

trade restrictions against non-Parties. As Secretaries Albright and Cohen have recently underscored, ratifying the CWC before it enters into force is in the best interests of the United States.

The CWC contains a number of provisions that require implementing legislation to give them effect within the United States. These include: carrying out verification activities, including inspections of U.S. facilities; collecting and protecting the confidentiality of data declarations by U.S. chemical and related companies; and establishing a "National Authority" to serve as the liaison between the United States and the international organization established by the CWC.

In addition, the CWC requires the United States to prohibit all individuals and legal entities, such as corporations, within the United States, as well as all individuals outside the United States, possessing U.S. Citizenship, from engaging in activities that are prohibited under the Convention. As part of this obligation, the CWC requires the United States to enact "penal" legislation implementing this prohibition (i.e., legislation that penalizes conduct, either by criminal, administrative, military or other sanctions).

Expedient enactment of implementing legislation is very important to the ability of the United States to fulfill its obligations under the Convention. Enactment will enable the United States to collect the required information from industry, to provide maximum protection for confidential information, and to allow the inspections called for in the Convention. It will also enable the United States to outlaw all activities related to chemical weapons, except CWC permitted activities such as chemical defense programs. This will help fight chemical terrorism by penalizing not just the use, but also the development, production and transfer of chemical weapons. Thus, the enactment of legislation by the United States and other CWC States Parties will make it much easier for law enforcement officials to investigate and punish chemical terrorists early, before chemical weapons are used.

As the President indicated in his transmittal letter of the Convention: "The CWC is in the best interests of the United States. Its provisions will significantly strengthen United States, allied and international security, and enhance global and regional stability." Therefore, I urge the Congress to enact the necessary implementing legislation as soon as possible.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that there is no objection to the submission of this proposal and its enactment is in accord with the President's program.

Sincerely,

JOHN D. HOLUM,
Director.

IN SUPPORT OF WEI JINGSHENG

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my colleagues today in submitting a CONGRESSIONAL RECORD statement on behalf of Mr. Wei Jingsheng, a Chinese dissident and political prisoner.

Mr. Jingsheng's book, "The Courage To Stand Alone: Letters from Prison and Other Writings," was scheduled for publication yesterday. I would like this statement to stand as support for Mr. Jingsheng, his fight for free-

dom of speech, and for the cause of democracy in China today. Eighteen years of prison confinement have not caused him to waver in his quest for freedom. In the face of relentless attacks, his spirit remains unbroken.

He has endured unlawful imprisonment, by China's own standards, for expressing his belief in democracy for China. He is allowed to be tormented by his prison cellmates, his mail has been confiscated, his reading material is censored, and he is barely permitted to see his family. His lengthy and torturous prison term has led to the severe deterioration of his physical health. He is in dire need of medical attention which the Chinese Government continues to deny to him. This oppression and injustice must stop.

I urge the Chinese Government to reconsider its actions and treatment against Mr. Jingsheng. I urge my colleagues to join with me and speak out against the abuses being suffered by Mr. Jingsheng. Let us not turn a blind eye to the plight of Wei Jingsheng and others like him in the world who believe in the promise of democracy. The end to this suffering will only come when we, as a collective, consistently speak out against the violation of human rights throughout the world.

SEAT BELTS ON SCHOOL BUSES

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to require seat belts on school buses. Since this is National SAFE KIDS Week, this is an appropriate time to introduce a bill to improve the safety of school bus travel for our Nation's children.

My legislation would prohibit the manufacture, sale, delivery, or importation of school buses that do not have seat belts, and impose civil penalties for those that do not comply. Our Nation's schoolchildren deserve safe transportation to and from school, and their parents deserve peace of mind. We have a responsibility to provide both.

National SAFE KIDS Week is dedicated to preventing unintentional childhood injury, the No. 1 killer of children ages 14 and younger. Since 1985, over 1,478 people have died in school bus-related crashes—an average of 134 fatalities a year. School bus occupants accounted for 11 percent of these deaths. Just last year in my State of Wisconsin, there were more than 950 school buses involved in crashes and over 450 occupant injuries.

Every year, approximately 394,000 public schoolbuses travel about 4.3 billion miles to transport 23.5 million children to and from school-related activities. These numbers argue for the highest level of safety we can provide. I believe my bill is a step in this direction.

I urge my colleagues to also support this important legislation, which has been endorsed by the American Medical Association and the American College of Emergency Physicians. We must work together, at the local, State, and Federal level to prevent school bus injuries.

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

HON. WALTER H. CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Mr. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, as a Representative for the 22d District of California, I am honored to bring to the attention of my colleagues the achievement of Yi-Hui Lee, a senior at Dos Pueblos High School. Yi-Hui Lee was awarded a \$500 scholarship by the Santa Barbara League of Women Voters for her paper entitled "Making Democracy Work."

I commend Yi-Hui Lee on her outstanding essay and hope that her enthusiasm for American democracy will continue as she enters the University of Los Angeles next year. I would like to present this paper to my colleagues.

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

(Yi-Hui Lee)

American democracy is a system of government that serves the people through representation. This is achieved through the collaboration of a Constitutional bureaucratic framework, the Bill of Rights, and political tolerance. The United States' Constitution, and its inevitable bureaucratic framework, is structured to maintain checks and balances within the government, which, in return, prevents the rise of any unscrupulous demagogue and seeks the true interests of the people. The Bill of Rights further extends this objective by ensuring individuals' rights to liberty, thus, fostering a higher development in people's political efficacy and involvement. Nevertheless, even with this established Constitutional framework, the public's minimal tolerance is essential in making democracy work. The absence of any one of these factors will make *participatory* democracy different from the one existing in the United States today.

By decentralizing governmental powers and providing an equitable bureaucratic structure, the Constitution makes American democracy into the currently practiced, Aristotle definition of the "rule of many." This type of government exists under the creation of a shared power among the judicial, executive, and legislative branches, each one of which watches over the other and assures the checks and balances of the system. As a result, when no one body of government has potential to dictate, the ideal of American democracy that all may be heard is preserved. On a smaller scale, the structure of Congress was adjusted to counteract the difference in population of the states by working under a bicameral legislature. In order to maintain a democratic freedom, in which both majority and state views are heard, the "Great Compromise" was organized and established. The Great Compromise reconciled the interests of both small and large states by creating a House of Representatives—apportioned on the basis of population—and a Senate—consisting of two senators for each state. By working under this bureaucratic framework, the checks and balances made through decentralization and equal representation allows all sides to present their views.

The Bill of Rights is another crucial element in making participatory democracy possible in America. Because Americans live under the protection of the first ten amendments, they find themselves more open to publicly voicing their opinions and raising their political efficacy and involvement. The youth of this generation have actively demonstrated their high awareness of and deep concern for some of the most controversial

issues affecting their community. Students at the University of California at Santa Barbara expressed their disapproval of Proposition 209 by protesting on campus. More recently, students have petitioned to raise the political awareness that the Nike industry is thriving under the operation of numerous sweat shops. These events, in which people were entitled to be heard under the public light, were only possible because of the First Amendment—freedom of speech and the right to peaceably assemble and petition.

Furthermore, the extent to which democracy can exist is most dependent upon Americans' political culture to tolerate one another's right to his or her opinion as exemplified in the peaceful assemblies and petitions previously mentioned. At least minimal political tolerance must be expected in order to preserve the objective of a democracy. If Catholics were denied the right to hold public meetings, if government militia were the norm to breaking up peaceful immigrant protesters, if pro-life groups bombed every abortion clinic, then democracy would fail. National Opinion polls, conducted by Samuel Barnes and Max Kasse, have shown that under the American political culture the public has become more tolerant over the last few decades. These surveys reveal that as more citizens support an oppression-free atmosphere, democracy is able to meet its goal of a participatory government.

American democracy distinguishes itself from all other systems of government by maintaining the exercise of its Constitutional bureaucratic framework, the Bill of Rights, and political tolerance. The United States' participatory democracy genuinely allows for equal representation in an environment where the voice and concerns of the people can be heard.

IRISH DEPORTEES

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to the plight of several Irish nationals facing deportation from the United States.

As an executive board member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Irish Affairs, I am deeply disappointed by our Government's policy. These men facing deportation left their homeland in the face of political persecution and now live peaceful, productive lives in the United States.

Even so, in what we know as the land of freedom, they are now pursued by our own government. Most of the subjects of deportation proceedings are married to American citizens or legal permanent residents. Most have children who are American citizens. Most would be entitled to permanent residence in the United States, except for their involvement in the Irish political struggle. And, most would face severe persecution if forced to return to Northern Ireland.

Two of those facing deportation, Gabriel Megahey and Robert McErlean, live in my congressional district. Two days ago, a person named Sean Brown, a man from Mr. McErlean's village in the north of Ireland, was brutally assassinated. Only 59 years old and not deeply involved in politics, Sean Brown's death only adds weight to my constituents' assertions that they would face persecution if forced to be deported to their homeland.

Mr. Speaker, 3 months ago, the Ad Hoc Committee for Irish Affairs held an unprecedented forum on the Irish deportees. After hearing from a representative of the administration and family members of the deportees, more than 60 Members of the House of Representatives wrote to President Clinton pleading for justice for those facing deportation. Today, I renew that appeal and once again request that President Clinton meet with a delegation from the Ad Hoc Committee to discuss our Government's unjust policy toward the deportation cases.

CONCERNING THE DEATH OF CHAIM HERZOG

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM BUNNING

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 1997

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I rise today to recognize the passing of a true hero of Israel, President Chaim Herzog. His leadership and perseverance are examples of why Israel remains the only freely elected country in the Middle East.

Chaim Herzog dedicated his life to the creation and preservation of a free and independent Israel. As a true patriot, Mr. Herzog bravely fought the Nazis as Director of British Intelligence in northern Germany and after the war served as an officer in the Israeli Army during the war of independence in 1948. With Israel's independence secured, Chaim Herzog took on the responsibility of heading Israel's military intelligence branch and served as the country's defense attaché here in Washington, DC until 1954. After a long and distinguished career, Mr. Herzog retired from the army in 1962, with the rank of major-general.

Even after leaving military service, Mr. Herzog continued his work to ensure Israel's freedom. During the Six-Day War, Mr. Herzog was a voice for his people by providing in-depth analysis of the victorious Israeli Army and Air Force. Afterward, he became the first military governor of the West Bank.

Mr. Herzog soon returned to public service by serving as Israel's Ambassador to the U.N. from 1975 to 1978, where he argued against the U.N. resolution equating Zionism with racism and led the charge in defending the triumphant rescue of Israeli hostages in Uganda.

Mr. Herzog, returned to Israel where he was elected to the Knesset in 1981, serving until 1983. In 1983, Mr. Herzog was chosen as the sixth President of the State of Israel and served two terms, until 1993. During this time he improved relations between our two countries and continued Israel's efforts to bring peace to the Middle East.

Israel has lost a great hero with the passing of Chaim Herzog and America has lost a great friend.

TRIBUTE TO EL CENTRO DE AMISTAD

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to El Centro de Amistad, which this

year is celebrating its 20th anniversary. Now led by Angel Perez, El Centro has established an impressive record of providing help to at-risk youth and their families in the San Fernando Valley. Anyone who wants to see young people off drugs and away from gangs is grateful to El Centro for its efforts.

Founded in 1977, the original advisory board worked directly with the agency responsible for its development, the San Fernando Community Mental Health Centers, Inc. Seven years later the advisory board assumed the role of governing board, and El Centro de Amistad was born. A bilingual/bicultural non-profit organization, El Centro offers health, mental health, education, and community action services. Many of its clients are poor Latinos, and many of these are recent immigrants.

El Centro focuses on reducing risk factors that can lead to violence, school failure, gang affiliation, and child abuse. The organization offers youth counseling, afterschool tutoring, and summer activities/youth job placement as healthy alternatives to destructive behavior. In 1996 El Centro provided direct services to 13,000 clients and an additional 10,000 family members. It's numbers such as these that vividly illustrate the importance of El Centro to the entire San Fernando Valley.

In 1989 El Centro opened a satellite center in the city of San Fernando to address the needs of an overwhelmingly Latino population. Eight years later, the San Fernando Satellite Center is an unqualified success. Among its many important duties, the Satellite Center has provided psychological counseling to residents in the aftermath of the devastating Northridge earthquake.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting El Centro de Amistad, which has made a difference in the lives of so many people. Its dedication to making this a better world inspires us all.

IRISH DEPORTEES

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of seven families now living in the United States. The fathers in these families, Noel Gaynor, Robbie McErlean, Gabriel Megahey, Matt Morrison, Charles Caufield, Kevin Crossan, Brian Pearson, are all Irish nationals, all married to American citizens or legal residents, and are facing deportation.

Earlier this year, I listened to the testimony of many of these families at a hearing before the Congressional Ad Hoc Committee for Irish Affairs. They have been living and working in the United States for many years, some for more than two decades. However, they live under the constant threat of deportation. Because of past political involvement, these men, their wives, even their children would most likely face violence and harassment if forced to live in Northern Ireland.

After years of living in turmoil, these men came to the United States to settle and raise their families. Mr. Speaker, they deserve no less than true, unbiased judgment by our laws.