American flag has been used to express all that is good and just about our Nation. Many have sacrificed their lives protecting Old Glory. It was unfortunate, therefore, that the Supreme Court ruled to reduce this great symbol to nothing more than a piece of cloth with could be desecrated at any time. We must do something to save our Nation's symbol of hope, which shines as a beacon to those around the world that this is the land of opportunity and freedom. Over two-thirds of our States have risen in support of our flag and this Congress must do the same.

In that regard, I call on all of my colleagues—Democrat or Republican—to join together in support of our Nation's symbol of truth. I look forward to passing House Joint Resolution 79 on June 28 to immediately place our Nation's symbol of truth out of reach from unnecessary desecration.

TRIBUTE TO WLEN RADIO ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, this month, WLEN Radio in Adrian, MI celebrated their 30th anniversary.

I would like to pay tribute to the people of WLEN and their fine service to Lenawee County.

Lead by President Julie Koehn, WLEN, called the voice of Lenawee County, boasts the talents of Bob Butler who, with 32 continuous years on the air, is the county's veteran broadcaster. Additionally, WLEN's stable of stars includes: Angel Millet and Doug Spade.

WLEN's award-winning news department is headed by Mike Clement.

Mr. Speaker, for the past 30 years, the people of Lenawee County have been well served by the able people and programming at WLEN.

As a Lenawee County farmer, I look forward to another 30 years of excellent community service by WLEN.

Good communications are critical to maintain a vibrant democratic society. Congratulations, WLEN, on your 30th anniversary.

SAFETY AND HEALTH IMPROVEMENT AND REGULATORY REFORM ACT

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, today I, along with over 60 of my colleagues, am intro-

ducing the Safety and Health Improvement and Regulatory Reform Act of 1995. The legislation will comprehensively change the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act. Few Federal programs are in need of change as much as this one.

Ensuring and promoting the basic safety and health protections for workers in this country is a moral as well as an economic imperative. Safe and healthful working conditions for our Nation's workers is not and should not be a partisan matter, nor is it exclusively the interest or responsibility of any one group or special interest. Society, through government, employers, and employees themselves, have responsibilities in helping to make sure that life and limb are not the price for being employed.

Mr. Speaker, I am an employer and a businessman myself. I know that for most employers, the phrase "our employees are our most valuable resource" is not mere rhetoric, but the way in which we view our businesses. For too long, the Federal Government, particularly in programs like OSHA, has viewed employers as adversaries, to be policed and watched over with all kinds of rules and penalties if those rules should be broken in any detail. I know that there are people in business who try to take shortcuts, and there are some who are just plain crooks. There needs to be enforcement. But heavy enforcement should be the last resort, not the first resort.

To be committed to worker safety and health does not mean to be committed to the way in which OSHA has been operating. President Clinton recently stated it quite well:

*** frankly sometimes the rules have simply become too complex, too specific for even the most diligent employer to follow, and that if the government awards inspections for writing citations and levying fines more than ensuring safety, there's a chance you could get more citations, more fines, more hassle, and no more safety.

That is the problem we are trying to address with this legislation: Too often OSHA has had too little to do with promoting basic safety and health for workers, and too much to do with promoting Government rules.

In my view nothing illustrates how OSHA has gone off on the wrong track more clearly than the fact that today few if any employers would ever call OSHA and ask for assistance or advice on workplace safety or health. That is not because employers don't want assistance, or are not aware of the importance and cost savings from avoiding workplace accidents and injuries. It is because OSHA's mission has become misdirected into a simply finding violations of regulations and issuing penalties.

We believe that a more fair and more effective workplace safety and health program would rely primarily on nonenforcement efforts, with enforcement reserved for those situations and employers where the circumstances show that enforcement is necessary and justified. Our bill reserves, after a 3-year phase-in period, one-half of OSHA's funds for nonenforcement efforts. Those funds would be used:

To expand the State consultation grants program which provides on-site assistance to small businesses in high hazard industries. In many States, the shortage of resources has meant waiting periods of up to 2 years for employers who seek these services.

To expand OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program [VPP], which recognizes and grants exemption from enforcement inspections for employers with exemplary safety records and programs.

To support additional training, education, and outreach programs, designed to promote safe work practices with employers and employees.

To establish and oversee a new certification program for private individuals to conduct workplace safety and health reviews. Once underway this program would allow employers the opportunity to be free of OSHA inspections as long as the employer had no reportable accidents—fatalities or multiple injuries—and no employee complaints.

The use of private individuals to conduct workplace safety and health reviews in lieu of OSHA inspections was part of Vice President GORE's proposed reinvention of the Federal Government. It died in the hands of an agency that is unwilling to give up the notion that but for OSHA employees have no protection against their employers. That notion is not only false, it is silly. The fact is, as many of my Democratic colleagues frequently point out, OSHA inspects only a small number of worksites and employers every year—around 40,000 in recent years. Many employers avoid inspection for years—in fact, it is this inequity of inspections, in which some employers are inspected nearly every year and their competitors may never be inspected, that along with the arbitrariness of citations and fines, often fuels the rage of employers against OSHA. Vice President GORE's National Performance Review rightly recognized that "an army of OSHA inspectors" was neither necessary nor, in light of the Federal budget situation, likely. The use of private individuals to conduct workplace reviews provides a means of extending expertise and attention to workplace safety and health, while allowing us to reduce the role of the Federal Government.

Our bill makes one other important change in regards to putting the emphasis of the program back on safety and health, rather than on collecting penalties. OSHA's interpretation of the current statute is and has long been that an inspector who observes a violation of any regulation, unless the violation itself can be classified as *de minimis*, must issue a citation for that violation. It does not matter whether the violation is not threatening to any employees. Nor does it matter whether the employer knew of the regulation—he or she is presumed to know all of what is printed in the Federal Register and in unending compliance directives from Washington.

OSHA has announced that it will soon begin a program to reduce penalties for alleged violations that are corrected immediately, while the inspection is still underway. While this may seem like only common sense, it at least takes OSHA a step in the right direction. But it certainly does not go far enough. Under our bill, the general rule would be that OSHA will work with employers to identify and correct hazards, and that only if the employer fails to do so, or if a violation has caused a serious injury or death, a fine would be issued. OSHA's mission should be abatement of safety and health hazards and safer workplaces, not collecting revenues for the Federal Government. When the employer corrects the problem, and no one has been injured or killed as a result of a violation, the Federal Govern-

ment's interest in safety and health is satisfied.

In addition to refocusing OSHA on what should be its mission—safety and health, this bill implements two pieces of legislation already passed by the House. First, with regard to how regulations will be issued, the bill includes the reforms overwhelmingly passed by the House earlier this year and incorporated into H.R. 9.

Second, consistent with the House-passed budget resolution, the bill includes the merger of the Mine Safety and Health Administration with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the elimination of the National Institute on Occupational Safety and Health [NIOSH] as a separate agency within the Department of Health and Human Services. Although we are merging MSHA and OSHA, I do want to emphasize to my colleagues that the bill specifically directs the newly merged agency to continue to enforce mining regulations in mines, and to maintain its corps of specialized mine inspectors. In fact, the bill requires that the kind of specialized and expert inspectors that have been the strength of the mine safety program also be the model for how OSHA's inspectorate should be improved.

Mr. Speaker, following is a section-by-section description of our legislation. I would welcome my colleague's support and cosponsorship and I look forward to working with my colleagues in helping to pass this much needed legislation.

SECTION-BY-SECTION DESCRIPTION OF THE SAFETY AND HEALTH IMPROVEMENT AND REGULATORY REFORM ACT OF 1995—JUNE 14, 1994

Section 1. Short Title, Table of Contents, Reference.

Section 2. Standards.

Requires that standards issued by OSHA be based on risk assessment, regulatory impact and cost-benefit analysis, similar to proposals already adopted by the House. Requires that the risk assessment and cost-benefit analysis be industry-specific.

Requires that benefits be "justified by and be reasonably related" to be costs of the standard.

Requires that standards be "feasible" and "practical."

Prohibits OSHA from citing an employer under a standard if a request from the employer for a variance on the standard involved has been pending for more than 90 days.

Requires that each standard in effect at the time of enactment be reviewed within 7 years for compliance with the new risk assessment and cost-benefit criteria. Creates a petition process whereby affected parties can obtain review of existing standards for compliance with the new criteria. Requires the Secretary to accept or reject the petition regarding a standard within 120 days.

Requires independent peer review of the economic and scientific data which forms the basis for the standard, including the relevance of the data to industries and workers affected by the standard. Requires the panel to be broadly representative and balanced.

Section 3. Notice of Violation.

Requires that OSHA issue a warning to employers and specifies a reasonable time frame to fix the alleged violation. If the violation is not corrected within 30 days (or shorter if it constitutes a direct threat to employees) a citation may be issued. Exceptions to this policy would be allowed if a fatality or serious injury occurred.

Eliminates penalties for posting, record-keeping, reporting, or notification unless

there is a direct threat or injury or intent to mislead or deceive employees or OSHA.

Section 4. Consultation, Incentives for Voluntary Action, and Technical Assistance.

Creates a new program allowing certified individuals to conduct safety and health reviews for employers. Exempts employers who utilize such individuals from random OSHA inspections.

Expands the Small Business Consultation program.

Codifies the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) which recognizes and provides an exemption for employers with exemplary programs and safety records.

Transfer NIOSH training functions to OSHA.

Targets at least 50 percent of OSHA funds (after a three year phase-in) for non-enforcement activities (small business consultation, training, education, and compliance assistance programs).

Section 5. Removal of Barriers to Voluntary Safety and Health Activities.

Provides that an employee participation program which deals in whole or in part with safety and health is not a violation of section 8(a)(2) of the National Labor Relations Act.

Provides a legal "privilege" for safety and health audits which are done voluntarily by an employer.

Section 6. Inspections.

Requires that an employee bring a complaint over an alleged violation of a safety or health standards to attention of the employer before filing with OSHA. If the employer fails to correct the violation, the employee may then file a complaint with OSHA. Requires that a copy of the complaint be provided to the employer no later than the time of the inspection.

Creates a legal requirement that OSHA inspections be conducted by at least one individual who has technical expertise by training or experience in the industry under inspection.

Requires OSHA to enter agreements with other enforcement agencies to check for fire hazards and report them to OSHA if necessary.

Exempts small businesses (fifty or fewer employees) that have below average injury rates from random safety inspections.

Codifies appropriation exemption for small farms (employing 10 or fewer workers and not maintaining a labor camp) from random safety inspections.

Section 7. Employer Defense.

Provides a defense against citation for "employee misconduct."

Creates a defense for employers who have utilized alternative methods which are equally or more protective of an employee's safety and health in the workplace.

Provides a defense against any regulatory action of an employer is in compliance with another federal requirement which overlaps or is in conflict.

Section 8. Penalties.

Repeals separate penalties for "willful" and "repeat" violations.

Lists seven criteria to be used in assessing penalties.

Creates a special assessment which allows higher penalties in cases where violations cause a death or an excessive number of serious injuries.

Provides that no penalties may be issued unless a standard or regulation exists.

Clarifies that state or local law enforcement agencies may conduct criminal prosecutions for conduct falling under state criminal laws.

Section 9. Review by the Commission.

Extends the time an employer may contest a citation from 15 to 30 days.

Gives deference to interpretations of standards by the Commission (overturns the CF&I case).

Increases the number of members of the Commission from 3 to 5 and specifies that one member of the Commission should have experience in mining.

Allows parties to waive formal proceedings before the Commission.

Section 10. NIOSH Repealed.

Repeals the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health.

Section 11. State Workmen's Compensation Commission Repealed.

Repeals this Commission which has completed its function.

Section 12. State Programs.

Encourages state OSHA programs to follow federal standards when applicable to products or labeling.

Provides additional flexibility to state OSHA programs by allowing states to adopt alternative methods of enforcement that are at least as effective as the Federal program.

Section 13. Discrimination.

Extends time for filing complaints to 60 days. Requires that DOL notify the person named in the complaint and investigate within 60 days. Provides that if DOL does not decide to prosecute the case within 60 days, the complainant may take the case directly to the Review Commission for a hearing and a decision. Provides for an appeal of the Commission decision to the Court of Appeals. Encourages the use of mediation in all disputes.

Section 14. Coverage of Federal Agencies.

Covers all federal agencies under the federal OSHA requirements.

Section 15. Federal Agency Safety Programs.

Repeals Section 19 of current law which requires federal agencies to maintain their own safety and health programs (repealed because of changes described in Section 14).

Section 16. Prevention of Alcohol and Substance Abuse.

Provides "safe harbor" for employers conducting drug and alcohol testing which follows HHS (drug) and DOT (alcohol) guidelines. Authorizes OSHA to conduct drug and alcohol testing when investigating workplace deaths and serious injuries.

Section 17. Mine Safety and Health.

Merges the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) with OSHA.

Transfers all MSHA standards to OSHA.

Requires all underground mines to be inspected at least once per year.

Requires all mining inspectors to have 5 years of practical mining experience.

Authorizes closure orders in cases of imminent danger and requires that such order be reviewable in court within one day.

Authorizes fines against miners who violate the mandatory safety standard related to smoking in the mine.

Section 18. Recordkeeping and Reporting.

Modifies recordkeeping requirements to insure that recordable injuries and illnesses are work-related, involve medical treatment, and include one or more days of lost work or restricted work.

Specifies that any records of injuries and illnesses submitted to the Secretary may not be disclosed in any manner that identifies individual employers or workplaces.

Section 19. Definitions.

Defines "serious injury" and "industry."

Section 20. Miscellaneous Technical Amendments.

Requires the Secretary to provide recommendations for legislation to avoid unnecessary duplication and coordination between this Act and other federal laws.

Requires OSHA to establish a program for certification of equipment and specifies that it be conducted by nongovernmental entities unless such facilities are not available.

Although not specifically referenced in this legislative language, it is assumed that

NIOSH research activities will be transferred to another governmental agency.

Section 21. Effective Date.

This Act become effective 120 days after the date of enactment.

A SALUTE TO ENERGY RESEARCH IN AMERICAN SCHOOLS

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commend a schoolteacher in my home district who has done a quite remarkable thing. He has led a team of high school students who built a solar-powered vehicle to become national winners of the 1995 American Tour de Sol for the best student car in the open class presented by the U.S. Department of Energy.

The teacher is Earl Billings, technology instructor at Cato-Meridian High School, a 340-student school in Cato, NY. The accomplishments don't start with the 1995 Tour de Sol title. I will list a few others in a moment. But I don't want the most important point to be lost here. That point is, research into the future is being done in our schools. It is being done all over America, in rural communities such as Cato as well as in larger cities where universities and foundations often support student teams in research the use of solar power in the future and other important projects.

And, once again, a teacher is at the helm, is the inspiration, is the guiding force—not only by giving instruction but by leading, by communicating, by relating. By planting seeds of self-worth and pride and by literally building something tangible from something abstract—an idea.

Today is Earl Billings Day in Cayuga County, as proposed by County Legislator Ralph Stanbrook, a true civic leader with whom I have worked on several community projects. In recognizing Mr. Billings, we both hope to once again draw attention to what is good in American schools—and to give credit where it is due.

And in this instance it is most definitely due.

Mr. Billings teaches a course entitled Energy, a subject which has been identified by the New York State Education Department as a highly important area of learning for high school students. Forms of energy are discussed, and their relation to our environment is presented. To get the C-M students more interested, Mr. Billings proposed the class take on the ambitious goal of designing, constructing, and testing a full-size, solar-powered electric vehicle.

That was in 1990, and what began as a teaching tool quickly came to be an unusual nonclassroom success story for the students and their vehicle, Sunpacer.

Sponsored by the North East Sustainable Energy Association from May 22 to May 26, the 1995 American Tour de Sol ran from Waterbury, CT, to Portland, ME, a total of 330 miles through five States. Sunpacer finished first in its division.

Winning was not new for the team. Students from Cato-Meridian have been racing Sunpacer since 1991. That is when they first qualified for the Tour de Sol but had to pull out to honor an earlier commitment to show the vehicle at a New York State event. That

event represented their third-place ranking out of 750 projects submitted to the Student Energy Research Competition that year.

They were back in the Tour de Sol in 1992 to win the national championship; in 1993 they placed third and in 1994 they placed second before regaining the national title this year.

As outlined by Mr. Billings, there were five goals, among them to "help reduce the millions of barrels of oil we use daily"; to heighten public awareness of electric vehicles; to show that if high school kids can build a solar-powered car, business can; to develop student skills in critical thinking, problem solving, research, and engineering; and, listed No. 1 on the important goal list, "I wanted to excite my students about energy."

I join the Cayuga County Legislature in saluting Mr. Earl Billings today. I encourage him to continue with this project and I congratulate him on excelling in his chosen profession.

I might add that I will look for Earl Billings and the students who work on the 1996 Tour de Sol next May. The planned route starts in New York City and ends right here in the Nation's capital, Washington, DC.

Best of luck to all the students involved with this fascinating and productive project.

HONORING ANJILA J. LEBSOCK

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ms. Anjila J. Lebsock who recently was 1 of 10 students to receive the All-American Vocational Student Awards.

A Cibola High School senior in Yuma, AZ, Anjila's special talents and determination were recognized early on by her teachers. After expressing an interest in the field of electronics, she was immersed in a special curriculum to meet her needs. During the day, she completed advanced placement courses while maintaining her rank as 1 of the top 10 students in her class. After school hours, Anjila pursued vocational studies at Arizona Western College, studying servo robotics, programmable controllers and computer-integrated manufacturing. These led her to special training programs with Weyerhaeuser Paper Co., the United States Bureau of Reclamation and Allied Signal. Her robotics projects earned her numerous awards at the local, State and National Levels.

In addition to displaying leadership in the classroom and the robotics lab, Anjila has also excelled as a community leader. She has represented the State of Arizona as a national VICA delegate, and held offices as regional vice president and as parliamentarian. She has also devoted many years as a Girl Scout leader and as a volunteer in the Yuma Crossing Park. Anjila's goal is to pursue a career as a manufacturing engineer.

Anjila's accomplishments point not only to the value of vocational education, but to the courage and spirit of our Nation's youth. She serves as an inspiration to us all. Again, I send my sincerest congratulations to Anjila for this deserved recognition and wish her even greater success in the future.

IN HONOR OF THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE 46TH INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a group of New Jersey students for their participation in the 46th International Science and Engineering Fair [ISEF] which was held in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada from May 7–13, 1995.

Among the award winners were two young women from Jersey City public schools: Academic High School sophomore Rituparna Das, and Dickinson High School senior Shital Shah. Rituparna won the Second Place Grand Award and the First Place Award of the American Ground Water Society for her project on the removal of heavy metals by absorptive filtration. Shital won the Third Place Grand Award for her environmental project dealing with the biodegradation of trinitroglycerin. She previously won first prize in a competition sponsored by the New Jersey Academy of Science for the same award.

I am proud to have such high achieving students in Hudson County. Their work is exemplary and deserves to be recognized. Their achievements are particularly important because we as a Nation must be ready to compete scientifically in the 21st century. Rituparna and Shital have demonstrated their commitment to future scientific excellence by participating in the fair. Their accomplishments make me feel confident that we as a Nation will be scientifically competitive for years to come.

These New Jersey students were part of an international competition that included students from throughout the United States and its territories as well as 30 other countries. The 1,500-plus fair participants exhibited a total of 1,019 projects. The fair represents the culmination of a yearlong process involving more than 1 million students participating at various local, regional, State, and national science fairs. Since each fair can send only two delegates, Rituparna and Shital represent the best of the best of young scientists in Hudson County.

I would also like to thank the Jersey Journal for enthusiastically sponsoring the Hudson County Science Fair [HCSF]. The fair is an important showcase for the area's young scientists and the Journal's commitment to it demonstrates their ties to the community.

CARAMOOR TESTIMONIAL

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to one of the greatest treasures of my district as it celebrates its 50th anniversary; Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts.

Located in Katonah, NY, the vision of Caramoor began in the New York City townhouse of Walter and Lucie Rosen. Avid collec-

tors of renaissance and oriental art, as well as accomplished musicians, the Rosen home was host to many of New York's most prominent performers and cultural patrons. Upon the completion of their weekend home in Katonah, the Rosen's moved both their vast collection of art work and their tradition of presenting intimate concerts, to their new home. Upon the death of their son in World War II, the Rosen's bequeathed Caramoor "as a Center for Music and the Arts for the Town of Bedford and the State of New York" thereby giving us the gift of a haven, comprised of aesthetic pleasures that serve to uplift the human spirit.

The first formal musical offerings at Caramoor, began 50 years ago as a series of concerts and recitals that were presented in both the grand music room and the Spanish courtyard of the main house. In 1958, the construction of an outdoor Venetian theater, allowed for the expansion of these programs as well as audiences providing a venue for the presentation of orchestral and opera performances on a larger scale.

Building upon this tradition, Caramoor has become a mainstay on the international music scene. Now home to an 8 week music festival that, under the leadership of Howard Herring and the artistic direction of Andre Previn, has attracted such stars as: James Gallway, Barbara Cook, Sylvia McNair, and Yo-Yo Ma as well as many of the most promising musicians of the next generation through its rising stars program. Caramoor rightly deserve the New York Times assessment deeming it "the loveliest musical festival of them all." From the intimacy of the Baroque period, to the rousing notes of Count Bassie, the concerts of Caramoor account for a wide variety of musical tastes and have educated and inspired generations.

Situated on 100 acres of woodlands, lawns and exquisite formal gardens, the Caramoor experience is unique in that it removes many of the facades that often accompany such offerings, and allows audiences to convene with nature while enjoying music in its purest form. With recent additions such as the Touch Tour of the Museum House and the Marjorie Carr Adams Sense Circle, a garden comprised of different aromatics, sounds and textured grasses designed especially to maximize the enjoyment of the visually impaired, mentally and physically challenged as well as children, Caramoor remains committed to ensuring the accessibility of its spirit to all.

Whether strolling through the gardens, picnicking in the orchard or listening to harmonies under the stars, Caramoor allows people to lose themselves in the moment, and to regain a sense of serenity and peace in their lives.

It has often been said that music is food for the soul; may Caramoor continue to provide us with nourishment for another 50 years.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to salute all of those who have built and maintain this national treasure.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CONVENTION CENTER PRECONSTRUCTION ACT OF 1995

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill which authorizes the District to do the preliminary work for the convention center, which, during this period of fiscal crisis, will be a major revenue raising source for the District of Columbia. The bill will allow the District to use funds raised through hotel and restaurant taxes designated to support this project. Much to its credit, the hotel and restaurant sector came forward on its own to suggest this new tax on themselves to finance the center. No existing District operating funds are committed under this bill.

Mayor Barry and the city council have assigned a very high priority to the new convention center because of its revenue-generating potential at a time when the city is in acute financial distress. They are anxious to have this bill introduced and moved quickly.

These funds will enable the District to do vital preconstruction work, including environmental studies and architecture and design studies. The District will be able to move forward and build the new convention center, returning the District to competitiveness in the convention and tourism market. Without a new center, the District will be unable to attract the increasing numbers of large conventions seeking to meet in the metropolitan region and the substantial disposable income these conventions bring to the city.

I am particularly pleased that Representative TOM DAVIS, chairman of the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia, has agreed to be an original cosponsor of a bill that invests in the District's economy.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT J. PATTERSON

HON. WAYNE T. GILCHREST

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Mr. Robert J. Patterson, the man who was the driving force behind the New POW/MIA postage stamp. Mr. Patterson, a two-tour VietNam veteran, currently employed but the Department of Veteran Affairs Medical Center in Perry Point, MD, devote 5 years of his life toward honoring POW/MIA's with their own postage stamp. Mr. Patterson spent countless hours meeting with House and Senate staff members, VietNam Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, disabled American Veterans, American Ex-Prisoners of War, as well as every veterans association medical center in the country. With these veterans groups, Mr. Patterson gather nearly 2 million signatures on his POW/MIA postage stamp petition form.

Mr. Patterson's efforts proved successful when the U.S. Postal Service issued the new POW/MIA postage stamp on May 29, 1995. with the American flag as its backdrop, the stamp pictures a pair of military ID tags embossed with the words "POW & MIA—NEVER

FORGOTTEN." The stamp serves as a fine tribute to the brave Americans who fought for this country and were either imprisoned by enemy forces or have been classified as missing in action. All of these soldiers will forever be heroes and will forever be remembered.

Mr. Patterson's achievement is no small feat. Only the second commemorative POW/MIA stamp ever issued, the new stamp embodies how the vision and hard work of one volunteer can result in a great accomplishment. The first commemorative POW/MIA stamp was issued by the Post Office in 1970 in the form of a 6 cent postage stamp. Had it not been for Mr. Patterson's effort, that may have been the last stamp honoring the Nation's many POW's and MIA's. Mr. Patterson's love of and devotion to our great Nation, as well as to our POWs and MIAs, should serve as a model for all Americans.

I commend Robert Patterson for his tireless efforts in bringing about the POW/MIA postage stamp. Mr. Patterson's efforts on behalf of the stamp showed for all the world our country's commitment to the message of the POW/MIA cause, "You Are Not Forgotten"; not forgotten also will be Mr. Patterson's message to the cause.

In closing, I reiterate Mr. Patterson's simple message to the many groups he addressed and to the volunteers who assisted him: Remember.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
LENINGRAD TRIALS

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to participate in the observance of the 25th anniversary of the arrests and beginning of the Leningrad Trials, the seminal event in the effort to rally support for the beleaguered and persecuted Jewish community in the Soviet Union.

In remembering the Leningrad Trials, I also want to recognize one of my constituents, Lynn Singer, who has been a tireless advocate on behalf of Soviet Jewry and, more recently, a crusader against official and unofficial anti-semitism in the former Soviet Union. Lynn, as the longtime executive director of the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry [LICSJ], has developed an international reputation as a result of her persistence, determination and leadership in the cause of human rights and freedom. I am proud to be her Representative in the People's House and to have participated in LICSJ vigils, demonstrations and marches. I look forward to continuing to work with Lynn Singer in the weeks and months ahead.

As many Members of this institution will recall, 25 years ago, a group of courageous young men and women from around the Soviet Union met to develop a plan to fly to freedom and realize the impossible dream of emigrating to the land of their choice. In spite of knowing the KGB had learned of their plans and that they faced severe penalties if they were apprehended, a few of these men and women bought tickets on a small commuter plane destined for Norway. Tragically, before even boarding the plane, Soviet police arrested each of them.

Far from crushing the fledgling human rights movement in the Soviet Union, this event focused attention on the plight of Soviet Jewry and all those who wanted secure basic human rights for people behind the Iron Curtain. In response to the Leningrad Trials, organizations were formed in the United States to monitor human rights conditions in the U.S.S.R. and win the freedom of Jewish refuseniks. This grassroots movement succeeded in keeping human rights an issue on the international stage and put enormous pressure on the Kremlin during periods of cold war, detente, the Reagan defense build-up, perestroika and, finally, the collapse of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

That is why we should take time today to remember the sacrifice of those who, at great risk to themselves and their loved ones, made a stand when things were the very bleakest—Anatoly Altman, Hillel Butman, Mark Dymshitz, Leib Khnokh, Edward Kuznitsov, Joseph Mendilovich, Boris Penson, Wulf Zalmanson, Israel Zalmanson and Sylvia Zalmanson, all living in Israel, and Yuri Federov and Aleksei Murzhenko, now living in the United States.

I hope all in this chamber will join with me to make certain that the courage demonstrated in the winning struggle for freedom will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to again recognize the many good works and accomplishments of my constituent, Lynn Singer, as well as the many supporters of the LICSJ and all those in the United States and around the world who demonstrated their concern about prisoners of conscience in the U.S.S.R. since June 15, 1970. Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO GEN. GORDON R.
SULLIVAN

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, today, I wish to recognize Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, who will retire on June 20, 1995. General Sullivan's career spans 36 years, during which he has distinguished himself as a soldier, a leader, and a visionary advisor to both the President and the Congress. Let me briefly recount to you the career of this distinguished servant of our Nation.

A native of Boston, MA, General Sullivan graduated from Norwich University in 1959 and was commissioned as a lieutenant in the Armor Branch of the U.S. Army. During his career, he has commanded at the platoon through the division levels. In Europe, he commanded the 4th Battalion, 73d Armored Division and the 1st Brigade, 3d Armored Division, followed by an assignment as the 3d Armored Division's Chief of Staff. He served as the 1st Infantry Division Operations Officer at Fort Riley, KS and as the VII Corps Operations Officer in Germany. Subsequently, he served as the assistance commandant of the Armor School at Fort Knox, KY; on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO] staff as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Support of the Central Army Group in Germany; and as the deputy commandant of the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, KS. He next served as the commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, KS.

Since the summer of 1989, General Sullivan has served in positions of increasing responsibility with the Army at the Pentagon: first, as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operation and Plans; then, as the Vice Chief of Staff; and since June of 1991, as the Chief of Staff. His arrival at the Pentagon coincided with a historic shift in the strategic position of the United States. This was a period of both great turmoil and great success—successes directly attributable to the dedicated efforts of General Sullivan. During this time, we won the cold war and began the process of decreasing the size of the Army by a third. We were threatened in the Gulf—and fought and won a war. We saw the emergence of new and diverse threats and new technologies—and the Army changed both intellectually and physically to meet the new challenges.

Throughout this period of historic change, General Sullivan provided outstanding leadership. He oversaw the transformation of the Army from a cold war, forward deployed force, into a power projection force, ready to defend our national interests in any corner of the world. While meeting the challenges of today, General Sullivan prepared the Army for tomorrow, as well, with a farsighted and far-reaching vision of the conduct of future war. His determination to keep the Army trained and ready, his sense of responsibility to his soldiers and the Nation, and his understanding of both our history and the future of armed conflict, have given our great country an Army that is capable of achieving decisive victories into the 21st century.

General Sullivan's career has been the epitome of selfless service to our Nation, and he is the quintessential example of all we could hope our military leaders to be. Through his decades of dedication to duty and the accompanying sacrifices, he has been supported by a loving family. General Sullivan's wife, Gay, their children, John, Mark, and Elizabeth, and a grandson Christopher have contributed, in countless ways, to the career of this dedicated soldier.

Mr. Speaker, Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan is a consummate professional, a defender of the Constitution, and a leader of demonstrated moral and physical courage. It is with great respect and appreciation that I offer this tribute to his impressive career in the U.S. Army.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KWEISI MFUME

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Speaker, I was, unfortunately, detained in my congressional district in Baltimore earlier today and thus forced to miss two record votes. Specifically, I was not present to record my vote on roll call vote number 380, approving the previous day's journal, and roll call vote number 381, the Markey amendment.

Had I been here I would have voted yea on roll call vote number 380 and yea on roll call vote number 381.

CALIFORNIA HAS BORNE ITS SHARE OF BASE CLOSURES—EFA WEST SAN BRUNO SHOULD NOT BE CLOSED

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission will soon make its recommendations to the President on which military bases to close. The Commission has received testimony from hundreds of witnesses, has made countless site visits and will consider thousands of pages of data on the effect of base closings on our Nation's military readiness. In making its decisions it will be imperative that the Commission also take into consideration the economic impact of its decisions.

In the case of a military facility in my congressional district, the Engineering Field Activity West in San Bruno, or EFA West, the Navy recommended not closing this facility because it was concerned about the economic impact of closure on the community. I believe that the Navy was correct in not slating EFA West for closure and I also believe that closing EFA West will have a disastrous effect on the Pentagon's ability to close bases already slated for closure.

Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 13, 1995, I presented testimony before the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission on the issue of closing of additional military bases in California. In my testimony, I reminded the Commission that no State has borne the bulk of military base closures as California has and that previous rounds of base closures have turned out to be of tremendous adverse economic impact in California. I also explained to the Commission that EFA West's strategic location best serves military operations and that it is essential to the Pentagon that this installation and its personnel remain in San Bruno. Mr. Speaker, I would like to place my testimony in the RECORD.

STATEMENT OF CONGRESSMAN TOM LANTOS,
12TH DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission for the opportunity to say a few words on the critical issue of base closures in California and particularly on the future of the Engineering Field Activity West in San Bruno, California, which is located in my Congressional district.

Mr. Chairman, I share your deep commitment to a strong and effective national defense. With the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union, it is appropriate and necessary that we reconsider and evaluate our defense posture. At the same time, we must take into consideration local impacts of these base closure decisions. There will be pain from the realignment of our military facilities, but that pain should be proportionately shared and spread among all regions of our nation and among all of our states.

Mr. Chairman, I have very serious concerns about the effect of base closures upon California's economy—particularly since our state has sustained a disproportionate number of job losses stemming from military base closures. As a result of base closures in 1988, 1991, and 1993, California has suffered 69% of the nation's base closure job losses. California will suffer even more job losses as a result of possible base closures projected

for this year. Future base closings must take into consideration the effect on the local economy, as well as the effect on our nation's military readiness.

I have serious concerns about the substantial impact base closures will have on the families of thousands of California workers who will lose their jobs. I am concerned about the impact that closing more bases will have on California communities. Clearly, the citizens of our state should not be asked to suffer additional hardship and displacement from additional base closures. I urge you to take into account the devastating effects that previous base closures have already had on California's economy as you consider further base closures for our state.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, I am particularly concerned about the possible closure and realignment of the Navy's Engineering Field Activity, which is located in San Bruno, California. Moving personnel from San Bruno to San Diego or another location will have a disastrous effect on the Pentagon's ability to close bases already slated for closure and will slow the process of closing new bases.

As you know, the Engineering Field Activity West (EFA West) is responsible for assisting in the closing of the following facilities that have been previously scheduled to close: Mare Island, Alameda Naval Air Station, Treasure Island, Hunter's Point, Skaggs Island, Moffett Field and Oakland Naval Hospital. It is my understanding that EFA West's base closure activities require continuous contact with local public officials, the public and regulatory agencies in San Francisco. When you consider the monumental task the Pentagon must undertake in closing bases and in working with the affected communities and contractors, it is absolutely clear that the functions of EFA West—which includes important environmental cleanup and property disposition expertise—require a local presence. This is a key function that cannot be handled effectively or efficiently from hundreds of miles away.

Since 1988, the federal government has ordered 70 bases closed—21 of them or almost one-third of the bases are in California. In the effort to close these bases, military officials have run into problems with environmental cleanup and the disposition of property. Problems were inevitable, but they have contributed to substantial time delays and higher cost in closing these bases.

When you begin your deliberations on presenting a list of bases for closure to the President, I believe that you must take into account whether it is in the best interest of the military and the taxpayer to close EFA West, when EFA West's central mission is to provide the technical support and expertise in environmental cleanup and the disposition of property necessary for the closing of other bases. Clearly, if Northern California is to be affected by even more base closures in this current round of downsizing, EFA West's strategic Northern California location and its expertise will be even more essential to the military and affected communities in ensuring that base closures will be achieved in the most cost effective and efficient manner.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, EFA West has a dedicated and committed staff of experienced personnel and unique and thorough knowledge in their respective fields. Closing that facility could well deny to the federal government the critical expertise which these dedicated and hardworking employees bring. If EFA West is closed, most of these employees will not be willing to relocate out of the Bay Area—they have strong ties to their communities and to their families, neighbors and friends. If these dedicated workers are lost, the Navy will have to expend considerable time and ex-

pense in finding replacement workers and training them in order to continue EFA West's critical mission, which must be maintained to complete base closures elsewhere.

Lastly, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, the Secretary of the Navy, John Dalton, testified before you in March of this year, that the Navy had decided not to place EFA West on its list of recommendations for closure because it was concerned about the impact on the local economy. The Navy was absolutely correct in considering economic impact when it decided it was necessary to keep EFA West open.

More importantly, however, EFA West's San Bruno location strengthens the military's ability to serve the needs of our region. EFA West's strategic location in San Bruno best serves military operations. It is essential for this installation to remain open to fulfill the responsibilities of base closure and base realignment. When you submit your recommendations for base closure or realignment to the President, I urge you NOT to place EFA West on your base closure list.

Thank you very much.

HONORING EAGLE SCOUT DREW MONSON

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I want to call attention today to a major milestone and achievement of a most accomplished young man.

This coming Sunday, in Tucson, AZ, Drew Monson will be awarded the rank of Eagle Scout. This is a level of achievement attained by only 2½ percent of all Boy Scouts. Drew joins the ranks of approximately 1 million others who, since 1911, have achieved this goal.

As his final project toward becoming an Eagle Scout, Drew spent more than 150 hours planning and directing 17 different volunteers in the construction of a nature trail at the Saguaro National Park in Tucson.

This is not Drew's only accomplishment. He will soon begin his senior year as an honor student at Salpointe High School in Tucson, AZ. In addition, he has earned six varsity letters in track and field and cross country running. He is also a skilled musician, specializing in piano. Complementing his other activities, he also participates in the activities of his Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Drew Monson exemplifies the hopes and dreams that we hold for all of our youth. I am proud to add my voice to so many others in commending Drew for his attainment of the Eagle Scout rank. I wish Drew the best of luck in all to which he aspires.

IN HONOR OF FATHER DANIEL A. DEGNAN UPON HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT OF ST. PETER'S COLLEGE

HON. ROBERT MENEDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. MENEDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a brilliant educator, a dedicated scholar, a religious leader, and the

president of St. Peter's College. Father Daniel A. Degnan, S.J. has served the college with distinction for the last 5 years. His achievements will be recognized at a special ceremony on Monday, June 19.

The presidency of St. Peter's College marks the culmination of a 26-year career in education, dating back to a teaching fellowship at Harvard Law School during the 1969–70 academic year. Father Degnan taught 5 years at the college of law at Syracuse University and from there spent 2 years at Georgetown University Law Center. He served as an administrator at Loyola College of Maryland and spent 12 years in New Jersey as an administrator and teacher at the Seton Hall University School of Law, 1978–90.

In 1990, he assumed the presidency of St. Peter's College where he undertook a major building program. During his tenure, the college has undergone major renovations, including the addition of two new residence halls. In addition, a new quadrangle and refurbished McIntyre Lounge, Hudson Room, and college store were completed. Under his leadership, the dream of an east campus has come to reality with the new Whelan Hall, renovations to Saint Peter Hall, and several other additions that have expanded the college east of Kennedy Boulevard.

As president of St. Peter's College, Father Degnan has distinguished himself, but that is nothing new for him. He has been recognized on numerous occasions for his contributions and is the recipient of the Papal Benemerenti Medal, 1992; the Thomas More Medal, 1992; the New York University Presidential Medal, 1994; the Hudson Catholic High School Signum Fidei Award, 1994; and he was named a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, 1992; and a Seton Hall Law School Distinguished Alumnus, 1983.

Father Degnan's term at St. Peter's ends on June 30 and he will be greatly missed by everyone associated with the college. However, I am pleased to report that he will remain active writing about the works of St. Thomas Aquinas. Please join me in honoring a very special man.

STATEMENT IN RECOGNITION OF
NATIONAL WRITE YOUR CON-
GRESSMEN, INC.

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to commend the work of a national

organization called Write Your Congressmen. Founded in 1958, this organization helps focus and amplify the voice of the American people.

National Write Your Congressmen, Inc. provides the voters with an opinion ballot that outlines every side of the issues. They simply present the facts, in order to educate the public. And by doing so, they are creating a more responsible America.

There is nothing more important than citizen involvement in the democracy we have formed. By communicating their positions to their elected Representatives we create a true democracy. My colleagues and I welcome the information provided by the members of National Write Your Congressmen. This organization is truly dedicated to the betterment of America. Their interest is purely in encouraging citizens to be directly involved in their law making process. I am impressed by their candor and inspired by their cause.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would encourage all my colleagues to become involved with National Write Your Congressmen, Inc., and I thank them for providing a more effective way of education and communication for all people, nationwide.