

The Legal Services Corporation has been under assault by conservatives for many years. They argue that the LSC has been a front to advance and lobby for progressive policies. Nothing can be further from the truth. The LSC, begun in 1974 and supported by President Nixon, is a bipartisan program. It has served millions of people, including helping nearly 5 million people in 1995, most of whom were poor children. Further, in 1995, 1 out of every 3 legal services cases concerned family law, which included 59,000 cases involving protecting clients from abusive spouses, and more than 9,300 cases involving neglected, abused, and dependent juveniles.

Restrictions have been placed on the operations of the programs of the LSC, and funding and staff levels have been severely cut. In 1994-95, the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau had a total of 143 lawyers and 80 legal assistants. As a result of the fiscal year 1996 cut, Maryland's Legal Aid Bureau lost \$1.4 million and reduced its lawyers to 92 and 57 legal assistants. Under the fiscal year 1997 Republican funding bill, Maryland stood to lose \$1.5 million more, which would result in further staff cuts and leave thousands of Maryland residents without adequate legal representation.

Last year's funding bill for legal services *quieted* the voices of the needy, this year's bill attempted to *silence* those voices. The \$141 million recommended by the House Appropriations Committee is a cut of nearly 50 percent from the current fiscal year 1996 budget of \$278 million for the Legal Services Corporation. Fortunately, an amendment offered by Representatives MOLLAHAN and FOX, which I supported, increased the funding for the Legal Services Corporation from \$141 to \$250 million.

As a lawyer, I was one of 130,000 volunteer lawyers registered to participate in pro bono legal services, encouraged by the LSC. The one hard fact that I witnessed throughout my years of practice is that our system of justice belongs to the wealthy and privileged. Rare is the day when indigents or poor citizens receive equitable treatment in their representation and receive equal justice under law.

I believe that ours is the best judicial system in the world. But every day across this country, citizens with meager resources have little or no voice in that process. I hope the Senate will follow our lead in the House and ensure that low-income individuals and families will be able to receive legal help.

### THE WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I announce to my colleagues the unanimous passage Of H.R. 1281, the War Crimes Disclosure Act, from the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

As the sponsor of H.R. 1281, I am pleased that this bill is quickly making its way through the legislative process, and I am hopeful that it will soon be passed by the House. A companion bill will be introduced by New York Senators MOYNIHAN and D'AMATO, and I am confident that this measure has a solid chance

of becoming law during this session of Congress.

I introduced H.R. 1281 to close what I perceive is a tremendous loophole in the Freedom of Information Act. Under current law, the FOIA allows Government agencies to block the release of information for a wide variety of reasons, including outdated "national security" arguments that are no longer valid in the post-cold-war era.

Because of this circumstance, researchers investigating Nazi war criminals like Kurt Waldheim are denied information that is sitting in U.S. Government files. I'm indebted to A.M. Rosenthal, the New York Times columnist, for his series of articles which brought this problem to light.

The Waldheim case is the most celebrated example. For years, the CIA was keeping its information on Waldheim a secret, even as other Government agencies, namely the Department of Justice, were placing Waldheim on the Watch List of individuals forbidden to enter our country. Waldheim was given the dubious distinction because of his direct involvement in the deportation and murder of Jews and others during World War II.

It is not difficult to imagine how history might have been changed if Waldheim's secret past had become public. Most notably, Waldheim would probably not have been elected to the post of Secretary General of the United Nations, one of the most shameful events in the history of that world body.

And Mr. Waldheim's shameful story continues. Just recently, we learned that in his brand new autobiography, "The Answer", he whitewashes his Nazi past, and blames the American Jewish community for his banishment from the United States.

Waldheim's book is a dishonest answer to the overwhelmingly credible charges that he persecuted and facilitated the murder of Jews, Italians, Serbs, and others in World War II. It is almost incomprehensible that he calls himself a victim, when it was his murderous activity that helped make victims of so many innocent people.

I drafted H.R. 1281 to ensure that the entire Waldheim file is finally disclosed. It is also my hope that the enactment of this bill would help those who research the horrors of the Holocaust ensure that cases like Waldheim do not occur in the future.

My bill is narrowly drawn. It would exclude from disclosure requirements any material that is strictly private and personal. Similarly, information pertaining to current or future intelligence, national security, and foreign relations issues could remain secret if there is clear and convincing evidence that disclosing the files could cause substantial harm to our national interests.

My bill also takes great care not to impede the important work of the Department of Justice's Nazi hunting unit, the Office of Special Investigations. I am a fervent supporter of the OSI. Just last month, for example, I called upon the Lithuanian government to extradite two Nazi war criminals living in the United States that were exposed by OSI's long and painstaking work. I was pleased to work with the OSI to craft the final version of the bill so that it can accomplish its purpose of disclosing Nazi war crimes files without hindering OSI's valuable investigations and prosecutions. The Justice Department firmly supports my bill.

The Clinton administration is moving in the right direction with respect to classifying hid-

den documents. The President's Executive Order of April 20, 1995, will, in 4 years, declassify many documents that are 25 years old. But I believe, when it comes to Nazi war crimes files, we can and should move more swiftly.

On June 14, Chairman STEPHEN HORN and I presided over a hearing of our subcommittee, during which we heard excellent testimony from three witnesses. We heard from Congressman TOM LANTOS, the only Holocaust survivor to be elected to Congress, and a moral mentor to me and to all of our colleagues. Elizabeth Holtzman also testified. As an outstanding Member of this body in the 1970's, Liz was a pioneer in the efforts to expose Nazi war criminals. Finally, we received valuable insights from Robert Herzstein, a distinguished scholar and professor of history at University of South Carolina. His efforts to uncover the secret files of Kurt Waldheim have played an instructive role in the formation of this legislation.

There are a number of organizations which support my bill. These groups include the Simon Wiesenthal Center, the Anti-Defamation League, the World Jewish Congress, the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, the Orthodox Union, the American Jewish Committee, and the Agudath Israel of America.

Mr. Speaker, the Second World War ended 51 years ago. It's finally time for the entire story of this, the most horrible era in the history of man's inhumanity to man, to emerge. It is time to take a stand against those who insult humanity by denying what took place half a century ago. The great philosopher George Santayana taught us that "those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it." I hope that the passage of the War Crimes Disclosure Act will play a small role in helping us heed Santayana's warning.

HELP EPA; SUPPORT PERFORMANCE-BASED METHODS APPROVAL

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing, along with my colleague from California, ZOE LOFGREN, a bill we hope will help move the EPA along faster in reforming the way in which new environmental monitoring technologies enter the marketplace. The EPA has expressed some interest in moving in a positive direction on this issue, but we are concerned that interest does not mean movement. Our bill attempts to lay the groundwork for a comprehensive reappraisal of EPA's methods approval process, and we fully expect to work closely with both EPA and the analytical instruments industry along the way.

The House Committee on Science had an opportunity recently to hear from all interested parties on this issue. On June 20, we heard from Assistant Administrator for Policy, Planning, and Evaluation of the EPA, David Gardiner, who told our committee there is interest at the EPA in moving more toward a performance-based environmental methods approval process. This is indeed good news, as the current system of mandating specific analytical