

black lung; the miner was receiving black lung benefits when he died; or medical evidence offered by the miner before he died satisfies new eligibility standards. Widows who are receiving benefits and who remarry would not be disqualified from continuing to receive the benefits, and a widow would be entitled to receive benefits without regard to the length of time she was married to the miner.

V. Offsets: The practice of offsetting a miner's Social Security benefits by the amount of black lung benefits would be discontinued.

THE REINTRODUCTION OF THE FAIRNESS IN POLITICAL ADVERTISING ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 1997

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, in this past election season, spending levels for Federal elections shattered all previous records, for an estimated total of \$1.6 billion. Given the vast sums of money required to run for office, wealthy individuals have a significant advantage over ordinary citizen candidates. That is hardly representative government. The cost of running for political office in America has simply become too high, and I am determined that we find a better way.

On election night, I vowed to redouble my efforts to clean up our out-of-control campaign finance system. Today I am reintroducing the Fairness in Political Advertising Act, which would both reduce the cost of elections and level the playing field by requiring broadcast stations to make free political advertising time available to candidates, as a condition of those stations renewing their licenses. And because so many voters have expressed dismay over negative advertising, my bill would also require that the programming consist of unedited segments in which the candidate speaks directly into the camera. In this way, candidates would be directly accountable for any statements made.

My first responsibility in this Congress is to see that the people of New York's 28th Congressional District, as well as our Nation, experience fair and clean campaigns in the years to come. The Fairness in Political Advertising Act would go a long way toward reducing the influence of money on our elections. I urge Congress to enact it now.

A BEACON-OF-HOPE FOR ALL AMERICANS: LORRELLE HENRY

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 1997

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, with the 1996 election behind us, this Nation has completed another cycle of the ongoing democratic process which makes America great. The electoral process and the public officials selected through this process are invaluable assets in our quest to promote the general welfare and to guarantee the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. It is important, however, Mr. Speaker, that we also give due recognition

to the equally valuable contribution of non-elected leaders throughout our Nation. The fabric of our society is generally enhanced and enriched by the hard work done year after year by ordinary volunteer citizens. Especially in our inner-city communities which suffer from long public policy neglect, local grassroots leaders provide invaluable services. These are men and women who engage in activities which generate hope. I salute all such heroes and heroines ad BEACONS-OF-HOPE.

Lorrelle Henry is one of these BEACONS-OF-HOPE residing in the central Brooklyn community of New York City and New York State. Ms. Henry served as the director of libraries for the New York City school system until her retirement. She now serves as an adjunct professor at the Borough of Manhattan Community College.

Although retired from the school system, Ms. Henry continues to work as an advocate for children. Ms. Henry serves as president of the Central Brooklyn Martin Luther King Commission; vice president of the New York City Martin Luther King Commission; treasurer of the Brooklyn Women's Political Caucus; member of ALA Caldecott Committee, which selects outstanding children's books; member of the Coretta Scott King Award Jury, which selects outstanding children's books by black authors; member of the board of directors of the Great Day Chorale; member of the Lincoln Place Block Association; and member of the Award of the Americas Committee, which selects outstanding children's books portraying Latin American and Caribbean life. Moreover, she is a recipient of numerous awards including the School Library Service Award and the New York State Martin Luther King, Jr. President's Award.

Lorrelle Henry is the oldest of two children and grew up in Harlem during the exciting times of Langston Hughes, Adam Clayton Powell, and others. Lorrelle's parents always emphasized the necessity for donating time and energy to neighbors and community. In addition, her parents encouraged their children to be political activists.

Lorrelle Henry is a native New Yorker who attended the city's public schools. She later graduated from Brooklyn College and obtained a master's in library science from St. John's University.

Ms. Henry is the mother of three children, Michelle, Gairre, and Scott. And she is the proud grandmother of Kahliil, Shaniqua, Naren, and Jordan.

Lorrelle Henry is a BEACON-OF-HOPE for all of central Brooklyn and for all Americans.

COMPUTER MAINTENANCE COMPETITION ASSURANCE ACT OF 1997

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 1997

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to ensure that a computer owner may authorize the activation of their computer by a third party for the limited purpose of servicing computer hardware components. This is the same language that I worked with former Chairman Carlos Moorhead to include in H.R. 1861, section 7, "Limitations on Exclusive Rights; Computer Programs," during the 104th Congress. Under suspension of the rules, H.R. 1861 was passed by voice vote.

The specific problem is when a computer is activated, the software is copied into the Random Access Memory [RAM]. This copy is protected under section 117 of the Copyright Act, as interpreted by the Fourth and Ninth Circuits Court of Appeals. This technical correction is extremely important to Independent Service Organizations [ISO's] who, without this legislation, are prohibited from turning on a customer's computer. A wave of litigation has plagued the computer repair market. The detrimental effect is that ISO's are prevented from reading the diagnostics software and subsequently cannot service the computer's hardware. The financial reality is that the multibillion dollar nationwide ISO industry is at risk.

My bill provides language that authorizes third parties to make such a copy of the limited use of servicing computer hardware components. My bill does nothing to threaten the integrity of the Copyright Act and maintains all other protections under the act.

The intent of the Copyright Act is to protect and encourage a free marketplace of ideas. However, in this instance, it hurts the free market by preventing ISO's from servicing computers. Furthermore, it limits the consumer's choice of who can service their computer and how competitive a fee can be charged.

BANKRUPTCY LAW TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 1997

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 1997

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Bankruptcy Law Technical Corrections Act of 1997. This legislation provides a number of much-needed technical corrections and updates to our bankruptcy laws.

Many of the changes identified in the bill are designed to remedy drafting errors in the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1994, while others relate to provisions in the Bankruptcy Code which pre-date the 1994 changes. The legislation is based in part on a series of changes brought to Congress' attention by the non-partisan National Bankruptcy Conference last Congress, many of which were incorporated into S. 1559, the Bankruptcy Technical Corrections Act of 1996.

Among other things, the bill I am introducing today updates a number of definitions, clarifies that debtors' attorneys may be compensated out of the debtor's estate, clarifies the types of professional services which are eligible for administrative expense treatment, and provides that the 1994 amendments to section 525(c) apply only to bar discrimination concerning students loans and grants because of prior bankruptcies.

The bill also specifies that in 1994, when Congress overruled the *Deprizio* line of cases, we intended the new law to apply to transfers of liens in property. In addition, the bill modifies section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code to, among other things, make it clear that subsection (b)(2)(D), providing an exception to the obligations which must be cured in order for