

\$120 million to build a high school and three elementary schools.

Yet these needs often run counter to political realities. Historically, building schools has been a local issue. Congress has resisted paying for school construction for philosophical and economic reasons.

Some lawmakers say local taxpayers will become more dependent on the federal government and less committed to paying property taxes if Uncle Sam helps build schools.

Others say it will cost too much. For instance, building a new school in the Anaheim City School District costs about \$15 million, according to Perez. And the General Accounting Office estimates that it would take \$112 billion to repair schools nationwide.

"The Republican majority in Congress has tended not to support federal involvement in education," said Sally McConnell, a lobbyist for the National Association of Elementary School Principals. "That mood is still there among lots of members."

To appease deficit hawks and other critics, many lawmakers who want the federal government to pitch in are focusing on tax-oriented rather than spending-based solutions.

Under Sanchez's proposal, the federal government would give investors in school-construction bonds a tax credit.

A tax break, Sanchez said, will entice purchasers of bonds and take some financial burden off the schools without costing the federal government extra money or harming local control of schools.

To get the tax credit, schools must prove that they've tried to alleviate overcrowding by using nontraditional classroom space or holding a year-round schedule. They must work in partnership with a private group or business willing to pay some expenses such as computers.

And they must meet at least two of the following criteria: a 10 percent growth rate during a five-year period; a student-teacher ratio at least 28-to-1; or at least 35 percent of students living below the poverty level.

Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun, D-Ill., wants \$1 billion a year in tax credits for companies doing school construction projects so they would charge the local school districts less for the work.

Under Moseley-Braun's plan, \$226.7 million in tax credits would go directly to two school districts and six cities in California, including Santa Ana.

President Clinton plans to weigh in. In his State of the Union Speech on Jan. 27, Clinton is expected to propose spending \$5 billion on school repairs and construction. A similar plan was shelved last year during the balanced-budget talks, angering many education groups.

If any school-construction bill passes, it will probably borrow from the various pieces of existing legislation, said Michael Briggs, Moseley-Braun's spokesman.

Advocates of federal school-construction money say they're encouraged that some Republican governors are joining them to ask for federal help, including Gov. Pete Wilson, who has floated his own school-construction bond proposal.

About 87 percent of the public schools in California say they need to upgrade or repair buildings, according to a recent study by the GAO.

Enrollment in the state's elementary and secondary schools is expected to reach almost 7 million by 2007 from the current 6 million—a 17 percent increase, making it the state with the highest growth rate in the nation, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

And with many pushing for smaller classes, the space crunch will only get worse. About 6,000 more schools are needed to accommodate the growing enrollment, the education department study says.

"The joke around education circles is that every available trailer was headed to California when that thing passed," said Jewell Gould, research director at the American Federation of Teachers.

To principals like Edison's Ann Leibovitz, it may seem as if all those portables have landed on her campus. "We need more air space," she said. "We need help so that we're not bumping into each other as much."

REMEMBERING THE REVEREND  
DR. EDWARD ANDERSON FREEMAN

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri, and I join today in paying tribute to the late Reverend Dr. Edward Anderson ("E.A.") Freeman, who we are saddened to report passed away on January 26, 1999, in Kansas City, Kansas. His funeral was held this morning at the First Baptist Church of Quindaro, where he had been pastor for fifty years before retiring in 1996.

Reverend Freeman was the fifth of seven sons of James and Ollie Watts Freeman, born in Atlanta, Georgia, on June 11, 1914. He was educated in the Atlanta public schools, and received an A.B. from Clark College in Atlanta. After attending U.S. Army Chaplaincy School and Harvard University, he received his bachelor of divinity, master of theology and doctor of theology degrees from Central Baptist Theological in Kansas City, Kansas. His doctoral thesis was published as a book, "Epoch of Negro Baptist and the Foreign Mission Board" in 1953, and remains a standard textbook for teaching religious progress from the earliest beginnings of African-American life in the United States. After his early career as principal of Austell School in Georgia, Reverend Freeman served as pastor of two churches and as a U.S. Army chaplain from 1942–46, attaining the rank of major. After discharge from the Army, he was called to pastor the First Baptist Church in Kansas City, Kansas, where he served our community for fifty years.

Reverend Freeman, simply put, was a leader in local, national, and international communities. He was a visionary who was driven to assist and empower people, fighting as a civil rights activist, community leader, and president of the Kansas City chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Additionally, he served on the Kansas City, Kansas, Planning Commission from 1955 to 1995 (as its chairman for 29 years), and served on the Kansas City, Kansas Crime Prevention Council. He also was a leader in church affairs, serving as: president of the Missionary Baptist State Convention of Kansas; president of the Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Congress of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A.; first vice president of the Baptist World Alliance for five years in the 1980s; and as adjunct professor and member of the board of directors of Central Baptist Theological Seminary for many years.

In addition, we must note the numerous awards Reverend Freeman won throughout

his career which reflect his dedication to dialogue between different faiths, races and cultures, such as the Meeker Award from Ottawa University, which is given to individuals who have demonstrated a life of sacrifice, service to the disadvantaged, profound stewardship of life, unrelenting humanitarian services, and worthiness as a role model; and the Martin Luther King, Jr., Citizenship Award for Community Service, which embraced the philosophy of Dr. King and was presented by the Kansas City Kansas Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday Celebration Committee.

We join with the many friends, colleagues and community associates of Reverend Freeman in mourning this profound loss. As the *Kansas City Star* noted in its obituary, Reverend Freeman, throughout his career, was known for "interceding in numerous personal, business, and church matters at the request of those involved." He will, of course, be greatly missed by his wife, Ruth Anthony Freeman, and their three children: Edward A. Freeman, Jr.; Constance M. Lindsay; William N. Freeman; their son-in-law, Horace B. Lindsay, Jr.; six grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, we add to the RECORD two articles from the *Kansas City Star*, reviewing the life of this remarkable man, which are aptly entitled, "Death claims a role model: Rev. E.A. Freeman was local, national social crusader," and "Commitment was the hallmark of Rev. E.A. Freeman's life."

[From the *Kansas City Star*, Jan. 29, 1999]

DEATH CLAIMS A ROLE MODEL REV. E.A. FREEMAN WAS LOCAL, NATIONAL SOCIAL CRUSADER

(By: Helen T. Gray)

He was a man of God, and a man of his word. When the Rev. E. A. Freeman put his weight behind a cause, things would happen.

"If he said he would do something, you could count on him to do it," said the Rev. C. L. Bachus, a fellow minister and longtime friend. "Only the Lord could stop him."

Freeman, 84, a longtime religious and civic leader, died Tuesday at the Alzheimer's Center of Kansas City in Kansas City, Kan. He had been pastor of First Baptist Church of Quindaro for 50 years before retiring in 1996.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, long a friend of Freeman's, will deliver the eulogy at the service Tuesday.

"He was a very well respected member of our community," said Carol Marinovich, mayor of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kan. "He was a gentleman, and a gentle man, very committed to all the people of the community."

"Freeman's influence extended beyond Kansas City. He was first vice president of the Baptist World Alliance, a worldwide organization of Baptist churches, for five years in the 1980s. He worked with people of different races, ethnic backgrounds and cultures around the world."

During the Iranian hostage crisis in 1980, Freeman was among African-American ministers who went to Iran to try to open lines of communication between Islamic and Christian leaders.

"I had a great respect for him," said the Rev. Stacey Hopkins, pastor of First Baptist. "Everybody respected him. He was always willing to help the younger preachers. Many of us tried to pattern ourselves after him. . . . He always wore a shirt, tie and jacket. Always. He was a good example."

The Rev. Nelson Thompson said he worked with Freeman on several projects and admired his longevity.

"He was a mentor for me," said Thompson, president of the Greater Kansas City chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. "He was a rare individual. Not many people can pastor a church for 50 years."

Freeman was a past president of the Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Congress, the Christian education arm of the National Baptist Convention U.S.A. Inc. He also was a past president of the Missionary Baptist State Convention of Kansas. He had been president of the Kansas City, Kan., chapter of the NAACP; a member of the Kansas City, Kan., Planning Commission from 1955 to 1995, serving as chairman for 29 years; a member of the Kansas Board of Probation and Parole; and a member of the Kansas City, Kansas, Crime Prevention Council.

When Freeman retired, he said his greatest desire had been to help people. He recalled speaking with city officials about problems that minorities faced and riding with police during the riots after the death of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., "trying to keep everybody calm."

Alvin Brooks, a former assistant city manager in Kansas City, said that his friend of more than 45 years had few peers, either as preacher or prompter of social change.

"He could really preach a sermon," said Brooks, "But he wasn't just a preacher. He could walk into a room, and he had such a presence. . . . He was a great role model for young African-American men and young men aspiring to be ministers."

The funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at First Baptist Church, Fifth Street and Nebraska Avenue, Kansas City, Kan. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday and from 9 to 11 a.m. Tuesday at the church.

It was Freeman's wish that Jackson deliver his eulogy. Jackson spoke at First Baptist several times. Religious leaders from throughout the community and various parts of the country are expected to attend the services.

He leaves his wife, Ruth Anthony Freeman; his children, Edward A. Freeman Jr. of San Diego, Calif., Constance M. Lindsay and William N. Freeman, both of Kansas City; a son-in-law, Horace B. Lindsay Jr.; six grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

[From the Kansas City Star, Feb. 1, 1999]

COMMITMENT WAS THE HALLMARK OF REV.  
E.A. FREEMAN'S LIFE

[By Steve Paul, Kate Beem and Erica Wood]

The first indication that the Rev. E.A. Freeman could be a persuasive force in his adopted home of Kansas City, Kan., came in the spring of 1946.

Then a 32-year-old Army chaplain and major about to leave the service, Freeman arrived at the invitation of a friend. The First Baptist church, at Fifth Street and Nebraska Avenue, was between preachers. Freeman agreed to give a guest sermon.

He proved quite up to the task. This was, after all, the Edward A. Freeman who at the age of 16 had won an oratorical contest in his hometown of Atlanta.

Well, the short version of the story goes, Freeman so impressed the leaders of First Baptist that they had a little problem. They quickly solved it by withdrawing an offer made to their pastor-to-be and giving the job to Freeman.

It turned out that Freeman was not just taking on a job when he moved his wife, Ruth, and three children from Atlanta that June. He was taking on a way of life.

Over the next 50 years, until his retirement in 1996 and his death a week ago today, Freeman's way of life was commitment. As most people who knew him put it, he embodied the idea of commitment, not only to his God and to his church, but to his community.

Preacher, pastor, minister to those in need. Bridge builder, conciliator, a quiet civic giant. Husband and father. Orator and scholar. Advocate for social and economic justice.

Freeman's accomplishments were many and his influence vast.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson—civil-rights leader, activist and presidential candidate—will deliver the eulogy at Freeman's funeral today. Jackson said that, after Martin Luther King Jr., the most important person in his political life was the Rev. E.A. Freeman of Kansas City, Kan.

"He was a real freedom fighter," Jackson said.

#### CIVIC, RELIGIOUS PILLAR

Leon Lemons, a retired banker, an old friend and a trustee of First Baptist, noted how important Freeman was to the city when he recalled what H.W. Sewing, a founder and president of Douglass Bank, told him some 40 years ago.

"We should not let Reverend Freeman get out of this city," Sewing told Lemons. "He's a man with vision, a man with integrity. He's a man who can get things done."

By that point, after a little more than 10 years in Kansas City, Kan., Freeman had run for the school board and the state Legislature. Although unsuccessful, those campaigns gave him a public forum to speak up about social welfare and segregation.

But he didn't need a political campaign to raise his voice: In 1949, he excoriated the Wyandotte County chairman of the American Red Cross over a racial affront at a "Victory Dinner," threatening a boycott of the agency's fund drives. The next year, he helped bring pressure on the owner of two local movie theaters, which until then had denied admission to blacks.

In the years to come, he would spearhead housing developments and become involved in many improvements in Kansas City, Kan., as a member of the city's Planning Commission for 40 years and its chairman for 29. There were disappointments, too, and failures amid the long economic decay of his city, but he never stopped fighting for what he believed was right.

In the 1970s and '80s, he helped establish some of the first homeless shelters in the community, said Mary Sue Severance of the United Way of Wyandotte County.

"He seemed to be everywhere in the community," Severance said.

In civic dealings, Freeman's trademark was his tranquil demeanor. He often was a peacemaker. The Rev. Nelson Thompson, president of the Greater Kansas City chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, used code words for the white and black communities when he said Freeman "had great influence uptown, yet he could work in the northeast and everybody respected him."

In ministerial dealings, his tenure produced Sunday services that usually lasted two hours or more. He was prone to offering two sermons, a spiritual one and a political one. He gave his congregation political advice on issues of the day. Although he never told them how to vote, he gave strong hints, said his daughter, Connie Lindsay.

Freeman had a legendary amount of energy and drive. Arieta Mobley, a former church deaconess, said it wasn't unusual to drive by and see Freeman's car parked outside the church at 1 or 2 in the morning.

Even after he retired, Mobley said, Freeman went to the church every day for two years.

"There weren't many people who had the energy he did,"

Lindsay said. "His persistence, his vision, that will, that drive. To him, it was, 'I'm

going to get to that goal,' and that goal had to do with the commitment to and investment in the people around."

He was humble about his accomplishments but had the courage essentially to start his own civil-rights movement in Kansas City, Kan., said Kansas City Mayor Emanuel Cleaver.

"When he came along," Cleaver said, "times were really dangerous for a black man who would stand up and declare his somebodiness."

Freeman well knew that the fight for social justice and equality for African-Americans involved not only overcoming racism but also, in the words of his friend and colleague, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., "its perennial ally—economic exploitation."

#### A JACKSON MENTOR

Jackson and Freeman first met in the 1950s. Jackson was a King disciple; Freeman was a leader in the National Baptist Convention. By 1959, however, the convention had become increasingly uncomfortable with King's high-profile activism. A rift developed, but while Freeman actively stuck with the convention, he never lost contact with King or Jackson.

After King's assassination in 1968, Jackson stood alone. Freeman reached out to him, inviting him back and re-introducing him into powerful circles within the National Baptist Convention.

"He took that risk and adopted me in a spiritual sense," Jackson said. "I feel so indebted to him."

Jackson returned to Kansas City several times, and in 1976, at his first revival, he chose Freeman's First Baptist as the location for the week-long spiritual event.

Jackson said his speeches for students from two area high schools helped him form the National Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, his long-running, grass-roots organization promoting social justice.

Thompson said Freeman was a model of a minister who became involved in politics. Along with two other titans of the black community, the Rev. Wallace S. Hartsfield and the Rev. A.L. Johnson, Freeman inspired and mentored a younger generation of political-activist preachers—Thompson and Cleaver among them. To them, he advocated action over political posturing.

"He used to tell me, 'Reverend, talk will kill anything. You've got to just keep it low. Get it put together before you talk about it too much.'"

"He really wasn't quiet, but he didn't do a lot of talking about what he was doing until it was done."

Talk is one thing. Public speaking is another. And Freeman was a master at oratory.

He filled his many speeches and sermons with scholarship and poetry. Not only did he make the scripture sing, but he also quoted extensively from Shakespeare and Tennyson, from Keats and Browning and Kipling. "And he didn't just read it," his daughter said of his great capacity for recalling classic poems from memory, "he spoke it as if he himself had written it."

"Once you heard him deliver a sermon," Cleaver said, "you would know quickly that this was no ordinary man. He was touched divinely in ways many can only imagine."

"He was academic and educational, yet he could be right down to earth," Thompson said.

In the late '70s, Thompson heard Freeman deliver a speech on the steps of the Kansas Capitol. His topic was the Exodusters, the black migrants who settled in Kansas after the Civil War. Thompson had been unaware of the depth of Freeman's scholarship or his capacity for research and history. And he was moved.

"It was a profound historical address," Thompson said. "I shall never forget it."

THE POWER OF EDUCATION

Education was extremely important to Freeman and his family. He sacrificed so his children could go to college. He long remembered how difficult it had been to pursue his own education.

In the late 1930s, Freeman desperately wanted to go to college. But his widowed father was struggling to support seven sons.

Freeman interviewed with the president of Clark College in Atlanta and begged to attend classes there. He succeeded, working his way through as a custodian, and eventually graduated with a degree in education.

After his arrival in Kansas City, Kan., he earned advanced degrees, including his doctorate in theology from Central Baptist Theological Seminary in 1953. At the time, the opportunity to earn such a degree was rare for a black minister.

Education remained important throughout his involvement in the National Baptist Convention, USA. Freeman became president of the organization's Congress of Christian Education (as it's now called) in 1968.

His influence was almost immediate. His dynamic leadership and speechmaking helped increase attendance at its annual meeting by the thousands over his 15-year tenure.

"It's his personality," said the Rev. Ellis Robinson, Freeman's successor at First Baptist. "He knew how to get things done."

In his work for the National Baptist Convention and other programs, Freeman traveled extensively—all around the world—often at a moment's notice.

But his first priority was always his church. He always made sure that things would get done in his absence.

"Ministers and clergymen play a lot of different roles," said Thompson. "The pastoral role is one of shepherding, caring for and protecting and watching over the flock. . . . Nobody I know of played that role as well as Rev. Freeman. He was just a rare individual. He could make you feel good when you felt bad; he was very inspirational and uplifting."

There's something else about Freeman that people talk about. He loved to tell jokes. Every time he spoke, people could expect to hear two or three jokes along the way.

Of course, he had two kinds of jokes: those he could use in sermons and those he couldn't.

One of his very popular jokes dated from the days of "streaking," when college kids would dash through public places in the buff. Freeman's joke had to do with some older women in a nursing home. The punch line: One fellow goes, "What was that?" And the other goes, "I don't know, but it sure did need ironing."

Even in his last days, that joke was still able to touch people in unexpected ways. One former church member was visiting just a couple of weeks ago. Sitting at his bedside, this person said, "Reverend Freeman, I'll always remember that old joke about the senior citizens."

And, as his daughter Connie Lindesay tells it: "He just beamed. His eyes just twinkled."

FASTA, THE "FAIR STEEL TRADE ACT"

**HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 1999*

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, our foreign competitors have been dumping steel in Amer-

ica below market value for well over a year. This practice, which has been allowed to continue unencumbered by the Clinton Administration, has had a devastating effect on the U.S. steel industry and U.S. steelworkers. I have taken numerous actions, alone and in conjunction with the Congressional Steel Caucus, to urge the Administration to change its backward trade policy and remedy the current crisis. These pleas have fallen on deaf ears. It is time for a clear and decisive action. Therefore, I am introducing FASTA, the "Fair Steel Trade Act" today to force the Administration to impose swift and severe penalties on those countries that have flagrantly and repeatedly violated our trade laws. Specifically, FASTA will impose a three-month ban on imports of steel and steel products from Japan, Russia, South Korea and Brazil.

Steel dumping in America has become a global event. In the first 11 months of 1998, steel imports are up 167 percent from Japan, 60 percent from Russia, up 112 percent from South Korea, up 68 percent from the Ukraine, up 150 percent from Australia, up 105 percent from South Africa, up 114 percent from Brazil and up a whopping 586 percent from Indonesia.

In January, it was reported that a Congressionally-mandated report on foreign steel dumping would finally be released from the Administration. It was rumored that the report would outline the Administration's plans for helping the U.S. steel industry cope with cheap steel imports, but would not include any new initiatives beyond the Administration's previous efforts. Those efforts have consisted mainly of expediting complaints from U.S. steel companies and negotiating with countries such as Russia and South Korea.

In response to this rumor, I wrote a letter to President Clinton urging him to reverse course and take drastic action to stem the tide of cheap steel imports: "During your two campaigns for the Presidency and throughout your Administration you spoke eloquently about using U.S. trade policy to build a bridge to the 21st century for American workers. That bridge is crumbling under the weight of millions of tons of illegally dumped foreign steel. If your Administration does not take extraordinary and decisive action, hundreds of American communities and thousands of American families will enter the 21st century in poverty." The fact is, the Administration has been reviewing the dumping of foreign steel below cost in our market. It is crystal clear that anti-dumping statutes have been repeatedly violated. It's time to stop reviewing and start acting. I made it clear to the President in my letter that maintaining his present course of action falls woefully short of the type of decisive action that is warranted by this emergency.

Unfortunately, the rumors about the report proved true. In essence, the report demands that Japan curb its steel shipments to America through "voluntary export restraints." Idle threats and voluntary self-policing restraints do not a trade policy make. What's worse, the report makes no mention of the other six countries that continue to dump steel in our market.

The report also provides for tax relief for steel companies. According to the report, the steel industry will have greater ability than other industries to receive tax refunds to offset its losses. Under current law, companies can receive tax refunds on their losses for the previous two years of taxes paid. The steel indus-

try is now able to obtain refunds for the previous five years. This news, however, was not enough to save Bethlehem Steel. After the report was made public, Bethlehem Steel announced that it will close two stainless steel and strip-metal plants, thereby adding 540 American workers to the unemployment roll.

The tax relief provision is estimated to cost \$300 million over five years. While I support relief for the steel industry, I am livid that the President expects the American taxpayer and the steelworkers who have lost their jobs to pay for the illegal actions of our foreign competitors. Perhaps if the Administration enforced our trade laws for a change, and penalized dumping, we would collect enough revenue to pay for tax relief for our domestic steel industry.

It has become obvious to me that this Administration is unwilling to take the type of definitive action necessary to deal with this serious crisis. Voluntary self-policing is like putting a kid in a candy store and asking him not to eat. No disincentives, no repercussions—it's strictly voluntary. Promises won't help the 10,000 steelworkers who have lost well-paying jobs and promises won't stop industry giant Bethlehem Steel from closing the doors on two of its plants.

Despite repeated calls from steelworkers and Members of Congress such as myself, the Administration has elected to pursue a course of limited and meek actions. The time for negotiating, monitoring and litigating are long past. Tax breaks and more retraining programs will not put a single steelworker back to work.

It is now incumbent upon my colleagues in Congress—Democrats and Republicans—to take up the banner and fight to ensure that the steel industry, an industry vital to America's economy and national security, is not decimated by illegal competition. Cosponsor and pass FASTA today.

TRIBUTE TO DICK VOLPERT

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 1999*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, Mr. WAXMAN and Mr. SHERMAN, and I rise today to pay tribute to our dear friend Dick Volpert, who this year is receiving the Learned Hand Award from the American Jewish Committee. Certainly we can think of nobody more deserving of an award that honors both superior intellect and humanitarianism. Dick is that all-too-rare person who cannot remain aloof when he sees a person or group in need of help. He has a widespread and richly-deserved reputation for getting passionately involved in a range of causes.

Dick and his wife, Marcia, were without question among the most forceful and tireless advocates anywhere in the world on behalf of Soviet Jews in the 1970s and 80s. There is no doubt that their efforts enabled many Jews to emigrate from the Soviet Union at a time when the freedom to practice their religion had been