

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REPORT ON THE KOREAN INTERN EXCHANGE PROGRAM

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to call to the attention of our colleagues this report written by Jacqueline Hui, an intern who participated in our U.S. Congress Korean National Assembly Student Intern Exchange Program which I instituted seventeen years ago.

Jacqueline is a student at Brown University, majoring in Political Science and Economics. She was an intern in my Washington office this past summer and in my district office in 1999. She did an outstanding job. I am very proud of her, and I am happy that she was able to participate in our Korean Exchange Program. Her report underscores the importance of such exchange programs, and the valuable experiences which our students receive:

SUMMARY OF THE U.S. CONGRESS—REPUBLIC OF KOREA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

By Jacqueline Hui

One of the most important goals of our exchange program is to foster greater understanding between Korea and the United States. Although I can not speak on behalf of the Korean students, I believe that all of us American students have gained a greater understanding of Korean politics and culture through the exchange.

The time spent abroad in Korea was very well-organized and very intense. If there is any way one could experience almost every aspect of Korea in two weeks, I did. Everyday the schedule was packed from eight o'clock in the morning until ten o'clock in the evening. When I finally returned home, I would be completely exhausted and fall asleep until it was time to wake up again for another grueling day.

On the first day, I learned about the Korean language at the Seoul National University and viewed a traditional music performance. At the performance, I realized that the Korean culture was uniquely different from Asian cultures, my being Chinese.

On the other days, we went to the National Folk Museum, the Changdok Palace, visited the National Assembly, visited Samsung Electronics, did some pottery, went to a traditional Korean Spa, went to the De-Militarized Zone (Panmunjom), participated in a Taekwondo workshop, spent a day interning in the National Assembly, and did a home-stay to experience Korean life.

The single day interning in the National Assembly was insufficient to really see Korean politics. The most intense experience was definitely visiting the De-Militarized Zone. The particular area clearly depicts the tensions between North and South. Furthermore, the U.S. presence in the area also demonstrates and creates tension between the Koreans and Americans. Overall, I attended many meetings that explained different sides of issues concerning Koreans and in the end, I had a much clearer view of Korea.

Near the end of the stay, we went to Kyongju, which was the capital of the Shilla

dynasty. The place is full of history and culture. There was also the Turtle Tomb—an underwater tomb that was built by and for a king, used to protect Korea from being attacked by Japan. I also saw Buddhist temples and Confucian schools—both of which have greatly influenced the ideology and culture of Korea.

At the end of the trip, we went to Cheju Island, a resort island south of Korea. The island was beautiful. We took a boat ride to see the surrounding islands and visited the one waterfall on the island. The previous two weeks in Korea had been hectic. The time spent in Cheju was relaxing and allowed us to reflect on our stay.

When we went back to San Francisco, we had a chance to meet up with the Korean students and shared our experiences with each other. Perhaps it might have been more interesting if we had met back in Korea instead.

Overall, the Koreans showed great hospitality in all respects. Everywhere we went we were treated very well. We Americans tend to bask in our superiority over other nations. Interestingly enough, I found Korea to be highly technologically advanced. Americans should remember that other nations do have the capacity to surpass us, at least in certain respects.

I am grateful for this opportunity to experience the Korean culture first hand. The program was very successful—in my eyes—in fostering understanding between two cultures. I hope that future exchange students will continue to have the opportunity to live and learn Korean culture as I did.

THE OFFENDER REENTRY AND COMMUNITY SAFETY ACT OF 2000 OCTOBER 26, 2000

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, today in communities all around this country, prisoners are being released back into their communities without job skills, substance abuse or mental health services, or assistance in obtaining housing and employment. In fact, the Department of Justice reports that historically, two thirds of released prisoners are rearrested for new crimes within three years.

During this year alone, a record number of over 585,000 inmates will be released from jail or prison and return to local communities. A safety threat is posed by this volume of returns and has been worsened by a declining ability by states and communities to supervise the returning offenders. This is partly due to policy shifts toward more determinate sentencing, which allow for the offenders to serve longer sentences than in the past, yet without supervisory conditions upon release. Thirteen states have abolished parole systems, thereby providing very little, if any, supervision of released inmates.

Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced "The Offender Reentry and Community Safety Act

of 2000." This legislation will help ensure that released offenders enter into a lawful, productive life when they return to their communities. Under this legislation, programs will be created to assist certain offenders who have served their prison sentences, but who pose the greatest risk to the community. This is because they lack the skills necessary to successfully reintegrate into society, such as finding housing and employment, in addition to managing substance abuse, medical and mental health problems.

These programs will use technology and traditional methods of structured supervision and services, along with a system of immediate sanctions for violations of an offender's plan. It is my belief that these programs will give the necessary tools to the returning offenders so that they can help themselves lead lawful and productive lives.

I want to thank the Attorney General and the Department of Justice for the assistance and hard work in this area. I know this is a priority of the Attorney General, and I look forward to working with her to help process this legislation next Congress. I am also submitting for the RECORD a section-by-section analysis that the Department of Justice has prepared on this legislation.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Introduction

This legislative proposal is divided into two titles: title I would create demonstration reentry programs for federal offenders, and title II would establish reentry programs for state and local prisoners. The programs are designed to assist high-risk, high-need offenders who have served their prison sentences, but who pose the greatest risk of re-offending upon release because they lack the education, job skills, stable family or living arrangements, and the substance abuse treatment and other mental and medical health services they need to successfully reintegrate into society. Both titles include provisions requiring that the funded programs be rigorously evaluated and the results widely disseminated, so that reentry programs can be modified as needed, to ensure that recidivism is reduced and public safety enhanced.

The Reentry Problem. American crime policies over the past two decades have resulted in record numbers of offenders being incarcerated. Some 1.25 million offenders are now living in prisons, and another 600,000 offenders are incarcerated in local jails. Although many offenders are serving longer sentences than they would have a decade ago, once they complete their terms, they return to the community. A record number of approximately 585,400 inmates will return to communities this year. Historically, two-thirds of returning prisoners have been rearrested for new crimes within three years.

The safety threat posed by this volume of returns has been exacerbated by reductions in the abilities of states and communities to supervise returning offenders. Parole systems have been abolished in thirteen states. Moreover, policy shifts toward more determinate sentencing have reduced the authority to impose supervisory conditions upon existing offenders. Consequently, an estimated 100,000 inmates will receive no supervision in the community. State systems have

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

also reduced the numbers of transitional support programs aimed at facilitating the return to productive community life styles. Recent studies indicate that many returning prisoners receive no help in finding employment upon release. Most offenders have low literacy and other basic educational skills that can impede successful reentry.

At least 55 percent of offenders are fathers of minor children, and therefore face a number of issues related to child support and other family responsibilities during incarceration and after release. Substance abuse and mental health problems add to concerns over community safety. Approximately 70 percent of state prisoners and 57 percent of federal prisoners have a history of drug abuse. Research by NIJ indicates that between 60 and 75 percent of inmates with heroin or cocaine problems return to drugs within three months when untreated. An estimated 187,000 state and federal prison inmates have self-reported mental health problems. Mentally ill inmates are more likely than other offenders to have committed a violent offense and be violent recidivists. Few states connect mental health treatment in prisons with treatment in the return community. Finally, offenders with contagious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis are released with no viable plan to continue their medical treatment so they present a significant danger to public health.

Current policies to reduce public safety risks are cost prohibitive and often ineffective. Efforts to enforce offender accountability for release conditions have led to record returns to prison for revocations. These practices have added significantly to state correctional costs. Revocations comprised 17 percent of prison admissions in 1980; they have risen to 36 percent in 1998.

Juvenile offenders represent a serious part of the reentry issue throughout the country. Juveniles were involved in 17 percent of all violent crimes and 35 percent of all property crime arrests in 1997. In 1997, 369 juveniles were in custody for every 100,000 in the population. Between 1987 and 1996, the volume of adjudicated cases resulting in court-ordered residential placements rose 51 percent. The steady increase of youth exiting residential placement has resulted in an increased strain on the juvenile justice aftercare system due to increased case loads for parole officers and the inability to provide the appropriate level of required supervision. Without structured aftercare supervision and services, youth are likely to relapse and recidivate and return to confinement in either juvenile or adult correctional facilities.

TITLE I. FEDERAL REENTRY DEMONSTRATIONS PROJECTS

Innovative strategies and emerging technologies present new opportunities to improve the federal and District of Columbia reentry systems. This legislation creates five demonstration projects—four in the federal system and one in the District of Columbia—that utilize these strategies and technologies. The projects share many core components, including a more seamless reentry system, reentry officials who are more directly involved with the offender and who can swiftly impose intermediate sanctions if the offender does not follow the designated reentry plan, and the combination of enhanced service delivery and enhanced monitoring. The different projects are targeted at different prisoner populations and each has some unique features. The promise of the legislation is to establish the demonstration projects and then to rigorously evaluate them to determine which measures and strategies most successfully reintegrate prisoners into the community as well as which measures and strategies can be promoted na-

tionally to address the growing national problem of released prisoners.

Section 101. Federal Reentry Center Demonstration—Section 101 establishes the Federal Reentry Center Demonstration Project, which is targeted at high-need and medium-to-high-risk federal offenders, and revolves around Reentry Centers. These Centers will be enhanced community corrections facilities, or "halfway houses," where for most federal prisoners, reintegration into the community begins. Reentry Centers will be dynamic facilities where ongoing reentry planning and evaluation will be conducted by a team of corrections and supervision authorities, where services are intensively provided, and where immediate and certain sanctions are imposed when a prisoner deviates from his or her reentry plan.

Some of the core components of the demonstration project include (1) Reentry Review Teams—consisting of representatives of the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the U.S. Probation System and staff of the relevant halfway house—that will rigorously manage a more seamless reentry of offenders into the community; (2) a system of graduated levels of supervision within the Reentry Center to promote community safety by providing sanctions for minor violations of an offenders' reentry plan and incentives for completing stages of the program; (3) the use of local, community-based citizen volunteers to advise and mentor offenders; and (4) as indicated and appropriate, regular drug testing, substance abuse treatment and aftercare, mental and medical health treatment and aftercare, vocational and educational programs, life skills instruction, conflict resolution skills training, assistance obtaining suitable housing, and other programming to promote effective reintegration into the community.

The Reentry Center project will last three years and will take place in an appropriate number of federal judicial districts selected by the Attorney General in consultation with the Judicial Conference of the United States. The Attorney General will also have the authority to include in the demonstration project offenders who participate in the Enhanced In-Prison Vocational Assessment and Training Demonstration project established by section 105 of this Act.

Section 102. Federal High-Risk Offender Reentry Demonstration—Section 102 establishes the Federal High-Risk Offender Demonstration project. The project is targeted at high-need/high-risk federal offenders—those who have already violated the terms of their initial release—and utilizes a variety of elements, including emerging technologies, to both monitor these offenders and insure delivery of appropriate services and programs that promote effective reentry into the community. These technologies are rapidly developing and will, as they develop further, provide increasingly effective ways to manage offenders' reentry.

The core elements of the project include (1) the use of halfway house and home confinement that together with the technology will form a system of graduated levels of supervision; (2) as indicated and appropriate, monitoring technologies; regular drug testing, substance abuse treatment and aftercare, mental and medical health treatment and aftercare, vocational and education programs, life skill instruction, conflict resolution skill training, assistance obtaining suitable housing, and other programming to promote effective reintegration into the community.

The project will last three years and will take place in an appropriate number of federal judicial districts selected by the Judicial Conference of the United States in consultation with the Attorney General.

Section 103. District of Columbia Intensive Supervision, Tracking, and Reentry Training Demonstration—Section 103 establishes the District of Columbia Intensive Supervision, Tracking and Reentry Training (DC iSTART) Demonstration project. The DC iSTART project is targeted at high-risk District of Columbia offenders—those who might not otherwise be released through a halfway house—and utilizes halfway houses, home confinement and intensive supervision. The project builds on the work of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, which under the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act, has begun a complete reengineering of the supervision and reentry systems in the District of Columbia.

The core elements of the DC iSTART project include: (1) Reentry Review teams; (2) the use of halfway houses and home confinement for high need/high-risk parolees to form a system of graduated levels of supervision for those who otherwise would be released directly into the community; and (3) as indicated and appropriate, regular drug testing, substance abuse treatment and aftercare, mental and medical health treatment and aftercare, vocational and educational programs, life skills instruction, conflict resolution skills training, assistance obtaining suitable housing, and other programming to promote effective reintegration into the community. The project will last three years.

Section 104. Federal Intensive Supervision, Tracking, and Reentry Training Demonstration—Section 104 establishes the Federal Intensive Supervision, Tracking and Reentry Training (FED iSTART) Demonstration project. The FED iSTART project is targeted at high-risk federal offenders—those who might not otherwise be released through a halfway house—and utilizes intensive supervision by federal probation officers with significantly reduced caseloads. The core elements of the FED iSTART project are (1) supervision by probation officers with significantly reduced caseloads, (2) fully funded monitoring and reentry services, to be provided as indicated and appropriate, including regular drug testing, substance abuse treatment and aftercare, mental and medical health treatment and aftercare, vocational and educational programs, life skill instruction, conflict resolution skill training, assistance obtaining suitable housing, and other programming to promote effective reintegration into the community. The project will last three years.

Section 105. Federal Enhanced In-Prison Vocational Assessment and Training Demonstration—Section 105 establishes the Federal Enhanced In-Prison Vocational Assessment and Training Demonstration project. The project will provide in-prison assessment of prisoners' vocational needs and aptitudes, enhanced work skills development, enhanced release readiness programming, and other components as appropriate to prepare federal prisoners for release and reentry into the community. The project will last three years.

Section 106. Research and Reports To Congress—As indicated above, the promise of this legislation is not simply to develop the demonstration projects, but also to insure that the projects are rigorously evaluated to determine which measures and strategies most successfully reintegrate federal prisoners into the community and which should be promoted nationally to address the growing national problem of released prisoners. Section 106 directs the Attorney General, the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, and the Executive Director of the institute for criminal research authorized by the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement

Act to evaluate the various demonstration projects authorized by this Act on post-release outcomes and recidivism for a three-year period after release from custody. This section also directs that not later than two years after the enactment of this Act, reports be made to Congress on the progress of the demonstration projects.

Section 107. Authorization of Appropriations—Section 107 authorizes appropriations, to remain available until expended, to the Federal Bureau of Prisons, the Federal Judiciary, and the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency of the District of Columbia for fiscal years 2001 through 2005.

TITLE II. STATE REENTRY GRANT PROGRAMS

Section 201. This section amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 by adding four new sections (2601, 2602, 2603, and 2604) that make grants available to state and local governments to create special programs to help state prisoners successfully reenter their communities.

Section 2601. Adult Offender State and Local Reentry Partnerships. Section 2601 establishes the Adult Offender State and Local Reentry Partnership Grant Program for the purpose of encouraging states, territories, and Indian tribes to partner with units of local government and other non-profit organizations to establish adult offender reentry demonstration projects. The grants shall be for amounts up to \$1,000,000, and may be expended for the following purposes: implementing graduated sanctions and incentives, monitoring released prisoners, and providing, as appropriate, drug and alcohol abuse testing and treatment, mental and medical health services, victim impact educational classes, employment training, conflict resolution skills training, and other social services.

Section 2601 requires applicants to submit an application that describes a long-term strategy and detailed implementation plan, identifies the agencies that will be coordinated by the project, certifies that there has been appropriate consultation with all affected agencies, and describes the outcome measures that will be used to evaluate the program. The grant recipient must contribute a percentage of matching funds to the project and submit an annual report to the Attorney General describing the activities carried out under the grant. Section 2601 authorizes \$40,000,000 for this program in fiscal year 2001, and such sums as are necessary in fiscal years 2002 through 2005.

Section 2602. State and Local Reentry Courts. Section 2602 creates the State and Local Reentry Court Grant Program for the purpose of encouraging state agencies, municipalities, public agencies, nonprofit organizations and tribes to make agreements with courts to establish "reentry courts." The grants shall be for amounts up to \$500,000, and may be expended to monitor returning offenders, establish graduated sanctions and incentives, test and treat returning offenders for drug and alcohol abuse, and provide reentering offenders with mental and medical health services, victim impact educational classes, employment training, conflict resolution skills training, and other social services.

Section 2602 requires applicants to submit an application that describes a long-term strategy and detailed implementation plan, identifies the agencies that will be coordinated by the project, certifies that there has been appropriate consultation with all affected agencies, and describes the outcome measures that will be used to evaluate the program. The grant recipient must contribute a percentage of matching funds to the project and submit an annual report to the Attorney General describing the activi-

ties carried out under the grant. Section 2602 authorizes \$10,000,000 for this program in fiscal year 2001, and such sums as are necessary in fiscal years 2002 through 2005.

Section 2603. Juvenile Offender State and Local Reentry Programs. Section 2603 establishes the Juvenile Offender State and Local Reentry Grant Program for the purpose of encouraging states to partner with units of local government and other non-profit organizations to establish juvenile offender reentry projects. The grants shall be for amounts up to \$250,000, and may be expended for the following purposes: implementing graduated sanctions and incentives, monitoring released prisoners, and providing them with drug and alcohol abuse testing and treatment, mental and medical health services, victim impact educational classes, employment training, conflict resolution skills training, and other social services.

Section 2603 requires applicants to submit an application that describes a long-term strategy and detailed implementation plan, identifies the agencies that will be coordinated by the project, certifies that there has been appropriate consultation with all affected agencies, and describes the outcome measures that will be used to evaluate the program. The grant recipient must contribute a percentage of matching funds to the project and submit an annual report to the Attorney General describing the activities carried out under the grant. Section 2603 authorizes \$5,000,000 for this program in fiscal year 2001, and such sums as are necessary in fiscal years 2002 through 2005.

Section 2604. State Reentry Program Research, Development, and Evaluation. Section 2604 establishes the State Reentry Research, Development, and Evaluation Grant Program to conduct research on issues pertinent to reentry programs, develop and test new reentry approaches, evaluate the projects authorized in sections 2601, 2602, and 2603 of this title, and disseminate this information to the field. Section 2604 authorizes \$5,000,000 for this program in fiscal year 2001, and such sums as are necessary in fiscal years 2002 through 2005.

TRIBUTE TO LUCILLE BEAVERS

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to one of Chicago's unsung heroes, the late Lucille Beavers. Her untimely death on October 9, 2000 will truly leave a deep void in our community.

Lucille, the daughter of William and Roberta Nunnally, was born on August 14, 1919. She spent her early years in Atlanta, Georgia and later moved to Chicago, IL where she attended Chicago Public Schools.

Lucille met, and after a three-year courtship, married Alderman William Beavers on June 5, 1984. Lucille was devoted to her family and exceptionally proud of her son, Riccardo Williams, who launched a very successful entrepreneurial enterprise.

Lucille Beavers took an active part in her church and community. As a faithful member of the Cosmopolitan Community Church, Mrs. Beavers actively joined the August Club where she faithfully served her fellow man.

Lucille Beavers was a loving wife, devoted mother, sister, aunt and friend who will be deeply missed. My fellow colleagues, please

join me in honoring the memory of Mrs. Lucille Beavers, a true beacon of the Chicago community.

"If anyone serves me let him follow me; and where I am, there shall my servant also be; if anyone serves me, the father will honor him". John 12:26.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGIA LEE O'QUINN BROWN

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, today I celebrate and honor the public service of Georgia Lee O'Quinn Brown of Harnett County, North Carolina. Mrs. Brown has served as the County Clerk of Harnett County Superior Court for over thirty years and is now retiring.

Georgia Lee O'Quinn was born on July 27, 1938 to the late Flora Lee Holloway O'Quinn and Nelson Carl O'Quinn. She graduated from Boone Trail High School in 1956. Later that year, she married the late Wesley Hal Brown, with whom she has three children and six grandchildren.

Mrs. Brown began her faithful service to North Carolina in 1956 when she was hired as a clerk in the Office of Harnett County Clerk of Superior Court. Nearly half a century later, she is retiring. Mrs. Brown has held many offices in the Association of Clerks of Superior Court of North Carolina, including the office of president in 1992-93. She received appointments to serve as a member of a committee that revised the Juvenile Justice Procedures Manual and the Clerks Procedure Manual and has served on various state committees relating to the office of Clerk of Superior Court. With her wealth of experience and knowledge, Mrs. Brown was an obvious choice for appointment to the Judicial Advisory Commission for Court Operations. In 1998, Chief Justice Burley Mitchell appointed Mrs. Brown to this Commission where she served until November of 1999.

Mrs. Brown's leadership may also be seen through her unfaltering commitment to service throughout the community. She has been a member of the Harnett County Democratic Women, the National College of Probate Judges, the Board of Directors of North Carolina Baptist Foundation, and more. Her many contributions to her community did not go unnoticed by those around her and in 1981, she was named Woman of the Year by the Lillington Business and Professional Women's Club. In 1987 she was recognized as Democrat of the Year by the Young Democrats of Harnett County.

Mrs. Brown has served as a role model and an inspiration for all those around her. She is an active member for the Antioch Baptist Church serving as an adult Sunday School teacher president of Women on Missions. She has exemplified the principles of service and generosity through her numerous contributions and strong commitment to the community. Georgia Lee O'Quinn Brown embodies the North Carolina values my constituents hold dear, and I want to take this opportunity to share with my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives the outstanding contributions of this fine American.

TRIBUTE TO 16TH LOGISTICS GROUP, HURLBURT FIELD, FLORIDA

HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to recognize the United States Air Force's 16th Logistics Group for receiving the Year 2000 Department of Defense Maintenance Award.

Each year, the Secretary of Defense recognizes outstanding achievements in military equipment and weapon system maintenance by intermediate and organizational level maintenance organizations of the Military Services.

The purpose of this awards program is to improve material readiness, improve efficiency and reduce waste by encouraging innovative management and use of resources, provide recognition of below depot-level maintenance programs, aid development of competitive programs, and enhance maintenance awareness throughout the Department of Defense.

In recognition of the contribution maintenance makes to keeping our forces ready and to sustaining them in conflict, the Secretary of Defense has chosen to honor the 16th Logistics Group for their exceptional unit maintenance accomplishment.

The 16th Logistics Group is the Air Force's largest logistics group and performs maintenance on several different airframes. The group's men and women outperformed their competition by achieving an impressive 80 percent mission-capable rate, among other accomplishments. The 16th generated the two most important combat missions of the Balkan conflict and continued to focus on reducing total ownership costs through innovative and practical programs. Mobilizing over 120 times in 12 months for an unprecedented 75 contingencies and exercises worldwide, the group led first-in, last-out operations in the Balkans, capping more than 6 years of continuous presence in that theater.

This award recognizes the professionalism and commitment to service by the men and women of the 16th Logistics Group. My congratulations go to the Air Force's 16th Logistics Group for these significant contributions.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, the Council of Khalistan held its international convention in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Council of Khalistan leads the peaceful struggle to liberate the Sikh homeland, Punjab, Khalistan. I would like to congratulate the Council on a very successful convention.

Delegates came from all around the United States, Canada, and even as far away as Great Britain. They engaged in extensive discussion of plans to liberate Khalistan, and they passed resolutions for independence, human rights, and self-determination. The convention opened on October 7, which is the anniversary

of Khalistan's declaration of independence from India.

Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, who is the President of the Council of Khalistan, has been a tireless advocate for his people and has made himself a well-known presence in the halls of Congress by his persistence over the last thirteen years or so. He also fights for human rights of Christians, Muslims, and anyone else who is being oppressed by India. His tireless efforts have helped to keep this issue alive, and I salute him for this work. His struggle merits our support.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the Council of Khalistan's press release on its convention for the RECORD.

[Council of Khalistan, Press Release, Oct. 10, 2000]

COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION VERY SUCCESSFUL—DELEGATES VERY ENTHUSIASTIC AND UPBEAT

FREE KHALISTAN ESSENTIAL FOR SURVIVAL OF SIKH NATION

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 10, 2000—The annual convention of the Council of Khalistan, held this weekend in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, was very successful. Delegates came from all over the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. The delegates were very enthusiastic and their spirit was very upbeat (*charhdi kala*). They expressed appreciation for the work of the Council of Khalistan, the government *pro tempore* of Khalistan, the Sikh homeland that was declared independent on October 7, 1987.

Very candid discussion was held concerning the Sikh Nation and its struggle for independence. The delegates agreed that the liberation of Khalistan is essential for the survival of the Sikh Nation. The delegates agreed to contribute one (1) percent of their annual incomes to the Washington office and to ask others to do the same.

Delegates passed resolutions calling for the liberation of the Sikh homeland, Khalistan, through a *Shantmai Morcha* (peaceful agitation), for self-determination, demanding the release of political prisoners in Punjab, calling for the formation of a Khalsa Raj Party in Punjab, condemning the Sikh Youth of America for inviting Simranjit Singh Mann to their convention, and many others. The delegates decided that next year's convention will be held on Columbus Day weekend, 2001, in Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, expressed satisfaction at the success of the convention. "I would like to thank everyone who helped to make this convention so successful," he said, "especially the Fort Lauderdale Gurdwara and Sardar Manmohan Singh Randhawa, who took all the reservations and helped to organize the convention. The success of this convention and the fact that people came from great distances to be there send a strong message to the Indian government that Sikhs demand an independent, sovereign Khalistan," he said.

Other resolutions that were passed at the conventions included resolutions demanding that human-rights groups be allowed to operate in Punjab, where they have not been allowed since 1978, nominating Dr. Aulakh for the Nobel Peace Prize, naming Dr. Aulakh Khalistan Man of the Year 2000, calling on all Gurdwaras to support the freedom struggle, demanding leaders with vision, appreciating the Council of Khalistan, to raise money for the Council's office, and urging Sikhs and youth to get involved in the political process. A committee was formed to find new leadership if anything should happen to Dr. Aulakh and also support and advise the

Council of Khalistan in its effort to expedite the liberation of Khalistan.

"It is appropriate that the convention opened on the anniversary of Khalistan's declaration of independence," Dr. Aulakh said. He noted that Sikhs ruled Punjab until 1849 when the British forcibly annexed it into British India. No Sikh representative has ever signed the Indian constitution.

Thousands of Sikhs languish in prisons without charge or trial, according to Amnesty International. Between 1993 and 1994, 50,000 Sikhs were made to disappear by Indian forces. More than 250,000 Sikhs have been killed since 1984. Over 200,000 Christians have been killed since 1947 and over 70,000 Kashmiri Muslims have been killed since 1988. In March, during President Clinton's visit to India, the Indian government murdered 35 Sikhs in the village of Chithi Singhpora, Kashmir. Two independent investigations and an Amnesty International report have confirmed the government's responsibility. The Indian Supreme Court described the situation in Punjab as "worse than a genocide."

"India is on the verge of disintegration," said Dr. Aulakh. "Kashmir is going to be free. Khalistan will also be free during this decade, by the grace of Guru. Guru gave sovereignty to the Sikh Nation," he said. "This convention was a step forward in that effort."

TRIBUTE TO DAVID FOSTER ON HIS RECEIVING THE ALBERT SCHWEITZER LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to David Foster on the occasion of his receipt of the Albert Schweitzer Leadership Award. This prestigious award is given annually by the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Foundation (HOBY) to individuals who have distinguished themselves through public service and who have contributed significantly to the education and motivation of youth. The award is named after the famous doctor, himself a great humanitarian, who made a lasting impression on Hugh O'Brian during a visit to Schweitzer's African clinic. It was there that Dr. Schweitzer expounded to Mr. O'Brian his philosophy of the importance of motivating our youth. Simply stated, Dr. Schweitzer believed that, "the most important thing in education is to teach young people to think for themselves."

Almost immediately after returning from his visit with Dr. Schweitzer, Hugh O'Brian initiated the HOBY program to put that philosophy into practice. In the beginning HOBY ran leadership seminars for high school sophomores in Los Angeles, and eventually expanded to three-day seminars across the country. Each year over 20,000 students participate in HOBY programs that are designed to implement Dr. Schweitzer's philosophy, teaching young people to think for themselves. Over the years many great humanitarians have received the Albert Schweitzer Leadership award, and now another distinguished name can be added to that list, the musical genius and extraordinary humanitarian David Foster.

Mr. Speaker, David Foster rose to prominence in the music scene in 1973, when his

band Skylark scored a top ten hit with their song "Wildflower," and he has been actively involved in the music industry since that time. Mr. Foster quickly became a highly sought after session musician, performing with the likes of John Lennon, George Harrison, Diana Ross, Rod Stewart, and Barbra Streisand, among others. He turned his attention to songwriting and production, where he achieved extraordinary success. David Foster has been nominated for 42 Grammy Awards, winning an astounding 14 times. Over the years his work has encompassed just about every style of music including Rock, Rhythm and Blues, Pop, Soul, Country, Jazz and Classical.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, David Foster is not being honored with the Albert Schweitzer Leadership Award for his musical talents, but because he has used these immense talents to help others. He was instrumental in assembling popular Canadian recording artists Bryan Adams, Joni Mitchell, Neil Young, and Gordon Lightfoot to record "Tears Are Not Enough," a song he co-wrote to bring attention to the plight of famine victims in Africa in the 1980's and to raise funds for their relief. He also was involved in the writing and the production of the entertainment industry's salute to the United States troops serving in the Persian Gulf, "Voices that Care." To date, Voices that Care has donated over one million dollars to the Red Cross and the U.S.O.

In addition to his involvement in these worthy endeavors, he established the David Foster Foundation, which assists families of children in need of organ transplants. According to the most recent figures, the David Foster Foundation has raised several million dollars and assisted hundreds of children and their families as they go through the horrific ordeal of an organ transplant. David also has directly involved himself with other charitable organizations such as the Race to Erase MS, the Andrew Agassi Foundation, Malibu High School Scholarship Program, and Cedars-Sinai Research for Women's Cancer, among others.

Mr. Speaker, David Foster is the personification of charitable generosity. His tireless efforts on behalf of humanitarian causes is a trait all of us can admire. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring him on the occasion of his receiving the Albert Schweitzer Leadership Award.

THE RETIREMENT OF ROY LIND

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, in this era of visual images and electronic cacophony, a great many people yearn for a voice of wisdom. A voice of calm and common sense. For a great many years, residents of Quincy, MA, have been blessed with such a voice—that of Roy Lind of radio station WJDA. When Roy retires soon, after decades of leadership in our

community, he will leave a legacy of civic commitment that spans several generations. As I think back, it seems as though Roy was always at the kitchen table, sharing a cup of coffee as we pondered the great, and not so great, questions of the day. His voice provoked, illuminated and motivated us. Day in and day out, for 39 wonderfully full years, his has been a voice of passion and compassion, of humility and humor.

While Roy is rooted firmly in the challenges facing the South Shore, his work has been anything but parochial. A Quincy native, he started at WJDA in 1959 after a tour of duty in Korea. Along the way, he's covered space launches, interviewed Presidents, and announced the America's Cup. He does his homework, then weaves the local with the national in ways that helps others better understand the world around us. That's why Roy has been recognized by his professional peers for excellence in radio documentary. Roy asks a good question, and gets a direct answer. For those of us accustomed to how his voice has educated his audience, it's heartening to sense the growing national thirst for straight talk these days in other public arenas. Roy has taught us that it is possible to dissect a public issue without dissembling his guest; to get to the heart of a problem without going for someone's jugular; and to cut through double-talk without coarsening the tone of public debate. And in the Quincy tradition, he has also taken the time to give back to his community in countless other ways, as honors from the Quincy Jewish War Veterans and the Scituate Rotary can attest.

As his distinguished career soon comes to a pause, many of Roy's loyal listeners will continue to hear his voice: a comforting baritone, a voice of reason and mutual respect and love of life—in short, the voice of the South Shore.

S. 1453, THE SUDAN PEACH ACT

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, as a sponsor of the House companion bill, H.R. 2906, I submit the following statement in writing in strong support of S. 1453, The Sudan Peace Act.

I regret that I was unable to be here to speak on the floor in support of this essential legislation. As some know, my father's health is precarious at this time, and I needed to be at his side yesterday, supporting him and the other members of my family. I appreciate the consideration of the House to accept this statement into the Record.

This bill addresses a devastating situation in the largest country on the continent of Africa. The Sudan has been at war for decades, and two million lives have been lost in the last ten years alone due to war-related causes and famine, while millions more have been dis-

placed from their homes to become refugees within their own country and surrounding nations.

The National Islamic Front government of Sudan is steadfast in its efforts to oppress and even eliminate the predominantly Christian and animist southern Sudanese people. Slavery of children and adults is rampant, and forced conversion of the Islamic faith is reported to be commonplace, as is the arrest of individuals for their religious beliefs.

While the United Nations established Operation Lifeline Sudan in 1989 to address the humanitarian crisis in the South, the Islamic government has consistently interfered with delivery of food and medicine into southern Sudan, including the Nuba Mountains and the Upper and Blue Nile regions. In fact, one of the fundamental problems with the current Operation Lifeline Sudan relief effort is that the U.N. has given the government of Sudan veto power over relief efforts. In addition, government troops have bombed international relief sites, schools, and other civilian areas in the south in an attempt to disrupt distribution of desperately needed humanitarian supplies. There is a severe drought in the Horn of Africa, and the World Food Program has estimated that nearly 2 million Sudanese will require food aid this year, but international relief efforts are being prohibited, disrupted and even bombed by the Sudanese government in an attempt to bring the non-Muslim populace of Sudan to heel.

S. 1453, as amended by the House, addresses the most egregious aspects of this conflict. The Sudan Peace Act condemns violations of human rights on both sides of the conflict and the ongoing slave trade in the Sudan. In addition, this legislation calls for reforming relief efforts, like Operation Lifeline Sudan that are being manipulated by the Sudanese government as a "weapon of war" against its people, in order to ensure delivery of humanitarian aid to the civilian population. In addition, it is already evident that the government of Sudan is using investment in their oil industry to fund their continued attacks, or jihad, on the non-Muslim civilian population. The Sudan Peace Act would also prohibit Sudan, or entities doing business in Sudan, from raising funds in U.S. capital markets. I want to commend the President for taking a moral stand in this conflict back in 1997, and urge my colleagues to build on the Administration's efforts by passing S. 1453 today to codify the economic sanctions put in place by Presidential Directive in November of 1997.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to stand against state-sanctioned enslavement and religious persecution by passing the House amendments to S. 1453. We must ensure that every effort is made to get humanitarian aid to a starving populace. The IGAD peace process must be encouraged, and the fundamental human rights of the men, women and children of Sudan must be protected. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the Hill to support the House-amended S. 1453, The Sudan Peace Act, and send this bill to the President for signature before recessing this session.