

RETIREMENT OF POLICE CHIEF  
RAY WROBLEWSKI

**HON. JERRY WELLER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise before you today to pay tribute to one of the many fine law enforcement officers from the Eleventh District of Illinois. After 32 years of service to the community and local law enforcement, Beecher, Illinois Police Chief Ray Wroblewski has decided to retire from the force.

Thirty two years ago Chief Wroblewski started his career in law enforcement as a deputy in the Will County Sheriff's Office. After serving with the sheriff's office for over a year, Ray joined the Crete Police Department and served the citizens of Crete, Illinois as a patrolman for twelve years before moving on to the Beecher Police Department. Starting out as a patrolman in Beecher, Ray worked his way through the ranks to the position of Chief, where he helped make the Beecher Police Department one of the best law enforcement agencies in Illinois.

During his twenty years of service in Beecher, Chief Wroblewski implemented a number of new programs and techniques that made the streets safer for his fellow officers and the residents of Beecher. Chief Wroblewski ushered in a new age of technology at the Beecher Police Department with the installation of onboard computers in the Village patrol cars, while, returning the force to a Community Oriented Police Department that works side by side with local residents. Chief Wroblewski was also instrumental in the formation of the department's new bike patrol, which will further the goals of the community policing program.

Mr. Speaker, while Chief Wroblewski would say little has changed in Beecher over the last twenty years, I think all of the citizens of Beecher would agree that their community has changed, and for the better, thanks to the efforts and hard work of Chief Wroblewski. Respected by law enforcement officers throughout the State of Illinois, Chief Wroblewski's leadership, caring and ingenuity will be missed by the people of Beecher and the officers of the Beecher Police Department.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Wroblewski chose a career in law enforcement because he enjoyed helping people, and throughout his 32 years of service he did just that. I know I speak for all of my colleagues and the folks back home in Beecher when I say, thank you Chief Wroblewski for all your years of service, and best wishes in your retirement.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL AARON  
BANK

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Colonel Aaron Bank on his birthday. Colonel Bank is one of our great military leaders and one of our great Americans.

Colonel Bank helped found, organize and train the United States Army's elite Special Forces group which is known today as the Green Berets. He was hand-picked to organize and develop the Army's Special Forces division because of his depth of knowledge and experience in unconventional warfare.

Colonel Bank served his country through several wars. In 1942 he was recruited for the newly-formed Office of Strategic Services (OSS). In 1944, he parachuted as part of a three man team into occupied France to promote resistance there. While in France he sabotaged the Germans' efforts by blowing up railroad lines, bridges and electric networks. He gathered resistance fighters which had increased to 3,000 and turned back the Germans in a series of fire fights.

At the end of World War II, Colonel Bank was sent to train Vietnamese troops. In an extraordinary feat, Bank parachuted into Laos to search for missing prisoners of war. After serving in Vietnam he was sent to Europe again and assigned to Army counterintelligence to catch Soviet bloc agents. By 1952 he was formally designated commander of the 10th Special Forces Group, the Green Berets.

Throughout his career Colonel Bank has demonstrated his keen intelligence, his compassion and his patriotism. He has engendered the utmost respect for his fellow mankind. His devotion and love of country form the foundation upon which he has built his beliefs.

Colonel Bank was a hero yesterday and is a hero today. His bravery, his devotion to freedom and his love for his country fill us with pride and admiration. Happy birthday and best wishes!

THE EQUITABLE CHILD CARE  
RESOLUTION

**HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Equitable Child Care Resolution. The purpose of this concurrent resolution is two fold. First, to point out that 70% of families with preschool children do not pay for child care. Second, that any quality child care proposal should also provide financial relief to families where there is an at-home parent.

Many of the child care proposals that are garnering attention merely expand commercial child care and do not also address the needs of the vast majority (70%) of families who struggle to provide child care at home or in the home of a close relative or neighbor.

The 70% of families who come up with creative solutions for their child care needs should not be ignored. Many of these families sacrifice a full-time income. We should also focus on providing them with financial relief.

As we debate the merits and problems of various child care proposals, this resolution will serve to remind us that any quality child care initiative should provide assistance to parents regardless of how those parents choose to care for their children, be it by an at-home parent, grandmother, uncle, close neighbor, or child care center. No child care proposal that discriminates against families based on their particular choice of child care should be actively considered.

I hope my colleagues will join me in making sure that at-home parents will not be forgotten in the child care debate. And, I urge my colleagues to not forget the 70% of American families who provide child care in the home, by supporting the Equitable Child Care Resolution.

AHCPR'S STUDY SUPPORTS PETE  
STARK'S BILL

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I introduced H.R. 2726 which directs the Secretary to contract with certain hospitals for the provision of certain surgical procedures and related services under the Medicare Program. The Agency for Health Care Policy and Research's (AHCPR) October 1997 article, "Study Reaffirms Link Between Angioplasty Outcomes and Hospital and Physician Experience," adds to the list of reasons why the bill should become law.

The article states that: "In the largest study of its kind to date, researchers have once again found that elderly patients undergoing coronary angioplasty are well advised to have the procedure done in hospitals that perform 200 or more angioplasties each year and by physicians who perform 75 or more angioplasties each year. These patients suffer fewer complications and deaths than similar patients who undergo angioplasties at hospitals and physicians who perform the procedure less often"

The article confirms that Medicare contracting with certain high volume, high quality hospitals will save money and deliver better health care. One could say it is a two-for-one: saves money while improving quality.

Mr. Speaker, the sooner we pass H.R. 2726, the sooner we start saving lives and saving dollars.

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE:  
CALUMET CITY LODGE NO. 1

**HON. JERRY WELLER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and dedication of the Fraternal Order of Police, Calumet City Lodge No. 1. This lodge was founded on November 29th, 1937 and on Tuesday, January 13th 1998 they celebrated their 60th Anniversary.

The Calumet City Lodge was the first Lodge organized in Illinois. Sixty years ago, there were 10 members. Today this organization boasts 78 members on active duty and 35 members who have retired from the police force. In fact, the oldest active member in the country of the Fraternal Order of Police organization, George Perniciaro, is a member of the Calumet City Lodge.

FOP Calumet City Lodge No. 1 has been dedicated to the community it serves in many ways. They sponsor a food and toy program for needy families in Calumet City during the holidays each year. They sponsor several Little League and Civic League Baseball teams.