our initiatives,'' Walled Lake Western High Principal Gary Bredahl told the News.

''I hope the African-American students here can sense that we are reaching out to them to create a comfort zone to get them involved in school activities.''

Experts say students often pick up their parents' feelings about other races, said Juanetta Guthrie of Wayne State University's Center for Peace and Conflict Studies.

''We are not born with the mechanism to hate. It's learned, and it can be unlearned,'' Ms. Guthrie said.

West Bloomfield senior Brad Fayer agrees that parents play a big role in raising their children to be free of biases and bigotry.

''If you have open-minded parents they can teach their kids to also be open-minded and fair,'' he said. ''They can also teach equality.''

So school districts are taking up the challenge to help combat conflicts.

In Dearborn, fights between Arab and non-Arab students have led to the creation of the Dearborn Community Alliance to establish clearer communication between members of the community.

''I see more dialogue,'' Edsel Ford Principal Jeremy Hughes said. ''At one time, the Arab students all sat along one wall in the cafeteria, but now I see more interaction.''

But Alex Shami, the only Arab American on the Dearborn public school board, said the district still has a long way to go.

''I've lived in Dearborn for 24 years,'' Shami said. ''There was tension between Arabs and non-Arabs in the late 1970s and then it went down in the 1980s, but it is worse than ever now. I don't like what I see because people seem to be investing more on their prejudices than ever and I am frustrated.''

In West Bloomfield, school officials say implementing ethnic diversity programs is the key to heading off potential problems.

''We have ongoing programs that get several kids from different backgrounds in dialogue,'' said Sharkey Haddad, the district's multicultural program director. ''If you don't already have a program in place, then it's merely a reaction to the problem.''

MISSISSIPPIANS TO GET CHANCE TO TELL HISTORY

(By Gina Holland)

JACKSON, MISS. (AP)—Mississippi history will be told through personal accounts of everyday residents as part of a project approved by the Legislature just in time for the turn of the century.

A bill passed by the House Wednesday would put $150,000 into a pilot project to collect interviews from residents in five areas of the state. The Senate has already approved the funding.

The University of Southern Mississippi, which has an oral history department, and the Mississippi Humanities Council would team up with community leaders on the work.

Residents will be interviewed about stories of their communities, government and civic life, and historical events.

Still pending in the Legislature is a request for $30,000 in continuation funding for an oral history program focusing on the civil rights era.

Elbert Hilliard, executive director of the Department of Archives and History, said the project will fill gaps in historical archives.

''Most of the existing oral history collections are interviews with prominent persons, political leaders, people who have been involved in significant events,'' he said. ''It will expand the scope of these interviews to have a comprehensive approach.''

Hillard, who expect some of the interviews to involve civil rights events, said he is hopeful the Legislature will also provide money for the civil rights project at USM.

Under the proposal approved Wednesday, one site will be chosen in each of Mississippi's congressional districts for a pilot program. People will be taught how to conduct interviews. The material will be archived and be made available on the Internet and it could be displayed in the communities.

Rep. Leonard Morris, D–Batesville, said his two teen-age children. ''have no knowledge of what happened in the 1960s and 1970s.''

''You don't want to dwell too much upon the negative part of it, but you also want to be able to do research on what happened and have an accurate documented source,'' said Morris, ''How can you know where you're going if you don't have a good idea of the past?''

Sen John Horhn, D–Jackson, said he would like to see more work on the civil rights history.

''A number of the people who were involved in the movement have passed away, many of them are getting older. It's important we capture their stories,'' said Horhn.

The funding bill goes to the governor.

## 84TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 21, 1999*

Mr. LARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the lives of 1.5 million Armenians who perished during the brutal genocide that took place on April 24, 1915. However, I also rise to celebrate the lives of those who have survived. We honor their spirit and the legacy they have provided. For it is this legacy that encourages their children and grandchildren, friends and neighbors, to remind people throughout the world of this horrific action. An action that tragically marked the century's first genocide.

According to the Archives of the Nuremberg Proceedings, Hitler instructed his SS units at a meeting in 1939 ''to kill, without pity, men, women, and children'' in their march against Poland, as such activities would have no long term repercussions. Who, he said, ''remembers now the massacres of the Armenians?''

As a Member of Congress I say with force and I say with compassion: We remember. We remember horrible violence that sent 1.5 million Armenian leaders, intellectuals, and clergy to their deaths and forever changed the lives of generations of families.

Tomorrow I will carry that same message from the floor of the House of Representatives to the Connecticut State Capitol where I will address a group of survivors and children of survivors of the Armenian genocide. Every year these Connecticut residents make a commitment to come to Hartford to remind their friends, their community leaders, and their neighbhors of the solemn anniversary that is marked throughout the country on April 24.

The most disturbing part of this anniversary is that 84 years later genocide remains a part of our vocabulary. From Rwanda to Bosnia to the present day horrors of Kosovo, entire populations are being killed simply because of their ethnicity. It has been said that we can best plan for the future by learning from the lessons of the past. Unfortunately, it appears that too many nations are trying to find their path to the future by ignoring the past.

As we commemorate this 84th anniversary of the Armenian genocide, I urge my House and Senate colleagues to work toward this goal: that an entire generation never experiences the horrors of genocide, either by living through it or by feeling the pain of people half way around the world.

I send my deepest prayers and thoughts to this country's Armenian-American community.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL GEOLOGIC MAPPING ACT

### HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 22, 1999*

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on Earth Day, to introduce a bill to reauthorize the National Geologic Mapping Act, a cooperative program between the states and the federal government to prioritize efforts to delineate the bedrock and surficial geology of the country on a broad scale, sufficient for land-use planning, natural hazards abatement and mitigation, and mineral resource endowment estimates. This bill's antecedents are the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992, and its reauthorization and amendment in 1997.

Mr. Speaker, my home state of Wyoming is rich in geologic wonders, thus I am well aware of the importance of having accurate geologic information in order to manage and appreciate the land around us. Geologic information in the form of maps, both as traditional hard copies as well as digital data for manipulation by computer, aid society in prudent land-use planning, waste disposal, mitigation of geologic hazards, and management of natural resources. Funding for the program is incorporated in the budget of the U.S. Geological Survey as a subset of its annual appropriation.

The main components of this bill remain the same as its precursors—with a State geologic mapping component, whose objectives are to determine the geologic framework of areas that the State geological surveys determine to be vital to the economic, social, or scientific welfare of individual States. Mapping priorities will be determined by multi-representational State panels, and shall be integrated with national priorities. Federal funding for the State components shall be matched on a one-to-one basis with non-Federal funds.

An educational component of the act is designed to train the next generation of geologic mappers—by providing for broad education in geologic mapping and field analysis through support of field studies; and to develop the academic programs that teach earth-science students the fundamental principles of geologic mapping and field analysis, and knowledge of the solid earth. These mapping investigations will be integrated into the other State geologic mapping components of the program. The reauthorization of the National Geologic Mapping Act shines as a sterling example of a cooperative partnership between the Federal government and the individual states for the benefit of society.

Mr. Speaker, geologists like to say that for them ''every day is Earth Day.'' What better

day than today to introduce the bill to keep the benefits of this important cooperative program flowing?

## A TRIBUTE TO HIS HIGHNESS SHAIKH ESSA BIN SALMAN AL-KHALIFA, THE LATE AMIR OF THE STATE OF BAHRAIN

### HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 22, 1999*

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to His Highness Shaikh Essa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa, the late Amir of the State of Bahrain. On April 14th, 1999, the people of Bahrain commemorated the 40th day of mourning for the passing of the Amir.

His Highness Shaikh Essa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa will be missed by his friends all over the world. I had the honor of meeting Shaikh Essa in the 1970's in a tent under the desert sky of Bahrain. Our friendship deepened over the years as we had the opportunity to meet and work together to foster a relationship of warmth and cooperation between our countries.

Under his leadership, Bahrain diversified its economy and currently Bahrain is ranked as having the highest standard of living among the Arab countries according to the 1998 Human Development Report published by the United Nations Development Program.

According to The Wall Street Journal and the 1999 Index of Economic Freedom published by the Heritage Foundation, Bahrain has held the status of third freest economy in the world.

This year Bahrain is celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the strong relationship it has with the United States and the United States Navy. Bahrain is a key ally of the United States and the 5th Fleet of the United States Navy is located in Bahrain.

His Highness Shaikh Essa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa supported the Middle East peace efforts, and I am confident that his son, His Highness Shaikh Hamad Bin Essa Al-Khalifa, who has succeeded his father, will continue his father's legacy of promoting peace and prosperity for the people of Bahrain.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the attached eulogy of the late Amir, given by His Highness Shaikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa, the Prime Minister of Bahrain, be inserted in the RECORD.

HIS HIGHNESS SHAIKH KHALIFA BIN SALMAN AL-KHALIFA, THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE STATE OF BAHRAIN

''It is a most sad occasion to stand here today over the loss of the dearest and most cherished of men, the late Amir H.H. Shaikh Essa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa, leader, father, and dear brother. May his soul rest in eternal peace and may God Almighty grant him mercy.

With the passing of H.H. Shaikh Essa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa, Bahrain and the Arab and Islamic world have lost a unique leader, who pledged himself and devoted his entire life to building and developing his country in all fields. He was tireless in his endeavors to achieve peace and security in the region and in the world. He was also a kind and gentle leader, full of love and devotion for his people. He set himself as an example that is hard to follow. As a leader and a father, he combined wisdom with a loving heart and high moral standards of decency. In dealing with his people and other nations, he relied on justice and honesty. His ultimate goal was cooperation and peace for all relations among nations.

H.H. Shaikh Essa's reign was an era of peace, a time of building and progress, a time of development and national unity. During his reign, Bahrain achieved regional and international recognition in all fields—an achievement that makes us all very proud. Bahrain made progress and development in health, education, and housing. Our nation reached a higher economic status, as well as an excellent reputation of credibility abroad. Bahrain played a prominent role in establishing and strengthening the Gulf Cooperation Council. Under his leadership, our nation had a very positive role in all Arab issues, calling for solidarity, urging the removal of all matters of discord, and defending Arab rights and issues. Internationally, Bahrain attained a distinguished status due to the respect, trust, and friendship he personally developed with leaders of the world. Those leaders appreciated his great contributions in promoting world peace, security, and stability and in strengthening international cohesion and cooperation, as well as supporting humane values and issues.

No words can really give adequate credit to the late Amir H.H. Shaikh Essa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa for his love for his country and his kindness to his people. He was a sincere Amir—a wise leader, an idealist in his devotion with concern and care for all Arab, Islamic, and world issues. H.H. Shaikh Essa shall remain a giant among men in the history of this nation for his great achievements and his high morals and ethics. His memory shall forever remain alive in the minds and hearts of this country and his loving people.

In this time of great sorrow for H.H. Shaikh Essa we take solace in his son and successor, H.H. Shaikh Hamad Bin Essa Al-Khalifa, with every confidence that he will be a fit and able successor to his father. We are confident that his reign shall witness further development, progress, and prosperity due to his wisdom, excellent leadership capabilities, and strong administrative abilities. It is our pride to exert the ultmost dedication in supporting H.H. Shaikh Hamad to continue the path of development which was established by the beloved, great leader nationally, regionally, and internationally.

We would also like to extend our best wishes to our dear son H.H. Shaikh Salman Bin Hamad Bin Essa Al-Khalifa on his appointment as Crown Prince—an appointment that has received the full consideration and support of all.

The proper transfer of leadership in this nation has a positive impact on all, since it reflects the solidity of the rule of law and all its institutions that the late Amir had established. In this sad time, we would like to express our sincere pride for the show of support displayed by the Bahraini people, symbolizing the spirit of a single family that the late leader was keen to develop. This spirit reflects the cohesion between the people of Bahrain and their leadership, as the late leader had wished.

We wish to extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation to the leaders, governments, and peoples of all brotherly and friendly states for their true sentiments and their generous participation with Bahrain on the sad demise of the late great leader, the father, and beloved brother H.H. Shaikh Essa.

May God Almighty grant our beloved leader mercy and rest in heaven. Peace and God's mercy be upon you all.''

## INTRODUCTION OF ''THE CHIP DATA AND EVALUATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999''

### HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 22, 1999*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the CHIP Data and Evaluation Improvement Act of 1999. This legislation was introduced by Senator MOYNIHAN and Senator CHAFEE in the Senate earlier this year. I want to thank them for their hard work and their leadership on this legislation. I look forward to working with them, as well as Members of this body to ensure swift passage of this legislation.

This legislation would ensure comparable data and an adequate evaluation of children's health coverage under the new Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and Medicaid.

In 1997, CHIP was established to provide health coverage for low-income uninsured children. The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 provided $48 billion over 10 years, mostly in the form of a block grant, for States to develop children's health insurance programs.

With new Federal CHIP funding, more States are beginning to develop their own programs. To date, 48 States have CHIP plans that have been approved by the Health Care Financing Administration, with most just beginning to implement their programs. In my home State of Michigan, reports have been mixed about the effectiveness of the program. All Members want to ensure that the program we instituted is carried out in an appropriate manner. We await reports on the effectiveness of their efforts to cover the Nation's uninsured children and I believe this bill will go along way in developing information on its effectiveness.

Implementing their programs is the first challenge the States must confront. For the Federal Government, the first challenge clearly will be to track the experience of children and of the CHIP programs. We will need data to answer some basic questions: Is the number of uninsured children being reduced over time, and how effective are the State CHIP programs at serving them? What are the best practices and initiatives for finding and enrolling the Nation's uninsured children?

The CHIP Data and Evaluation Improvement Act of 1999 calls for a detailed Federal CHIP evaluation by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. Current law requires a CHIP report from the Secretary to Congress; however, no funds were authorized. This bill would provide the necessary funds to conduct an evaluation. The evaluation would focus, in part, on outreach and enrollment and on coordinating the existing Medicaid program and the new CHIP program. In this era of devolution of social programs, the Federal Government has an increasingly critical responsibility to ensure adequate and comparable national data. This bill would ensure that standardized CHIP data is provided. At the very least, the Federal Government should provide, on a national level, estimates of the number of children below the poverty level who are covered by CHIP and by Medicaid.

The CHIP Data and Evaluation Improvement Act would provide funding so that existing national surveys would provide reliable and