

individual consumers upon request, a written statement for each vehicle model that is available for lease that describes the key lease terms used in calculating payments under the leases—specifically, the rebates and other incentives available on leases for such models, the lease interest rate or money factor, and the vehicle residual value. “By knowing the money factor and residual value”, Consumer Reports has emphasized, consumers will “be better able to compare lease deals.” Disclosure of the money factor, in particular, was emphasized in comments by the Attorneys General Task Force “as a matter of the consumer’s basic right to know.”

Fourth, the bill amends current advertising standards to require that advertisers clearly identify advertised payments as applying to lease transactions and that highlighted lease terms that apply only to a single vehicle, or only to a limited number of vehicles, be clearly and conspicuously identified in advertisements.

Fifth, the bill would incorporate in current law several important changes in lease advertising advocated by the Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Trade Commission. It includes Federal Reserve proposals to increase the maximum contractual obligation amount of leases that are subject to federal disclosure and advertising requirements to \$50,000 to accommodate the higher cost leases routinely offered in today’s marketplace. It would clarify the “clear and conspicuous” disclosure requirement in current law with more detailed “reasonably understandable” standards implemented by the Federal Trade Commission in its 900 Number rule and other industry advertising orders. It strengthens the FTC’s authority to enforce lease advertising requirements by seeking civil penalties in federal court. And it would codify the prohibition, enunciated in recent FTC enforcement actions, against advertising that highlights that no down payment is required on a lease when, in fact, substantial undisclosed payments are required at lease signing.

Finally, my bill would clarify that the requirements of the Consumer Leasing Act apply not just to television, radio and newspaper advertising, but to all potential lease advertising in publications, videotapes, toll-free telephone numbers, newsletters and commercial mailing and fliers. It would also bring the Consumer Leasing Act into the electronic age by extending disclosure requirements to advertising in computer programs and internet web sites.

TRUTH IN LEASE ADVERTISING

Mr. Speaker, other than purchasing a home, buying or leasing an automobile is one of the most important consumer transactions for most American households. It shouldn’t be a confusing or an intimidating experience. Consumers have a right to know all the relevant costs and details before signing a lease. And they deserve to have adequate information to comparison shop for auto leases in the same way they shop for a mortgage or any major consumer purchase.

By introducing this legislation I am simply trying to extend the principle of “truth in advertising” to the auto leasing process. My legislation does not dictate how leases must be structured or transacted, but requires only that dealers make available to consumers the relevant information about costs and terms they

use to calculate a lease. For an industry that puts so much emphasis on the operation of free markets, I find it hard to believe that automobile manufacturers and dealers can oppose providing consumers with the information they need to make informed marketplace decisions.

I believe this is important and needed legislation that can transform the entire auto leasing process in ways that will benefit both consumers and automobile dealers. I urge my colleagues to give careful consideration to the changes and initiatives I have proposed in this legislation.

RECOGNIZING CENTRAL NEW JERSEY NOMINEES TO THE U.S. SERVICE ACADEMIES

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of very special young men and women from Central New Jersey. One of the most important duties of a Member of Congress, as well as one of the most enjoyable, is nominating students to the U.S. service academies. In an age when media portrayals of young people are increasingly negative, getting to know students through the nomination process is an important reminder of the patriotism, dedication, and excellence of America’s youth.

From a pool of over 60 students from my district who went through the rigorous and time-consuming process of applying for a congressional nomination, I am very proud to say that 14 young women and men from central New Jersey will be enrolling in America’s service academies this year. They are the very best of an exceptional group, and I was proud to nominate them.

Six young people from the area will be attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY, and will be commissioned as officers in the U.S. Army. I would like to recognize Margaret Nenchek of Califon, Alan Van Saun of Titusville, Frank Aburto of Freehold, Michael Rapiejko of Princeton Junction, Thomas DiRienzo of Oakhurst, and Michael Lynch of Flemington.

Five young people from central New Jersey will be attending the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD, and will be commissioned as officers in the U.S. Navy. I would like to recognize Jason Mortimer of Lebanon, Adam Farber of Cranbury, Lily-Ann Thomas of Branchburg, Matthew Latyszzonek of Kendall Park, and Frank McBride of Tinton Falls.

Two young men from my district will be attending the U.S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, CO, and will be commissioned as officers in the U.S. Air Force. I would like to recognize Keith Fitzpatrick of Princeton Junction and Kevin O’Reilly of East Brunswick.

One young man from central New Jersey will be attending the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. I would like to recognize Frank Megna of Titusville.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the House joins me in noting the accomplishments of these young men and women, and in wishing them the

best of luck at the service academies and in their careers.

H.R. 4370, IMMIGRATION RELIEF FOR THE SUPPORT STAFF OF FERDINAND MARCOS

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, in 1986 President Marcos of the Philippines was granted political asylum in the United States to avert civil conflagration because of a popular uprising against his regime. The civil unrest arose following a controversial election in which President Marcos claimed to have defeated Corazon Aquino but was widely accused of election fraud. Growing street demonstrations in support of Mrs. Aquino raised fears of violence against what many viewed as a fraudulent election result. President Marcos left the Philippines on February 25, 1986 at U.S. urging and went into exile in Hawaii.

President Marcos, his wife Imelda and 88 members of his staff and their families were advised that they were being allowed into the United States with “parole” status for the convenience of the U.S. Government. This status is a legal fiction in which the individual is physically present in the United States but had never been “admitted” to the United States. The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) can terminate parole status at any time. The individual can be treated as if he or she had entered the United States illegally and had no right to be here. In this case, it is extremely unfair.

INS has instituted proceedings to expel some of these individuals and their families but not all of them. There does not seem to be any pattern to which individuals have been selected.

These immigrants were invited to the United States to help care for President Marcos who was already ailing and died in 1989. They were told that they could bring their families with them. They have been in the United States for fourteen years and are fully integrated into our society.

These people should not be deported. They came to the U.S. for an important reason. Because that reason is now past should not cause us to turn against them.

To rectify this unfair treatment, I introduced H.R. 4370 on May 3, 2000. The bill grants the individuals and their families the right to remain in the United States. These honest, hardworking people came to the United States at the invitation of our government. Their presence was known and they have done nothing to violate our immigration laws. To uproot them would be an injustice to them and their families that we should not allow.

The exile Marcos government in Hawaii was instigated by the U.S. to save the Philippines from political turmoil and rebellion. Those who came to implement this policy to end civil unrest in the Philippines should have the protection of this government.

COMMENCING ISRAEL'S REDE-
PLOYMENT FROM SOUTHERN
LEBANON

SPEECH OF

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 2000

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 331, and wish to commend the Government of Israel for its courageous decision to unilaterally withdraw its troops from Southern Lebanon.

As Israel demonstrates its willingness to take risks for peace in the Middle East, the international community must rise to its obligation to ensure that Southern Lebanon never again becomes a staging ground for attacks against Israel.

We must stand by Israel during these difficult times, recognize Israel's right to self defense found in Chapter 7, Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, and work toward peace for the citizens of Israel and all the Middle East.

PRESIDENT ARPAD GONCZ AC-
CEPTS ROOSEVELT INTER-
NATIONAL DISABILITY AWARD
FOR HUNGARY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, May 12, at a United Nations ceremony the President of the Republic of Hungary, Arpad Goncz, received the fourth annual Franklin Delano Roosevelt International Disability Award on behalf of his country. This award is sponsored by the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and the World Committee on Disability. United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan, and the Vice Chairman of the National Organization on Disability, Christopher Reeve, were among those who presented the award to President Goncz.

Mr. Speaker, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt International Disability Award is presented annually to a nation that makes noteworthy national progress toward the full and equal participation of people with disabilities. This important international recognition was given to Hungary in recognition of the great improvements that Hungary has made on behalf of disabled individuals. Hungary's 1998 Rights of Persons Living with Disability and the Equality of Opportunity law defined the rights of this important segment of the population and raised national awareness of disability issues in the country. Hungary has made outstanding improvements by establishing educational programs for children with disabilities and incentives for employers who hire those with disabilities. In addition to these changes the Hungarian government actively promotes the development of disability support groups.

In particular, Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Mrs. Zsuzsa Goncz, the exceptionally talented wife of President Goncz, for her important role and her critical efforts in bringing about the positive steps that have been made by the government of Hungary to provide

equal opportunity for the disabled. President and Mrs. Goncz are figures of great integrity and have given important moral leadership to this effort. I am honored to have them as my friends.

Mr. Speaker, Secretary General Kofi Annan made the following statement commending Hungary for its receiving the Roosevelt Award: "The full and equal participation of people with disabilities is the main message of the United Nations World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons. I commend the initiative of the Roosevelt Institute and the World Committee on Disability in establishing this award, and I heartily congratulate the Government of Hungary for its work to build a world in which each and every person can participate fully, actively and equally."

Alan Reich, Chairman of the World Committee on Disability also praised Hungary for its commitment to the U.N. World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons: "Proactive efforts such as Hungary's should inspire other countries throughout the world. There are Half a billion of us on our planet with disabilities. This crisis that demands action. We urge all nations to respond to the U.N.'s call as Hungary has."

Mr. Speaker, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Award, established in 1995 by the Roosevelt Institute and the World committee on Disability, consists of a bronze bust of Franklin Roosevelt and a \$50,000 grant for an outstanding disability program in the selected nation. Previous winners of this award are Ireland, the Republic of Korea, and Canada. President Roosevelt, for whom the award is named, contracted polio at the age of 39 and from that time on could not walk without assistance. Despite this serious disability he was elected President of the United States four times, lead the U.S. through the Great Depression and World War II, and was a founding father of the United Nations.

Mr. Speaker, Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel, the Chairman of the Roosevelt Institute emphasized the role of the former President of the United States in dealing with disabilities: "President Roosevelt's role in the founding of the United Nations was one of his proudest accomplishments. It is wonderful to be in this institution more than 50 years later, celebrating progress in the rights of people with disabilities-progress that he would fully endorse as a person who lived with a significant disability for much of his life."

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Hungary and to Zsuzsa and Arpad Goncz on the occasion of Hungary's receiving the fourth annual Franklin Delano Roosevelt International Disability Award.

TRIBUTE TO ROY ORR

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a dear friend and a great public servant Roy Orr of DeSoto, Texas.

Roy has served his hometown of DeSoto in almost every capacity imaginable, and he has been elected to numerous public offices. First he was elected to the DeSoto Independent

School District Board of Trustees, then he served as mayor of DeSoto, and most recently he served as County Commissioner. Recently, Roy finished his term as Chairman and Charter Member of the DeSoto Economic Development Commission. To list all of the boards, commissions, civic and church related activities that Roy has been a part of would be impossible.

Recently, DeSoto's Mayor Richard Rozier and the City Council decided it was time to honor Roy Orr for his many years of service. Friday, June 2, 2000 will be declared Roy Orr Day in the City of DeSoto, and the linear trail system along DeSoto's Ten Mile Creek will be named the "Roy Orr Trail" in his honor.

I deeply regret that I will not be able to join Roy on this special occasion for him. Therefore, I want to thank him now for all he has done to make DeSoto the wonderful place it is today. Congratulations on these tremendous tributes Roy, they are richly deserved for a lifetime of service.

HONORING PICKENS MIDDLE
SCHOOL IN PICKENS, SOUTH
CAROLINA

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Pickens Middle School in Pickens, South Carolina. This school has been recently named a 1999-2000 school year "Blue Ribbon School" by Secretary of Education, Richard Riley.

Since its inception in 1982, more than 3,800 of the most successful and challenging schools in the country have been honored by inclusion in the Blue Ribbons Schools Program. The schools chosen for this program fulfill stringent, research-based criteria for overall academic excellence. To be eligible to be a Blue Ribbon School, schools are judged in all areas of academics, instruction, professional development, and school curriculum. In addition, honored schools exhibit exceptional levels of community and parental involvement, high student achievement levels and rigorous safety and discipline programs within their schools.

Pickens Middle School was one of only four schools in South Carolina honored with this prestigious award this year. In fact, they were one of an elite 198 schools nationwide chosen for this honor for the 1999-2000 school year.

Pickens Middle School is an outstanding example of effective public school and is well deserving of this national award. Their parents, students, teachers, administrators, and school officials should all be proud for achieving this special honor. This school is a strong example of excellence in academics in the 3rd District of South Carolina and should serve as a model for schools across the country. I am proud to have this blue ribbon school in my district of South Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my fellow colleagues will join me in congratulating Pickens Middle schools for their commitment to educational excellence.