

President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion, has emphasized, we should all be concerned about the ability of some state and local systems to interface with Year 2000 compliant federal systems. These systems include Medicaid and welfare assistance programs.

Recently, I held another hearing in the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia at which the General Accounting Office (GAO) provided an update on the status of the District of Columbia's Year 2000 conversion efforts. The GAO reported this time that the city of Washington, DC was at significant risk of not being able to effectively ensure public safety, collect revenue, educate students and provide health care services. Despite Herculean efforts on the part of the District's Chief Technology Officer, strong private sector support, and substantial federal resources, it appears that the one thing that cannot be controlled during DC's Year 2000 compliance efforts is time. Many states and localities are simply running out of time. I am confident that a substantial number of states, cities, towns, and villages across the country are in similar situations as our Capital City.

This is why I am today introducing the Year 2000 Compliance Assistance Act. This legislation is a voluntary program where the federal government will allow state and local governments to purchase Year 2000 conversion related information technology (IT) products and services off the GSA's IT multiple award schedules. Under this emergency authority, state and local governments will have one more option in the fight against time to procure Year 2000 compliance assistance in a cost-effective and timely manner. I believe that during this period of moving governmental responsibilities back to the states and localities, the federal government has a unique opportunity to provide procurement assistance to the state and local governments to help ensure nationwide Year 2000 compliance or contingency preparation.

The authority under this legislation is limited to the unique nature of the Year 2000 computer bug. The authority would expire on December 31, 2002, and could only be used by state and local governments for procurements necessitated by the Year 2000 budget bug.

I look forward to working with my colleagues towards the rapid enactment of this unique Year 2000 legislation.

TRIBUTE TO NEPTUNE, NJ,  
LIBRARY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 28, 1999*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, April 17, 1999, the Neptune, NJ, Library celebrated its 75th anniversary. I was proud to join with Township officials, other dignitaries and residents to celebrate this important milestone.

Neptune, named for the Roman God of the Sea and incorporated as a municipality in 1879, is a diverse community located in Monmouth County. The Township, whose slogan is "Neptune, Crossroads of the Jersey Shore," is a full-service community with great historic significance and an even brighter future. One of the great features of the community is the Neptune Library.

The library was started by the Ocean Grove Women's Club at its Clubhouse on Mt. Carmel Way, aided by books from the Monmouth County Bookmobile. In 1932, the Township rented a vacant store at 204 Ridge Avenue for a township library, with some books and supplemented by the bookmobile. The library shared a building on Corlies Avenue with the Township Public Health and Welfare Department in 1937 until that building was sold, moving to the Sunday School Room in the basement of the West Grove Methodist Church. In 1955, the Township Library opened at the Township Municipal Building at 137 Main St., open Tuesday afternoons, expanding its hours to Wednesday mornings in 1960. The year 1961 proved to be an eventful one for the library, with the Friends of Neptune Library organized in February. Recommendations for a new facility contained in a report released in March. On July 20, the Township Library opened its doors at 1908 Corlies Avenue, the site of a former machine shop, open to the public Monday through Thursday afternoons and Wednesday evenings.

On November 30, 1961, the Neptune Library Association, Inc., was incorporated, while the Board of Trustees organized in 1964. In 1966, the first Books, Arts and Crafts Festival was held on the future site of the library, and ground was broken at the site on Springdale Ave. (now Neptune Blvd.) on May 10, 1969. Opening day for the Library was on March 22, 1971. It became a municipal library in 1972 following a township referendum.

Mr. Speaker, obviously the history of the library is a long and illustrious one. Through the years, the library has been an important cultural and informational resource for the people of Neptune Township, and it continues to fulfill that mission to this day. The growth and success of the library is a strong reflection on the dedication and commitment of the people of this community to enhance the quality of life for the benefit of all. I am pleased to pay tribute on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Neptune Library.

TRIBUTE TO 12 OUTSTANDING  
STUDENTS

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 28, 1999*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proudly recognize 12 outstanding students from Heritage Christian High School in West Allis, Wisconsin and their teacher, Mr. Tim Moore, who are representing the State of Wisconsin in the national finals of the 1999 "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" competition in Washington, DC.

This is the third time that a class from Heritage has been named State of Wisconsin champions in this exceptional program sponsored by the Center for Civic Education and developed to educate young people about the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Mr. Moore and his students have worked diligently to reach the national finals and have gained an impressive understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

This year's representatives from Heritage are: John Averkamp, Brent Barnett, Maureen

Buchanan, Tim Cady, Tara Flood, Mike Frede, Mike Gruennert, Josh Lutter, Jessica Mobley, Justin Roeder, Luke Sinclair, and Anthony Slamar.

I ask the House to please join me in congratulating Mr. Moore and his students in winning the State of Wisconsin "We the People . . ." championship, and wish them continued success in the national finals. I look forward to greeting them personally when they visit the U.S. Capitol.

HONORING NATIONAL ADVANCED  
PLACEMENT SCHOLARS

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 28, 1999*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of Colorado's top high school students, Mr. Aaron Kohl upon receiving a National Advanced Placement Scholar from the College Board. The academic achievement of Aaron places this student among the best young scholars in the nation.

Aaron was one of only 1,451 students to earn the distinction of being named a National AP Scholar out of 635,000 students who took Advanced Placement (AP) exams in 1998. To qualify for this high honor, each scholar had to achieve grades of 4 or above (the top grade is 5) on at least eight AP exams and have accumulated the equivalent of the first two years of college prior to high school graduation. By choosing this most challenging curriculum, Aaron can expect to attend any one of this nation's most demanding universities.

The College Board established the AP program in 1955 to challenge high school students with rigorous college-level academic courses. The program is recognized nationally for its high academic standards and assessments. In 1998, more than one million AP exams were administered in 32 different subject areas. Of the nation's 21,000 high schools, almost 12,000 currently offer at least one AP course.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Aaron Kohl. I hold this student up to the House, and to all Americans, as an example of the best of America's students.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL  
JAMES MCINTOSH

**HON. JIM SAXTON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 28, 1999*

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Major General James McIntosh, a highly distinguished leader of the New Jersey Air National Guard who is retiring after many years of dedicated service to our great Nation. Major General McIntosh was assigned to the 108th Air Refueling Wing and the 204th Weather Flight, both stationed at McGuire Air Force Base, and the 177th Fighter Wing, which is based at Atlantic City International Airport. He has served our Nation's military with great pride and is exemplary as a leader.

Major General McIntosh entered the Air Force in 1959 through the Aviation Cadet Program at Harlington Air Force Base, TX, and