

former Ohio Governor Richard Celeste. In 1990 he was elected to the bench and has served with distinction. His elevation to a judgeship in the Common Pleas Court represented the highlight of a 30-year career in the legal profession.

Judge Character attended Cleveland public schools and graduated from Glenville High School. He completed studies at Ohio State University and received his juris doctorate from the University of Michigan. He went on to earn a masters of law from Cleveland Marshall College of Law of Cleveland State University.

Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Character was a trial attorney. He represented a variety of clients, from Fortune 500 companies to welfare recipients and professional athletes. As a lawyer, Carl Character epitomized excellence in the courtroom. He and I were partners for a number of years in the law firm founded by my brother Carl Stokes, Carl Character, and myself. The law firm was known as Stokes, Character, Terry, Perry Whitehead, young and Davidson. It was during those years that I came to know Carl Character as an outstanding trial lawyer who was totally dedicated to his clients and the cause which he espoused. More than that, however, he was active in our community where he volunteered many hours of service. He was a leader and advocate in the civil rights movement in Cleveland. Whenever his community needed him, Carl Character was there. As a judge he has been compassionate and strong. He is highly respected by the bench and bar and leaves a legacy of excellence as a judge. Carl has been a role model for young lawyers and he has really enjoyed being a judge.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Character is a veteran of the United States Army, having served in the Korean war. He is a past president of the National Bar Association and a member of the American Bar Association. Other memberships include the World Association of Lawyers, American Trial Lawyers Association, National Conference of Black Lawyers, and the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, just to name a few.

In addition to his judicial duties, Judge Character is an integral part of the Cleveland community. He is active in the Cleveland NAACP, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, the Ohio Commission on Racial Fairness, the American Legion, and the University Hospital Board of Trustees. I am also proud to note his membership in the Emmanuel Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his career, Judge Character has been recognized for his dedication and commitment to public service. He received the Distinguished Service Award from the Judicial Council of the National Bar Association. In addition, he received the organization's Presidential Award and C. Francis Stratford Award. Judge Character has been named "Father of the Year" by the Teen Father Program. Further, he received special recognition from the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland and has been honored by Beta Gamma Sigma and Beta Alpha Psi Fraternities.

Judge Character and his lovely wife, DeeAnn reside in Shaker Heights, OH. They are the proud parents of Darla and Dea Character. I know that members of Judge Character's family share our pride in his many accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to salute Judge Carl J. Character. He is a dedicated public servant who has fought to ensure justice and

fairness in the legal system. I join his colleagues and others in congratulating him and wishing him well in the future.

#### INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3951

HON. ROBERT S. WALKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 1996

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, today we are introducing a bill to clarify the interpretation of language contained in the Florence Agreement, a multilateral international agreement regarding the importation of educational, scientific, and cultural materials. It allows the duty-free importation of scientific apparatus into the United States, if used by U.S. approved institutions for educational, scientific, and cultural purposes.

This legislation specifically broadens the interpretation of the words "scientific instruments or apparatus" by the U.S. Customs Service as it pertains to the Gemini International Telescope Project. The U.S. Customs Service has narrowly defined these terms not to include "components" of these instruments or apparatus.

The present problem involved two large optical telescopes now under construction in Hawaii and Chile. The Gemini International Telescope Project, managed by the Association of Universities in Astronomy [AURA], involves the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Chile, Argentina, and Brazil. The telescopes contain several major components, one of which is an 8-meter mirror which was manufactured in the United States. The mirrors were shipped to France for polishing before being returned to Hawaii and Chile for final assembly. The U.S. Customs Service initially contended that the mirror was a component and that components are not eligible for duty-free entry. Chile, however, is not charging duties on the mirror destined for there.

Following requests from Members of Congress and the administration, the U.S. Customs Service finally agreed to allow the duty-free import of the mirror, because it ruled that the mirror involved the essence of the telescopes. However, there are several other major components of the telescope that should also receive duty-free status.

This bill addresses the specific problem being faced by the Gemini International Telescope Project by allowing the duty-free importation of major components of the telescope now under construction in Hawaii. The components are specifically listed in the legislation. This bill also addresses the issue of fairness under the United States obligations under the Florence Agreement. By allowing the duty-free importation of the components of the Gemini telescope, we are fulfilling an agreement we made with the international scientific community.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID G. CRAIG

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 1996

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Dr. David G. Craig, a University of

Tennessee human ecology professor, for being named as the 1996 Higher Education Teacher of the Year. This indeed is a great honor and one which Dr. Craig should be very proud to receive.

The Tennessee Education Association selected Dr. Craig based on several criteria. He has demonstrated excellence in the classroom, professional merit, and participation in professional, community, and political activities at the University of Tennessee.

I request that a copy of the article "Professor Distinguished as Teacher of Year" which appeared in the University of Tennessee Daily Beacon be placed in the RECORD at this point. I would like to call it to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE PATENT AND ROYALTY ENFORCEMENT

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 1996

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, the current legal situation in the international trade arena, places small companies and American businesses in a position where they have little recourse against unfair trade acts, and where they are vulnerable to foreign predatory practices. The bill that I am introducing today would mandate that there be legislative change to enable small companies, who have endured unfair methods of competition by their foreign trading partners, to seek redress in a court of competent jurisdiction in the United States.

This legislation will help small business owners like Mr. Salvatore Monte. Mr. Monte is the president of Kenrich Petrochemical Inc., and an inventor in the proud New Jersey tradition of Thomas Edison. Mr. Monte holds numerous patents for organo-metallic compounds, which are used in everything from rocket fuels, to ammunition, to tires, to cars, to printed circuit boards, to photocopiers. In 1976, Mr. Monte signed a contract with Ajinomoto Co. [AJICO] of Japan to import, and later, gave license to manufacture, his chemical products. Since that time, Mr. Monte has experienced extensive violation of his intellectual property rights, and questionable business practices—robbing him of millions of dollars. Mr. Monte has been faced with such anti-competitive business practices as:

Improper recordkeeping; so narrow an interpretation of Japanese patents as to be considered infringement—to the point that the Japanese manufacturer even copied his technical literature; patent flooding; and unauthorized sublicensing for the manufacture of his chemicals.

I believe Mr. Monte is not alone in his dilemma. The U.S. Trade Representative received numerous complaints about Japanese narrow patent interpretation and patent flooding practices. As a result, Japan remains on the special 301 priority watch list. Absent legislative change which gives U.S. courts jurisdiction over the unfair acts and unfair methods of competition in which foreign companies are engaging under the protection of their government, there is little recourse under law for small business owners, like Mr. Monte. The WTO has no jurisdiction over private actions.