won't get a better moment than this moment.

All the things yelled about for all those years—all the obstacles are stripped away. How many years did we hear about the deficit: ''well we can't do it, we have deficit''. The deficit—the great inheritance of the Reagan administration. Well, the deficit is gone. God bless President Clinton, you have a balanced budget, you are talking about a surplus.

''Well, the government can't do anything.'' Well, the government's reinvented. Confidence in government is at its highest point in 40 years. If we don't do it now when will we do it? If we don't do it now, we will never do it.

And that, my friends, is a sin, because we have so much more to do, because the promise that this nation made to my grandfather and your grandfather is not yet fulfilled. They believed—they believed so much so that they came from all over the globe to this country. They got in little boats, they went across great oceans to lands they didn't even know—they didn't know how to speak the language—but the promise was so powerful.

Opportunity for all, justice, brotherhood, discrimination against none. We'll help you make it, you will lift us all. And we will work with you to make it as a community.

We are not there yet, but we can be. Now is not the time to be complacent. Now is not the time to pat each other on the back and say ''boy oh boy you see how that Dow Jones is doing.''

Now is the time to lock arms and go forward even stronger and harder than before and use this moment. We can do better. We are cheating ourselves if we say, this is all we can do. We are cheating ourselves if we are saying this is the best we can be, we've done it, this is America at its best.

This is not America at its best. This is not America at its best. We can do more.

Langston Hughes wrote a beautiful poem. I just want to read you a couple of paragraphs from it:

Let America be America Again.
Let America be the dream the dreamers dreamed—
Let it be that great strong land of love
Where opportunity is real, and life is free,
Equality is in the air we breathe.
I am the poor white, fooled and pushed apart,
I am the Negro bearing slavery's scars.
I am the red man driven from the land.
I am the immigrant clutching the hope I seek—
I am the worker sold to the machine.
I am the people, worried, hungry, mean—
Hungry yet today, despite the dream.
I am the man who never got ahead.
A dream—
Still beckoning to me!
O, let America be America—
The land that never has been yet—
And yet must be.

That is our charge—together we can do it.

SUPPORTING H.R. 2018, THE CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION ACT OF 1999

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2018, the Child Custody Protection Act. This important legislation reaffirms the vital role of parents in our families, and seeks to promote and encourage communication between teens and their parents or guardians.

Today in many states, it is legal for a child under the age of 18 to make the monumental decision to end a life by getting an abortion without consulting with their parents. It is unfortunate that some minors who find themselves confronted with an overwhelming situation such as an unplanned pregnancy would not consult the very people they should turn to for guidance and support in a time of personal crisis . . . their parents.

My home state of Pennsylvania already has legal statutes which require knowledge of at least one of the minor's parents before obtaining an abortion. The Child Custody Protection Act will re-establish the rights of parents nationwide, by requiring that a parent must accompany a minor child if they choose to undergo abortion procedure. The Child Custody Act would not interfere or take the place of existing state laws like those in Pennsylvania, but it would make it a Federal offense to transport a minor across a state line for an abortion, unless the child was transported by a parent. It is my hope that enactment of this bill will not only foster a greater level of communication between family members on this most serious subject, but will prove to be instrumental in reducing the number of abortions and encourage the consideration of viable options such as adoption.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage every Representative of this body to join with me in support of the Child Custody Act, as 130 of my cosponsors have, and vote for passage of this important child protection and parent's rights legislation.

CONGRATULATING THE WATERS FAMILY ON 50 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Maurice Waters, recently a Professor of Political Science at Wayne State University in Detroit, and his wife, Dr. Elinor Waters, former Director of Oakland University's Continuum Center in Rochester, MI, are a most extraordinary couple. This past Saturday, they celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary and given their activities and vigor, it is conceivable that they are just now hitting their stride. They may epitomize the adage of a rolling stone gathering no moss.

I have known Maury Waters and his family for a number of years. He presently has Professor Emeritus status at Wayne State and has moved from the Detroit area to Chevy Chase. During his nearly 40 years at Wayne State, he not only taught political science as an assistant and then as a tenured Professor—specializing in International Relations—but he managed to author five books, eleven major articles and book chapters and dozens of conference papers. While in Detroit, he was a board member and chairman of the Center for Peace and Conflict, which is affiliated with Wayne. He also taught at the University of Wisconsin, at Antioch College in Ohio and at the University of the West Indies, in Kingston, Jamaica. Dr. Waters was also a Foreign Policy Associate under the Rockefeller Foundation as a Research Scholar at the United Nations.

Beyond teaching at Oakland University and directing its Continuum Center, Elly Waters has also authored numerous books and professional articles and is a nationally acclaimed expert in the field of counseling older people and adult career development. She worked at the Merrill-Palmer Institute in Detroit, at the Fels Institute in Yellow Springs, OH, and the Industrial Relations Center of the University of Chicago and the Michigan Civil Rights Commission. Dr. Waters has also served on numerous national boards including the American Counseling Association and the National Board for Certified Counselors and was President of the Association for Adult Development and Aging.

After ''retiring'' for a few years and moving to the Washington, DC area, they could have rested on their laurels and taken it easy, but that is not their style. Elly continues as a training consultant, serving on national boards and accepting speaking assignments. Maury pursued his interest in the United Nations and is now a member of the board of the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area. Then, as the Clinton Impeachment proceedings began to take place, Maury approached me to express serious concerns about certain constitutional and precedential implications of where the House was going. He then said he would assist me on Capitol Hill with this historical matter. His advice proved so valuable that I coaxed him out of his ostensive retirement and hired him as a parttime Senior Advisor.

In addition to their full and active professional careers, Maury and Elly had three children, George, Rob, and Judy. They are also blessed with two grandchildren: Caitlin, who lives here in the D.C. area, and Joshua, in California. Maury and Elly have become bicoastal grandparents, traveling frequently. Mr. Speaker, perhaps the lesson to be learned from the Doctors Waters is that intellectual and professional activity, supported by a loving family, can keep two people young and contribute to a long and fruitful marriage such as this one that has succeeded for half a century. My congratulations to them both.

A BILL TO CLARIFY THAT ADVANCE PRICING AGREEMENTS BETWEEN TAXPAYERS AND THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE ARE CONFIDENTIAL RETURN INFORMATION

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by my colleagues, Messrs. SAM JOHNSON from Texas and SANDER LEVIN from Michigan, and Ms. JENNIFER DUNN from Washington, in introducing our bill which would protect, as confidential tax information, advance pricing agreements (APAs) and the information in the background file. This information would be protected under Section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code and treated as an exception to the public inspection provisions provided in Section 6110 of the Code.

The APA program began in 1991. From all reports it has been successful. The program has provided a mechanism to resolve transfer pricing issues (i.e. the appropriate arm's length price for sales, services, licenses and other transactions between related parties) of multinational companies for not only prior years, but also for specified years in the future. It saves time and money for the government as well as for taxpayers. It also reduces protracted and costly litigation. The program involves not only taxpayers and the IRS, but also where certain double taxation treaties are applicable, foreign taxing authorities as well.

From the beginning of the program, taxpayers, as well foreign governments, have relied on assurances that the information received or generated by the IRS would be protected under the confidentiality requirements of Section 6103. Such assurances were based on published IRS information. As a result, multinational companies were willing to disclose sensitive pricing information, trade secrets, and other data in the interests of efficiently determining the proper and agreed-upon transfer pricing methodology and agreement.

Earlier this year, the IRS notified taxpayers that, contrary to its long-standing policy, the APAs are subject to disclosure under Section 6110—which requires disclosure of any IRS "written determination". This change by the IRS came in response to a lawsuit brought by a commercial publisher of tax information. Although the lawsuit is not settled, the IRS is proceeding with redaction and release of the APAs issued since 1991. The release is scheduled for October, 1999.

We do not find it difficult to believe that tax return information, as well as pricing, trade secrets and other sensitive data which were provided and used in completing an APA, remain confidential under Section 6103, and excluded from the provisions of Section 6110. Otherwise, we do not believe taxpayers will continue to support the program. Clearly it is essential under our tax system to provide as much useful tax guidance to the public as possible, while maintaining the confidentiality and identity of the taxpayers involved. Thus, the bill would provide for an annual report by the Secretary of the Treasury. This report would include statistical information on the issuance of APAs and renewed APAs. In addition, the report would set forth general summaries of the methodologies used in the APAs, together with hypothetical examples. Such a report should serve the interests of providing additional guidance to taxpayers regarding the approach used by taxpayers and the IRS in reaching agreements on transfer pricing.

We invite our colleagues to join us in supporting this important legislation affecting the confidentiality of taxpayer information.

WINNERS OF THE "SET A GOOD EXAMPLE" COMPETITION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend two very special groups of students in South Texas from two extraordinary schools: Landrum Elementary School in San Benito, Texas, and Oliviera Middle School in Brownsville, Texas.

Competing with over 10,600 schools from all across the nation, this group of students from Texas entered and won honors in the "Set A Good Example" competition, a contest sponsored by the Concerned Businessmen's Association of America. The "Set A Good Example" campaign rewards students for their concern and participation in programs that highlight the dangers and detrimental effects of crime, violence, and illegal drugs.

The Oliviera Middle School and Landrum Elementary School groups formulated and created projects emphasizing good moral guidelines. Their projects celebrated common sense and understanding the importance of being honest, trustworthy, competent, honorable and industrious. The project also condemned violence, murder, and illicit drug use. At a time when our young people face the adverse challenges of crime and violence, I applaud their efforts that highlight personal moral integrity and commitment to social action.

I am very proud of these students, but I know they did not do this alone. I commend their parents, their teachers, their friends and their school staff for supporting and encouraging them in this proud undertaking. At a time when our national conversation has centered on underlying causes of youth violence in the aftermath of several high-profile school shootings, I am proud to offer these young people as examples for others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in applauding these students from Oliviera Middle School and Landrum Elementary School. They strive for the moral integrity that all Americans, young and old, should emulate.

HONORING THE NEW HAVEN COMMISSION ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR 35 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to congratulate the New Haven Commission on Equal Opportunity on its 35th Anniversary. I wish I could be there today as the community gathers to celebrate this wonderful occasion.

The New Haven Commission on Equal Opportunity is the oldest municipal civil rights agency in the United States. In 1964, after attending the U.S. Conference of Mayors hosted by President Kennedy, former Mayor Richard Lee returned to New Haven with a commitment to combat discrimination in all forms and a determination to make the city of New Haven a national model of equality. Together with the New Haven Board of Aldermen, he established the New Haven Commission on Equal Opportunity.

For more than three decades, the Commission has been on the front lines of the battle to extend equal opportunity to all. In recent years, the Commission has developed a citywide plan to combat sexual harassment in the workplace, as well as a unique tracking system to ensure contract compliance in all city construction projects. In fighting to protect the rights of women, minorities, and workers, the New Haven Commission on Equal Opportunity is faithful to Mayor Lee's original vision and is a vital force in our community.

It is with great pride that I extend my congratulations to the New Haven Commission on Equal Opportunity and Executive Director John Cox on its 35th Anniversary. I offer my sincere thanks and appreciation for all your work and best wishes for continued success.

TRIBUTE TO DR. J.M. SAEGER

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that the City of Lebanon, Missouri, celebrated "Dr. J.M. Saeger Appreciation Day" on June 16, 1999.

Dr. Saeger was honored by the City of Lebanon for his 30 years of service on the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority, where he also served as board president for many years. Dr. Saeger has a long history of public service. A veteran of World War II, he faithfully served his country in the military. He also served as the official Lebanon weather observer for the National Weather Service for 26 years. Dr. Saeger, who holds a doctorate in chiropractic medicine, continues to practice.

Mr. Speaker, I know the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to Dr. Saeger for his dedication to his community and selfless public service.

[From the Lebanon (MO) Daily Record, June 17, 1999]

DR. SAEGER HONORED FOR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

Dr. J.M. Saeger of Lebanon was honored by friends, family and the Lebanon community Wednesday at St. Francis De Sales Family Center during a surprise birthday party. Dr. Saeger and his family include Joan Harris, Ken Harris, Joey Harris, 7, and Jake Harris, 6, of St. Charles, Dr. Saeger of Lebanon, Angela Prost, and Tom Prost of Columbia, IL, Rita Cole, and Hayley Cole, 2, of Springfield, and Vivian Smith of Kansas City. Lebanon Mayor Bud Allen, State Sen. John T. Russell and State Rep. Beth Long attended the celebration where a proclamation was signed making June 16, 1999, Dr. J.M. Saeger Appreciation Day in Lebanon. Dr. Saeger has served on the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Lebanon for 30 years, serving as board president for many years. He served his country in the military and as a veteran of World War II. He served as the official Lebanon weather observer for the National Weather Service for 26 years. Dr. Saeger earned his doctorate in chiropractic medicine and continues to practice.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, if I had been present on Friday, June 25, 1999 I would have voted in support of H.R. 1802—The Foster Care Independence Act of 1999.