

and Product Maintenance Agreement Lead Person, then she was later promoted to Technician Secretary for the Sears Service Center, leading to her current position as Cashier Accountant.

Henrietta is often found using her personal skills in the community as well. She is involved with groups such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Flint, The Fair Winds Girl Scout Council, Zeta Phi Beta Amica Sorority, and the Michigan Women's National Bowling Association. In 1971, Henrietta became a member of the Foss Avenue Baptist Church, where she faithfully serves as a member of the Senior Usher Board, Foss Avenue Catering Committee, and the MLA fellowship Sunday School class.

I know that Henrietta would want to point out that the love and support of her family have contributed greatly to her success. She is very proud of her children, Veronica and Lucetia, grandsons Demetrice and Trevino, granddaughter Elexus, and of course, her husband, James Presnall.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a privilege for me to rise today before my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in congratulating Henrietta Presnall on her retirement. I wish her continued success in all her endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MATH AND SCIENCE PROFICIENCY PARTNERSHIP ACT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Mathematics and Science Proficiency Partnership Act. The purpose of this legislation is to improve mathematics and science education for students in kindergarten through 12th grade as well as to train mathematics and science teachers.

My legislation, which has 52 cosponsors, accomplishes its objective by forging a unique partnership between students, parents, teachers and the business people in their communities.

In years past, America's schools served as unilateral learning centers where students studied, graduated and then entered the workforce. The demands of the information age and the global economy now compel U.S. educators and business people to band together in the national interest. Schools and businesses need to be partners to educate our children. Otherwise, our nation will see its preeminence in information technology implode as other nations expand their high-tech driven economies.

Already there are alarming trends. When it comes to mathematics and science education U.S. high school seniors need to be better prepared. Compared to their international peers, American high school seniors ranked near the bottom of the Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) that was released last year. This poor performance holds true for both mathematics and science as well as for moderate-level and top-level students.

Mathematics and science are the disciplines that have created the Internet and have driven

the Information Age. Two of the fastest growing job areas, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, are computer technology and health services. Both fields demand a strong background in mathematics and science.

As the Subcommittee on Basic Research's Ranking Member, I have had several discussions with representatives from the information technology community. These business people in the high-tech field have expressed their frustration in not being able to find qualified job applicants. In fact, one in ten positions in information technology is currently unfilled, according to the Information Technology Association of America. One in three job applicants tested by U.S. companies lacks the reading or mathematics skills for the job as reported by the American Management Association.

The Mathematics and Science Proficiency Partnership Act will help reverse the trends of poor test performance by U.S. students and empower businesses to enrich the pool of job applicants.

The purpose of this legislation is to improve math and science education in urban and rural areas by establishing partnerships between participating schools and businesses. My bill authorizes the National Science Foundation (NSF) to award 10 partnership grants through its Urban and Rural Systemic Initiative programs. The NSF Director will make five grants to urban areas and five grants to rural areas. Each grant will not exceed \$300,000 and the total amount authorized is \$3 million.

The purpose of these partnership grants is to train teachers and to improve teaching for students in math, science and information technology. The grants will be awarded to schools that have established partnerships with businesses.

Eligibility of the partnership grants will be based on how well the participating schools and businesses have forged their partnerships. Ways that businesses can participate with schools include: setting up college scholarships for promising math and science students, establishing jobsite mentoring and internships programs and donating computer software and hardware to their participating schools.

The legislation directs the NSF Director to conduct a long-range study on the students who have participated in the partnership grant scholarship program and their ability to land and to retain jobs in the fields of mathematics, science and information technology.

Mr. Speaker, I am gratified by the support the Mathematics and Science Proficiency Partnership Act has already received and urge all Members to cosponsor this important legislation that will help prepare today's American students for tomorrow's workplace.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JERRY BELL

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to your attention the works of Jerry Bell, an outstanding volunteer for Noon Day Ministry in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Jerry Bell volunteers her time to the homeless at Noon Day Ministry. Noon Day Ministry

serves approximately 300 homeless men, women and children four days a week. Jerry's commitment to volunteer work comes from a strong family support system that instilled the value of helping others. By those who work with Jerry she is described as the organizer, the person who really keeps the place in shape. By those she serves, Jerry is known for providing more than lunch. She offers hugs, a pat on the shoulder and a kiss on the cheek—the sincere message of caring for another.

Please join me in thanking Jerry Bell for her caring contributions to individuals, families and our community of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

LITTLE BOSTON BRANCH OF THE KITSAP REGIONAL LIBRARY WINS BEST SMALL LIBRARY AWARD

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to announce that The Little Boston branch of the Kitsap Regional Library system is the best small library in America.

Little Boston recently won the 1998 Service Award for Excellence from the National Public Library Association. This library is unique because it is located on the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe's reservation and is frequented by patrons who live both on and off the reservation.

Public libraries are the great equalizer in our society as they ensure free and unlimited access to invaluable educational resources for anyone who simply has the desire to learn. Libraries enhance the knowledge of not only ourselves, but also the world around us. Great libraries, like Little Boston, deserve our utmost praise and recognition. Employees continually go above and beyond the call of duty with their exceptional service to its patrons and commitment to provide enriching and informative information to everyone in the community.

Congratulations, again, to The Little Boston Library for your commitment to excellence.

THE PARENT HELP LINE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parent Help Line of Springfield, Illinois for their extraordinary contributions to their community.

This volunteer organization's primary function is to help parents become better parents by providing advice, support, and referrals to various community agencies. The Parent Help Line is funded by several different sources including St. John's Hospital Foundation, Ronald McDonald Charities of Central Illinois and Ameritech.

Currently, the Parent Help Line consists of 25 volunteers who respond to about 100 calls per month. While these numbers may not seem significant, each one of those hundred

calls has helped a parent and child come closer together through the support of their community. Recognizing the utmost importance that parents play in the development of not only their children, but of the future of our great country, the Parent Help Line helps parents meet parenting challenges head on.

Again, I would like to thank the volunteers and contributors of the Parent Help Line for the outstanding devotion they have shown towards our nation's greatest asset—our children.

TO DIRECT THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL CEMETERY FOR VETERANS IN THE ATLANTA, GEORGIA METROPOLITAN AREA

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of a very important piece of legislation which is vital to all veterans in the state of Georgia. Through the bill I am introducing today, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs will develop a national cemetery for veterans in the Atlanta, Georgia metropolitan area. This bill is co-sponsored by the entire Georgia Delegation, and Senators CLELAND and COVERDELL have introduced a companion bill in the Senate.

I want to thank the other Members of the Georgia delegation for their support of our efforts. Congressmen COLLINS, NORWOOD, KINGSTON, LINDER, CHAMBLISS, DEAL, LEWIS, ISAKSON, BISHOP, and Congresswoman MCKINNEY realize the importance of this issue to Georgia's veterans.

I urge my colleagues in the House to support this effort not just on behalf of the veterans in Georgia but veterans across our nation.

Our nation has a sacred obligation to fulfill the promises we made to our veterans when they agreed to risk and, in many cases, give their lives to protect the freedoms we all enjoy. One of those promises was a military burial in a national cemetery.

In 1994, the Department of Veterans Affairs released its "Report on the National Cemetery System." The Atlanta area was listed within the top 10 areas in the country with the greatest need for burial space. This need has only increased significantly in the past few years. Establishing a national cemetery in Georgia would provide veterans and their families accessibility and the recognition they deserve.

Georgia currently has only one national cemetery, located in Marietta. However, this cemetery has been full since the 1970s. The nearest national cemeteries accepting burials are located in Alabama and Tennessee. In addition to meeting the needs of veterans living in Georgia, placing a new national cemetery in the Atlanta area will alleviate the increasing demands on the cemeteries in Tennessee and Alabama.

Neither of these sites in Tennessee and Alabama is reasonably accessible to most of the more than 700,000 veterans living in Georgia, including some 450,000 veterans in the Atlanta metropolitan area.

This legislation is supported by Pete Wheeler, Commissioner of the Georgia Veteran's Association, and by the Georgia Disabled

American Veterans, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and other veterans' groups. I ask all veterans groups to support this legislation because it is only appropriate for Georgia's heroes to be allowed to be laid to rest in their home state.

This has been a long awaited process for Georgia veterans. These men and women deserve a proper resting place. The legislation we are introducing today is an important first step in creating a new national veterans cemetery.

LEGISLATION TO PROMOTE FAIR COMPETITION IN ELECTRICITY MARKETS

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, today, I am reintroducing legislation I sponsored last year that would promote fair competition in electricity markets. Many states have passed or are considering plans to allow customers to choose among competing providers of electricity. Although action on certain aspects of competition should be left to states, the federal government needs to address competition issues as they relate to the Internal Revenue Code.

The use of tax-exempt bonds and other tax exemptions granted to government-owned utilities are a significant problem in integrating them into the competitive marketplace. Such exemptions, in the context of competition, subsidize the costs of a competitor, giving it an unfair advantage against all private, tax-paying participants. I believe that if government-owned utilities want to compete in the open marketplace, then they must be restricted in issuing tax-exempt bonds and should give up income tax exemptions on sales outside their traditional service territory. Tax-free financing and exemption from federal income taxes pose no problem to electric competition if, and only if, government-owned utilities limit the use of these subsidies to serving their traditional service areas.

My legislation, The Private Sector Enhancement and Taxpayer Protection Act of 1999, addresses these concerns by prohibiting tax-free bonds from being used to finance generation and transmission by government-owned utilities if such utilities choose to compete in open electricity markets. If such utilities elect to do so, any sales outside of their traditional service area should be, like other commercial operations, subject to federal income tax.

This legislation will not affect government-owned utilities that do not elect to sell generation or provide transmission in the new competitive marketplace. Since the vast majority of municipal utilities, of which there are more than 2,000, do not generate electricity, this bill will not affect them. This bill does not affect rural electric cooperatives or federal government utilities. My bill attempts to address the issue of large government-owned utilities that want to act like, and compete with, taxpaying entities in the electric marketplace. In a somewhat similar approach, the Administration has addressed the issue in their FY2000 budget proposal.

I believe my legislation is a balanced, fair approach to establishing a level playing field for all power companies with none enjoying any special tax or financial advantages. I look

forward to working with the Administration and my colleagues on this important issue.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF FR. GILBERT G. ARCISZEWSKI'S PRIESTLY ORDINATION

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fr. Gilbert G. Arciszewski, pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church on the 40th anniversary of his priestly ordination.

Fr. Arciszewski is representative of the high caliber of priests from the Milwaukee Archdiocese. He is a lifelong resident of the community and has served in leadership positions of various churches in the Milwaukee area since his ordination.

Fr. Arciszewski is a product of Milwaukee's near South Side. He is proud of his Polish-American heritage. He and his predecessor, the late Msgr. Alphonse Popek, traveled many of the same paths to Queen of Peace church, growing up in the same neighborhoods, and going to the same schools, beginning with St. Adalbert's elementary. The Popek and Arciszewski families lived only a few blocks from each other.

Fr. Arciszewski studied canon law at St. Francis Seminary and was ordained May 30, 1959 at St. John Cathedral by Archbishop William E. Cousins. He served as associate pastor of St. Helen, Milwaukee, June 1959 to July, 1966, and St. Alexander, Milwaukee, July, 1966 to March, 1975, when he became pastor of St. Casimir.

By coincidence, the celebration of his 25th anniversary of ordination in 1984 coincided with the 500th anniversary of the death of St. Casimir.

In February of 1987, Fr. Arciszewski was assigned pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church where he has served since. Among the many milestones observed at Our Lady Queen of Peace was the marriage of Frankie Yankovic, the polka legend, to his wife Ida.

Mr. Speaker, on this the 40th anniversary of his ordination, I would like to recognize the contributions and commitment to the church and community demonstrated by Fr. Arciszewski.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA LOGOLUSO

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Patricia ("Patty") Logoluso on the occasion of her retirement from the Madera County Board of Supervisors. Patty has a long standing record of dedicated involvement in Madera County.

Patty Logoluso was born and raised in Madera. Patty along with her two older brothers and two sisters lived on the family farm in