

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### THE VIOLENCE PREVENTION TRAINING FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS ACT

#### HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 2, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Violence Prevention Training for Early Childhood Educators Act.

Students, parents, I rise to introduce the Violence Prevention Training for Early Childhood Educators Act.

Students, parents, teachers and members of communities across our country have been grappling with the issue of school violence. There is no magic solution to this difficult matter, there is no single cause that can be addressed to guarantee our schools will be violence-free. However, I believe that to effectively address this issue we must ensure that those who are entering careers in early childhood development and education are properly trained in violence prevention.

The legislation that my colleagues and I are introducing today will authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants ranging from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 to institutions of higher learning and other facilities in order to assist them in making violence prevention training available to prospective teachers and those returning for additional professional development. Moreover, the bill will ensure that teachers, school counselors and child care providers are provided with the skills necessary to prevent violent behavior in young children at the very earliest stages. In 1992, Congress enacted legislation which funded similar training programs at Eastern Connecticut State University, University of Colorado at Denver, University of Kansas, University of Minnesota, University of North Carolina, Temple University and a dozen other colleges and universities.

There is evidence that strongly suggests that early intervention and education is effective in preventing delinquency. For example, one study has indicated that when preschool teachers instruct young children about interpersonal problem-solving skills and other forms of conflict resolution, children are less likely to demonstrate problematic behavior, which is effective in preventing delinquency later on. In addition, there is further evidence that indicates that support programs for families with very young children—those under the age of five—are effective in preventing delinquency.

Teachers are on the frontline every day. They need to be prepared to discuss with the children and the entire family how to resolve issues without resorting to violence. I believe we must reinvest in this proven, worthwhile program in order to ensure that our teachers, daycare providers and school counselors have the training they need to combat violence in school and society at large.

I am pleased to be joined in this effort by Mr. KUCINICH of Ohio, Mr. HILLIARD of Ala-

bama, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. CHRISTENSEN of Virginia Islands, Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, Mr. WU of Oregon, Mr. ETHERIDGE of North Carolina, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD of California, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mr. MCGOVERN of Massachusetts.

#### HONORING DINO PETRUCCI

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 2, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dino Petrucci for receiving the Senior Farmer of the Year Award. Dino Petrucci's efforts to educate and inspire young people toward agriculture render him deserving of this award.

Dino was born on a farm in Madera and still lives on the property his family cultivated while he was growing up. He attended Howard Elementary School, graduated from Madera High School in 1947, and earned a college degree in Crop Science from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

During his four years at Madera High, Dino was actively involved in student government and the Future Farmers of America. He was elected Student Body Vice President and Senior Class Speaker. He also served as Chapter President of FFA and won the FAA State Speaking contest.

Petrucci went on to hold numerous leadership positions in various organizations as a young adult. He was elected the State FFA President and was a National Public Speaker at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City. In addition, he served as President of the Crop Science Department at Cal Poly.

Mr. Petrucci was successful in his undertakings on behalf of these organizations and in his academic endeavors. He earned the coveted American Farmer Degree and co-authored a book that was used in school agriculture departments across the state.

After college, Dino began his teaching career in the Ag Department in Victorville. Two years later, he returned to Madera and embarked upon a 29-year career with the Madera High Ag Department. During this time, Dino was actively farming a variety of crops with his brother, Enzo. Dino and wife Peggy were also raising a family of two children and supporting them on their 4-H and FFA projects.

Many of his former students attest that Mr. Petrucci was a committed teacher, giving more hours than were required of him. For fifteen years, he advised the California Young Farmers and was instrumental in the Madera Chapter receiving recognition as "Outstanding Chapter" for many of those years. He also served as State President of the California Ag Teachers Association, and found time to serve as Chairman of the Livestock Department at the Madera District Fair.

While balancing a family and career Dino has made time for community involvement by

serving as President of the Lion's Club, President of Madera Toastmasters, and President of Madera County Farm Bureau. He was also elected last year to serve as a Trustee on the Madera Unified School District Board. In addition, Mr. Petrucci began the MUST Center and served as its Director for two years. This program was designed to teach vocational skills to the underprivileged to order to afford them better job opportunities. Currently, Petrucci is actively involved at Howard Elementary School where he attended as a boy, his children attended, and his grandchildren now attend.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dino Petrucci for his outstanding accomplishments and service to his community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Dino many more years of continued success and happiness.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 2, 1999

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following statement into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

On rollcall vote No. 344 on July 29, 1999 I mistakenly voted "yea." I would like the RECORD to reflect the fact that I oppose the amendment and should have voted "nay". The amendment would prohibit the District of Columbia from spending its own funds on a needle exchange program that has saved hundreds of residents from death and disease caused by the HIV-AIDS epidemic. I support such proven programs and oppose efforts by Congress to intrude into the affairs of the District of Columbia in such a misinformed and heavy-handed fashion.

#### TRIBUTE TO CORMAC HENNESSY

#### HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday August 2, 1999

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the commitment and selfless dedication one young man, Cormac Hennessy has made to myself, my staff and the people of the Third District of New York. Cormac began interning in my office in the Summer of 1998 and since that time he has exhibited all the qualities: intellect, wit and a certain style that make him truly the son of a Diplomat's Deiplomat. In fact, Cormac was an inspiration to those who loved the game of golf, for there was never too dull an assignment or too onerous a task that Cormac did not shirk for the sake of eighteen holes. I am confident that in the care of two truly wonderful people, Pat and Pauline Hennessy, Cormac will amount to something more than the self-proclaimed title of "King of

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

all Interns." Indeed I am certain that his unsurpassed sarcasm, his indecipherable "Southern" dialect and his unique charm will cause him to rise to the highest levels of leadership and success. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors and I thank him for all that he has done and meant to me.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ASA HUTCHINSON**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 2, 1999*

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, July 30, 1999, I was inadvertently detained and did not vote on rollcall No. 354 or 355. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on both.

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HONORING JAN DUKE

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 2, 1999*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jan Duke for receiving the prestigious Milken Educator Award. Duke teaches fourth grade at John Adam's Elementary School in the Madera Unified School District.

Jan Duke was one of four teachers in California to receive this honor, and one of 160 to be honored nationwide. She is the first from Madera Unified School District to be given this award.

Beyond her role as an exemplary teacher, Jan is a skilled writer and presenter. Duke has written two books on teaching fourth-graders and co-authored, with her husband, a book on teaching individuals to read. She also advises national scholastic book clubs on what literature would be best for children. In addition, she conducts 5 to 20 seminars annually for fourth-grade teachers nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jan Duke for her achievements and service to the community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Jan many more years of continued success and happiness.

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CONCERN FOR RESIDENTS OF  
VIEQUES, PUERTO RICO

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 2, 1999*

Mr. BURTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the forefront a very important issue that has not been given the attention it deserves by this Congress. More than 9,000 American citizens, living on the island of Vieques, live in fear. But, it isn't a fear of drug trafficking. It isn't a fear of violent gangs or terrorism either. Our fellow citizens live in fear of our own military, and I would like to explain why.

For more than 50 years, the residents of Vieques, Puerto Rico, an island encompassing fewer than 52 square miles of which the Navy

occupies 35 square miles, have had to endure live military ammunition and bombing exercises. Vieques is the largest area in the Western hemisphere used for military exercises with live ammunition, and the only place where bombing still occurs near a substantial civilian population. For years, the residents of Vieques have expressed their concerns about the negative impact that the bombing and live ammunition exercises are having on their health and safety. Unfortunately, their voices have not been heard and that concerns me. On April 19, 1999, the people of Vieques raised their voices once again, this time in despair. It was on that date, during routine military practices conducted by two Navy F/A-18 Hornet jets, that two bombs were accidentally dropped near an observation post manned by civilian security guards. As a result, a security guard was killed and four others were wounded. I believe that if the citizens of Puerto Rico had equal representation in Congress, legitimate concerns for their safety and health would have been better safeguarded.

Since that accident, the Navy has temporarily ceased military maneuvers while an investigation is carried out, and Puerto Rico's Governor, the Honorable Pedro Rossello, appointed a Commission that investigated the incident and reported its findings to the President's Special Panel on Military Operations on Vieques on July 9, 1999. The Governor's Commission unanimously concluded that it is not possible to protect the people of Vieques, or the environment, from the extreme danger posed by live ammunition testing. The Navy argues that Vieques is a unique site for training exercises with live ammunition, making it essential to our National security. I've always worked to protect our National security, however, it should never be achieved at the expense of the personal rights or safety of our own citizens. The only solution may be to end permanently the military's live ammunition testing on Vieques.

No one in this House would tolerate what the military is doing on Vieques if it were taking place in our Congressional district, and neither would our constituents. Imagine trying to explain to the voters why they should welcome the bombardment of their communities with live ammunition. Try convincing your constituents to accept, and in return thank you, for having uranium-coated bombs dropped within a few miles of their homes, schools, hospitals, and public parks. Imagine asking your constituents to accept having their children attend classrooms which reverberate during the school day as live shells explode nearby. No one in this chamber would permit the continuation of a practice by our own military that endangers the lives of the very people we have been elected to represent.

There's a reality about Puerto Rico, one that is wonderful and abhorrent at the same time. The people of Puerto Rico are truly American citizens, part of America's great democracy, and that is wonderful. However, the people of Puerto Rico currently lack the single most important tool that our democracy provides, two Senators and a voting delegation in the House of Representatives, and that is abhorrent. It is precisely because the people of Puerto Rico don't have equal representation in Congress that they need our help now. If they had real representation here, the military would have the proper incentive to solve the problem of live ammunition testing on Vieques. I trust that

my colleagues in the House of Representatives would agree with me. If this practice were occurring in any one of the fifty States, I know we would all stand together to oppose it. We owe our fellow American citizens in Puerto Rico the same level of respect. They deserve nothing less. In fact, their safety and their lives may depend on it.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage my colleagues to take a hard look at this issue.

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CELEBRATING THE CITY OF  
LOMITA

**HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 2, 1999*

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Lomita, California. Lomita is celebrating its 35th year as an incorporated city. The City of Lomita is widely recognized for its rustic, small-town atmosphere amongst the larger cities of the South Bay.

Lomita was first established as a German farming community in 1907. The farming community continued to grow throughout the years, and in June of 1964, after several unsuccessful attempts, Lomita was finally incorporated as a city.

While surrounding communities have experienced tremendous growth, Lomita has remained relatively unchanged since incorporation. Lomita's small town attributes attract young families in search of a safe, close knit community. Lomita is a culturally diverse community and it also boasts one of the lowest crime rates in the South Bay region. It is an ideal place to raise a family and live the American Dream, and many of its residents are homeowners and small business entrepreneurs.

The future looks bright for the city of Lomita. Preparations are currently underway for an ambitious revitalization of Lomita's downtown area to ensure that Lomita maintains its small-town atmosphere.

Lomita has thrived over the last 35 years, and as we enter the 21st century, Lomita will continue to stand out as a small, unique town of the South Bay. I congratulate the City of Lomita and its 20,000 residents on this milestone.

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IN HONOR OF MYLDRED JONES

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 2, 1999*

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Myldred Jones, an Orange County resident, and a great humanitarian, on this her ninetyeth birthday.

Myldred moved to California from Pennsylvania with her family when she was four years old. Growing up during the Depression, the Jones family experienced the poverty that affected millions of Americans. Even so, Myldred's parents, who were also her greatest mentors, would share whatever food they had with other people. Although the Jones' family was also poor, they seemed to always have enough to give to others.