THE AMERICA AFTER SCHOOL ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 1998

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the America After School Act. This bill increases the availability and affordability of high quality after-school child care. It expands the Child Care Development Block Grant and the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program, while investing juvenile justice funds into after-school prevention programs.

In 64 percent of families with children under 18, both parents work. Their children, especially those 5 to 15 years old, need a safe haven during non-school hours. A recent study showed that when children were unsupervised for long periods of time early in life, they were more likely to display poor behavior adjustment and academic performance as early as the sixth grade. Young people need productive, supervised activities for the periods when they are not in school.

In my district of Rochester, NY, Henry Lomb School #20 has an after school program that serves about 25 students. They could easily triple this number, based on their waiting list and space availability, if only they had enough funding to increase their staff to meet the one-to-ten staff-student requirement.

Meanwhile, Adlai Stevenson School #29 has an after school program that has enough funding to serve sixteen of its students. This is a great start. However, the school consists of a total of four hundred students. This is another example of the great need to expand after school child care in this country.

Other schools in my district report the need for increased funding for transportation, staff, and supplies to provide supervision and constructive activities for school-age children when the school day ends. Because of the lack of funding, schools do not have the resources to provide after-school care for all students every day. They ration the care—two or three days per week for each student. However, a study in my district showed that school attendance was higher on days when students knew they had their after-school program at the end of the day. Clearly, students desire a safe haven after school, as much as their parents desire it for them.

In addition, the peak hours for juvenile crime are from 3 PM to 8 PM. We need to get kids off the streets and into safe, productive programs at their schools where they can receive help with their homework, participate in the arts, and expend positive energy on athletic competition.

We have learned so much about the development of young minds and the importance of nurturing children at a young age. Expanding after school programs will help more children benefit from supervision and constructive attention from adults. We can stimulate these young minds through tutoring opportunities, arts and computer projects, and drug prevention activities.

I am proud to sponsor the America After School Act and I urge my colleagues to join me in improving the care of our nation's children. Following is a summary of the bill and a list of original cosponsors:

SUMMARY OF THE AMERICA AFTER SCHOOL ACT

Promoting Safe After School Activities
($7.25 billion over 5 years)

Title I: Child Care and Development Services

Expand the Child Care Development Block grant (CCDBG) to increase the availability and affordability of quality before and after school health care, and summer and weekend activities for school age children to promote good health and academic achievement and to help avoid high risk behavior. Programs must demonstrate inclusion of disabled children;—grants to schools, community-based organizations, child care, youth, and community centers, or partnerships in low-income areas.—costs: $5 billion over 5 years.

Title II: The 21st Century Community Learning Center Program

Expand the 21st Century Community Learning Center Program by:

Increasing the supply of before and after-school programs in a cost-effective manner by using public schools and their existing resources, such as computers, libraries, and gymnasiums, through a one-to-one matching provision that can be met by using in kind or cash resources.

Streamlining the application process and strengthening fiscal accountability mechanisms by including the local education agency in the application process, but keeping the responsibility for running the program at the school level.—costs: $1 billion over 5 years.

Title III: Crime Prevention Program

Direct half of the $500 million new juvenile justice funds to after school prevention programs, instead of just enforcement programs.

Offer grants on a matching basis to the public and private agencies that conduct after-school prevention programs to high crime neighborhoods and areas with significant numbers of at-risk youth.

Grantees must coordinate with state or local juvenile crime control programs.—costs: $1.25 billion over 5 years.

Original Cosponsors: Gary Ackerman, Rosa DeLauro, Barney Frank, Martin Frost, Darlene Hooley, Eddie Bernice Johnson, Dale Kildee, John Lewis, Zoe Lofgren, Robert Matsui, Marty Meehan, Connie Morella, Richard Neal, Major Owens, Nick Rahall, Max Sandlin, Robert Underwood, Henry Waxman.

TRIBUTE TO MARCELLA ''MARCY'' CISNEROS

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 1998

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marcella ''Marcy'' Cisneros, a dedicated community leader who is being honored as an inductee into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Marcella ''Marcy'' Cisneros is a tireless crusader against domestic violence. She began her work with victims of violence as a volunteer for the San Mateo Battered Women's Services, then served as Director of Program Services and Outreach Education from 1990 to 1993. Her dream to offer greater advocacy services came true in 1993 when Sor Juana Ines opened its doors to abused women. Since its inception, Sor Juana Ines has served over 5,000 women in San Mateo County by answering crisis calls and providing counseling. In 1995, Ms. Cisneros was hired by the District Attorney's Office as one of its first Domestic Violence Victim Advocates. In addition to her current position with the District Attorney, she continues to educate the private sector about domestic violence and serves in a number of other volunteer capacities. She is an Advisory Board Member of the Psychology Department for the College of Notre Dame and a Co-chair of the County Task Force on Violent Crimes Against Women.

Mr. Speaker, Marcella ''Marcy'' Cisneros is an outstanding citizen and I salute her for her remarkable contributions and commitment to our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and congratulating her on being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

RESOLUTION HONORING ANNE B. ANSTINE

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 1998

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise, Mr. Speaker, in honor of one of my very great friends, the late Anne B. Anstine of Port Royal, Pennsylvania.

Anne was a gifted and talented woman who cared deeply for not only the people she counted as friends and family, but also for the entire community. She lived an exemplary life of service of the organizations that she supported, and volunteered her time to help whenever she was needed. Her death has affected everyone who knew her, and we will all miss her.

Anne began her long and distinguished career in her hometown in Juniata County; therefore, it is my honor to submit the resolution adopted by the Juniata County Council of Republican Women in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. It is with great respect and admiration that I submit the following:

RESOLUTION IN MEMORY OF ANNA MAE BAIRD ANSTINE

Whereas, Pennsylvania has lost a very prominent, proficient and dedicated woman from the ranks of the Republican Party; and

Whereas, Mrs. Anna Mae Baird Anstine, age 73, died May 23, 1997. Known to all as Anne, she was born in Lock Haven, Clinton County, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Clarence E. and Rose Kalmbach Baird. She attended the public schools in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, and furthered her studies at the The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA. On September 14, 1994, she married John B. Anstine, Sr. They moved to Juniata County and established their home on Annlick Farm in Licking Creek, Mifflintown, PA. She lived there for forty years before moving to Port Royal, PA. She was the mother of three children: John B. Anstine, Jr., who resides in Port Royal, PA; Mrs. Nicholas S. (Elizabeth A.) Reynolds, who resides in Alexandria, Virginia; and Mrs. Joel (Rachael A.) Diamond, who resides in Reedsville, PA; and

Whereas, Anne served as Secretary-Treasurer for the family business, Annlick Farm Supply, Incorporated, Port Royal, PA since 1947; and

Whereas, Anne's career in public service began when she was elected County Committee Member for Juniata County. She later became Juniata County Republican Party Vice Chairman and aspired to the Chairmanship. Additionally, she served as Vice Chairman for Citizens of Governor Bill Scranton