

have saved by doing so over the course of their 50 year history.

That's why I am so glad to have this opportunity to pay tribute to them today. And for that matter, the residents of their community will have the opportunity to show their appreciation at a parade marking this momentous occasion on Sunday, June 1, 1997.

Mr. Speaker, I have always been one to judge people by how much they give back to their community. On that scale, the members of this fire company, both past and present, are truly great Americans. I am proud of this organization because it typifies the spirit of volunteerism which has been such a central part of American life. We would all do well to emulate the service of the men and women who comprise Fire Company No. 1 in West Glens Falls. To that end, it is with a sense of pride, Mr. Speaker, that I ask all members to join me in paying tribute to them on the occasion of their 50th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO ADAM DEFOE

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 1997

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize an impressive young North Dakotan, Adam DeFoe of Devils Lake was the 1997 State winner in the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Voice Democracy Broadcast Scriptwriting Contest. Mr. DeFoe's essay is based on the theme "Democracy—Above and Beyond".

I am very excited to see such worthwhile ideas coming from North Dakota's youth. It is my pleasure to submit Mr. DeFoe's essay for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

DEMOCRACY—ABOVE AND BEYOND

(By Adam DeFoe)

"Democracy, above and beyond all other forms of government. What exactly does this phrase mean? To find out, I took each letter of democracy and found a word befitting this form of government starting with that letter. It is as follows.

First of course is 'D'. I chose two words for this letter. The first is dependence. Democracy stands for dependence upon the people for an efficient government unit. Dependence upon the people is the key to democracy, for without the people's say in the government, what kind of government is it?

My next word is dauntless. Synonyms for this word include fearless and bold. A democracy is indeed dauntless because it is government by the people. If the people are in charge, of course they will be bold and fearless. This is what they fought for, went above and beyond their call of duty for, for a government that is indeed above and beyond all others.

Next, we have the letter 'E'. For this letter I chose empowerment. Again we come back to the people. The people are indeed empowered in Democracy as it is their form of government: "of the people, by the people, for the people". Without a government such as a democracy, the people would have little or no say in the government, as is the case in lower forms of government such as a tyranny or monarchy, where the rule is just by a few and oftentimes by the least competent few.

We move on now to the letter 'M'. For this letter I settled upon majority rule. A democracy is rule by the majority, not by just the

wealthy or by those who inherit their positions. The voice of the majority is heard and ruled upon. The laws of the country are governed as such. This is government in its truest form, this is democracy.

Now we have 'O'. For 'O' we have obligation. This word relates not only to the Democratic government, but also to the people. The government's first and foremost duty is to do what is right for the people, to defend and protect their rights and interests. However, these people, too, are obliged to see that the government does these things, to see that the government is run well and efficiently. Moreover, it is the people's obligation to vote, so that their voice may be heard. For without this very important part of the democratic process it is very hard for the government, or democracy as a whole, to be above and beyond all other forms of government.

This brings us now to the letter 'C'. I found the word 'change' to be appropriate for this letter. People crave changes. Democracy gives them that. True, other forms of government do give change, such as a monarchy, for example, but in a democracy it's good change, a change the people want. Also, a change that democracy needs, to have fresh ideas and thoughts in the government. It is the people's responsibility to see that this change is brought forth.

Next, we have 'R'. Resilience. It is my belief that a democratic government is resilient. Resilience to change, and to recover quickly from these changes that are imperative to Democracy. Resilience is also needed to recover quickly from misfortune. The people in a democratic nation may band together more quickly than would other nations with other forms of government for the reason that they've had to work together in the past to form and make their democratic government work and will remain banded together in times of disaster.

After that comes 'A'. For 'A' we have adapt. This word is important to democracy in that democracy has evolved over time from other forms of government such as the caste system. Democracy originated in Ancient Greece and has since then adapted and changed to the needs of modern society.

Moving on now 'C', we have culture. A democracy can represent all forms of culture in a nation. It can represent all of the people, rich or poor, educated or not. This is the essence of democracy, representing all walks of life equally. Favoring no one. Going "above and beyond all other forms of government" in this way.

Finally we come to the letter 'Y'. For this I have chosen the word 'yes'. The word 'yes' in that I say yes to democracy, a fine government in which people can express their opinions without fear of oppression. A government where people can guarantee themselves the freedoms they want. Yes, a democracy, above and beyond all forms of government. I think it's spelled out quite clearly."

A TRIBUTE TO THE ANNUAL ELIZABETH WATERFRONT FESTIVAL

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Annual Elizabeth Waterfront Festival. This 3-day cultural celebration will take place in my district on May 24–26, 1997, along the spacious Veterans Memorial Waterfront Park in the city of Elizabeth.

This weekend's festivities celebrate the enormously positive influence of Hispanic culture on the lives of the people of Elizabeth. The Elizabeth Waterfront Festival proudly exhibits the rich cultural traditions that Hispanics have brought to the city, and to the Nation. The artwork, music, dance, and cuisine at the festival represent the cultural mosaic of Elizabeth.

The Elizabeth Waterfront Festival recognizes the role business can play in helping people achieve their true potential and highlights the diversity that exists within the Hispanic community. Its success exemplifies the beneficial influence public-private partnerships can have on a community. In cooperation with the city of Elizabeth, sponsors of the festival include major companies such as Anheuser-Busch, AT&T, Bustelo Coffee, HBO en Espanol, Best Foods, and Coca-Cola. Melly Mell Productions is once again producing the festival whose local sponsors include the Elizabeth Center at 13A, Twin City Supermarkets, Mega 97.9 FM Radio, Telemundo 47, TKR Cable of Elizabeth, Union County College, and First BankAmericano.

The Elizabeth Waterfront Festival observes the cultural and economic role that the Hispanic community plays in Elizabeth and it illustrates all that the city has to offer. Locating the festival on the waterfront was an inspired choice to highlight Elizabeth's business community since the city of Elizabeth's strategic location on New Jersey's coastline makes it a preferred destination for ships carrying goods from all over the world.

It is an honor to have such an exceptional event take place in my district. The festival brings our community together, reflecting positively on the city of Elizabeth and New Jersey. I am certain my colleagues will rise with me and recognize this wonderful celebration of culture, community, and diversity.

VOLUNTEER MEDICAL SERVICES ACT

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 1997

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, a number of organizations provide volunteer medical services without charge to those who might not otherwise have access to medical care.

I think all of these people should be commended for lending a helping hand to their fellow man.

However, many of these organizations have been hampered in their efforts because the doctors must have a medical license in each State in which they volunteer their services. The State of Tennessee recognized this problem and addressed it by enacting legislation which will allow any licensed doctor to practice in the State as long as they are providing medical services to the poor at no cost.

Unfortunately, the State of Tennessee is the only State in the Union to have this type of law. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I have introduced a bill, House Concurrent Resolution 69, which encourages all States to pass similar legislation.

I believe we need to reduce the rules and regulations which hinder the efforts of those who wish to help the less fortunate in our