

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF LILLIAN WALLACE

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a remarkable citizen, Mrs. Lillian Wallace, for her continued dedication and service to the people of Nevada. Lillian is being honored on the occasion of her 90th birthday. She was born on June 13, 1911, in New Haven, Connecticut.

Lillian and her late husband Julian founded Seniors United in 1982 in Las Vegas. The purpose of Seniors United is to educate the senior population about the importance of becoming politically active, knowledgeable, and involved. Under Lillian's leadership, this organization has prospered.

Over the years, Lillian has received numerous community awards and has been actively involved with the Retired Seniors Volunteer Programs, the Jewish Federation, City of Hope, Mobilehome Owners League of Nevada, American Cancer Foundation and the American Heart Association.

Lillian has devoted her entire life to seeking and finding ways of assisting those who need help. She serves as a true model of a woman who is dedicated to serving her community.

CONGRESSIONAL UNDERFUNDING
OF IDEA HURTS LOCAL SCHOOLS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, when the House considered President Bush's education reform bill last month the rule imposed by the Majority for consideration of that legislation did not permit amendments to be offered to address the urgent need for increased education funding of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). As a result, local school districts across our nation will continue to be forced to cut important local programs.

Mr. Speaker, as recently as the early 1970's, it was documented that some two million children were receiving no education whatsoever, many because of physical or learning disabilities. In response to this terrible injustice, Congress enacted the Education for All Handicapped Children Act in 1975. Later renamed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the law guarantees equal educational opportunities for all children. As a result of this legislation, some six million children with disabilities between the ages of three and twenty-one are receiving an education today—children who probably would not have that opportunity without this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, Congress pledged itself to fund IDEA at a level providing local schools with 40% of the additional funds required to

educate children with special needs. In the 4 years since Congress established this goal, we have failed to appropriate the necessary funds for IDEA. By continuously under-funding IDEA, we are placing unnecessary burdens on local school budgets. It is an outrage that should have been rectified during debate and consideration of the President's education reform bill.

Mr. Speaker, underfunding of IDEA has led to a competition between special education and regular education in virtually every school district in our nation, because local and federal funding available is simply too small to meet the education requirements. In order to fund both special and regular education to the best of their ability, school districts have had to cut critical services from their budgets.

Mr. Speaker, the Belmont-Redwood Shores School district, which is located in my congressional district, provides us with an excellent example of the burden which the Congress' failure to fully fund IDEA places on local school districts. The Board of Trustees of the Belmont-Redwood Shores Elementary School District recently met to discuss whether they should give teachers a much needed cost of living raise or cut programs and personnel from elementary schools in the district. The programs and personnel considered for elimination include the elementary school music program, one assistant principal, two custodians, as well as an English as a Second Language teacher. The board also considered cutting a counseling program, cutting back on technology equipment, or not making necessary repairs to audio/visual equipment. Mr. Speaker, these unfortunate and unnecessary budget cuts could have been easily avoided if Congress had simply met its commitment to fully fund IDEA.

Providing quality education for all students, including those with disabilities, requires federal assistance to aid states and school districts provide these necessary services. Lack of funding leads school administrators to make decisions that are not in the best interests of students, but decisions dictated by budget considerations. Congress' broken pledge to fully fund IDEA has made schools seek to reduce the number of students classified as special needs or to restrict the services available to all students. The lack of sufficient funding to meet the needs of students with disabilities also places considerable strain on the entire school budget as administrators are forced to increase tax revenue or cut other critical programs in order to provide IDEA services.

Mr. Speaker, Congress must follow through on its pledge to support fully special education. I regret the Majority leadership's decision to make local school districts choose between educating children with special needs and eliminating other important school services. The needs of children with disabilities should never be pitted against other important educational needs of our nation's children. I urge my colleagues to join me allowing a complete debate and a vote on the full funding of IDEA.

INDIA PURSUES MISSILE DEFENSE
IN IS DRIVE FOR HEGEMONY

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on June 6, the French news agency, Agence France Presse, reported that Russia offered to provide an anti-missile system to India, which Indian "defense expert" Uday Bhaksur called a "desirable development." This offer comes from the same Russian government that has told us that we cannot build a missile defense system because of the ABM treaty. It is ironic that Russia is vigorously opposing our missile defense efforts while providing an anti-missile system to a country that has a longstanding tradition of opposing America on a variety of issues and in a variety of foreign policy forum.

For example, India, a country which supported the former Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan, recently voted with China to table a U.S. resolution at the United Nations against Chinese human-rights violations. India later voted to remove America from the U.N. Human Rights Commission. In fact, India votes against the United States at the U.N. more often than any country except Cuba. We should not forget that in May 1999, the Indian Express reported that Defense Minister George Fernandes convened and led a meeting with the Ambassadors from Red China, Cuba, Russia, Yugoslavia, Iraq, and Libya. According to this article, the aim of this meeting was to set up a security alliance "to stop the United States."

According to the Council of Khalistan, India has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since June 1984 when it attacked the Golden temple, the Sikh religion's holiest shrine. According to a recent report from the Movement Against State Repression, India admitted to holding over 52,000 Sikh political prisoners without charge or trial. Just recently, five Indian troops were overwhelmed when they were trying to set fire to a Gurdwara and some Sikh homes in Kashmir to set Sikhs and Muslims against each other. Both Sikh and Muslim residents of the village came out to stop the troops from burning down the houses and the Gurdwara. Two reports accuse the Indian government of killing 35 Sikhs in Chithi Singhpora in March 2000. By some calculations, India has also killed more than 75,000 Muslims in Kashmir. Other reports indicate that the Indian government has killed tens of thousands of Dalit "untouchables," Assamese, Tamils, Manipuris, and other minorities.

Since Christmas 1998, India has pursued a policy of terror against Christians. A missionary named Graham Staines, who was running a program to help treat leprosy, was burned to death in his jeep, along with his two sons, ages eight to ten, while the killers surrounded the jeep and chanted "Victory to Hannuman," a Hindu god. This wave of terror has been characterized by church burnings,

• 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.

the murder of priests, the rape of nuns (supporters of the RSS, the parent organization of the ruling BJP described these murders as "patriotic"), attacks on prayer halls, and attacks on Christian schools. Reports indicate that over 200,000 Christians have been killed by the Indian government since 1947.

Mr. Speaker, America should not support this military provocation and human-rights abuse. We should stop all our aid to India until the human rights violations have ceased. We should also support the fundamental right of all peoples to self-determination. Whether it is the Sikhs of Khalistan, the Kashmiris in Indian-occupied Kashmir, or the people of Nagalim, all peoples and all nations should have the right to govern themselves. States which rule through the force of violence are destined to collapse. In the case of India, it is better that this happens peacefully like the Soviet breakup. We do not want another Yugoslavia in South Asia. And when all the people and nations of South Asia have achieved freedom, our help will bring us new allies in that troubled region.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the Agence France Presse article into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

[From the Agence France Presse, June 6, 2001]

INDIAN EXPERT WELCOMES RUSSIA'S ANTI-MISSILE OFFER

NEW DELHI, June 6 (AFP).—Russia's offer to develop a national missile defence system for India is a "desirable development", an Indian defence expert said Wednesday.

"India should definitely says, 'We would like more details' It is a very desirable development," Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis deputy director Uday Bhaskar told AFP.

"This gives a sense of the direction that Indo-Russian strategic cooperation is likely to take," he added.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Ilya Klebanov, who is holding talks with Indian Foreign Minister Jaswant Singh in Moscow, unexpectedly announced Wednesday that Russia would shortly make a full proposal on the system. Indian defence ministry officials in New Delhi declined to comment.

"The political intent now to pursue defence or even missile defences of deterrence is now becoming more palpable and evident," Bhaskar said.

U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage visited India last month to talk to leaders about the U.S. plan to build a missile defence shield, which India has partially supported.

Moscow has traditionally enjoyed warm ties with India, which is currently engaged in a nuclear arms race with arch-rival Pakistan.

However, Russia has expressed concern about India's initial warm response to the U.S. missile defense shield.

Bhaskar said India was correct to hold discussions with other world powers on the issue. "If India is talking to the Americans, then they should also talk to the others," Bhaskar said. Klebanov also said India and Russia would cooperate on the development "of the latest type of submarine". The two sides also agreed to jointly develop an II-214 military cargo plane.

CHARITABLE GIVING IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of the House two articles relating to involvement in charitable giving by South Carolinians. The first article, from the May/June 2001 issue of Columbia Metropolitan Magazine, is entitled, 'Gracious Giving—South Carolina is High on the 'Generosity Index'.' This article focuses on the results of a recently published national survey by the National Center for Charitable Statistics, of the Urban Institute, which found that South Carolina is ranked 37th nationally in adjusted gross income, yet, it is "10th among all states in generosity to charitable organizations." The article contains a photograph, which was taken of Reverend Brad Smith and members of the congregation of Spring Valley Presbyterian Church, in Columbia, South Carolina, as donations were being collected, at the doors of the Church, for the Souper Bowl of Caring. Reverend Smith is the founder of the Souper Bowl of Caring, which raised \$4 million through 15,000 congregations on Super Bowl Sunday, this year. The second article, which I am incorporating in my remarks, is from the Winter 1998–99 issue of Sandlapper Magazine, and it is entitled, "From One Small Seed—A Super Bowl Sunday Charity Started by Columbia Youth Quickly Went National." This article provides an interesting account of the development of the Souper Bowl of Caring, from the initial effort in Columbia, South Carolina, in 1990, through its growth to all fifty States, as well as Puerto Rico and Canada, today. During the past eleven years, the Souper Bowl of Caring has raised \$14 million for the benefit of needy persons.

Mr. Speaker, as the Congress and the Bush Administration address initiatives concerning the efforts of religious groups to improve the lives of those who are in need, I believe that the following articles should serve to inspire each of us. At this point, I am pleased to include the previously referenced articles for the attention of the house.

[From Columbia Metropolitan Magazine, May/June 2001]

GRACIOUS GIVING—SOUTH CAROLINA IS HIGH ON THE "GENEROSITY INDEX"

(By Reba Hull Campbell)

South Carolinians are a generous lot, according to a national study that compares charitable giving by individuals in all 50 states. The Urban Institute's National Center for Charitable Statistics ranks South Carolina 10th among all states in comparing charitable giving to adjusted gross income.

The Institute's "Generosity Index" puts South Carolina in the top 10 most giving states, along with fellow Bible Belt states of Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee and Alabama. Others in the top 10 include Utah, Oklahoma, South Dakota and North Dakota. Northeastern states of New Jersey, New Hampshire and Massachusetts fell at the bottom of the list.

According to the study, South Carolina falls 37th nationally in adjusted average gross income, but ranks 10th among all states in generosity to charitable organizations. The study was based on each state's

average adjusted gross income compared to average itemized charitable deductions.

The average charitable contribution by South Carolinians is \$3,469. That's compared to Mississippi ranked 49th in adjusted gross income, at \$4,070 and Massachusetts, ranked number four in income, with just \$2,645 in average contributions. In a state as small, rural and, in many areas, poor, as South Carolina, it's logical to pose the question of why its citizens have such a high giving average when they have less to give than individuals in many wealthier states.

As reflected in its previous studies on charitable giving, the Urban Institute says income level doesn't necessarily parallel charitable giving. Leaders in several Midlands are non-profit organizations agree, saying that while good economic times do encourage increased giving, South Carolinians have consistently shown their inclination to be cognizant of the needs of others and support charitable giving through religious and human service organizations. The Urban Institute found that over half the funds raised for the more than 2,000 registered charitable groups in South Carolina go to health and human service or religious organizations, reflecting South Carolina citizens' willingness to help their neighbors in need.

The survey found that Bible Belt states, plus Utah, were the most generous in their giving habits. These states are home to strong populations of evangelical Christians and Mormons, both of whom tend to tithe at higher levels. Northern states, which rank lower on the giving scale, are home to more Catholics, who Urban Institute experts say tend to give at lower levels.

Strong religious roots in South Carolina definitely influence giving habits, says Mac Bennett, executive director of the Central Carolina Community Foundation. "We are part of the Bible Belt and a significant amount of the giving is to religious organizations. Also, I think religious influences teach stewardship and a sensitivity to those with special needs that are not met by government."

Erin Hardwick, executive director of the South Carolina Association of Non-profit Organizations, agrees. "A correlation exists between involvement in religious organizations and the level of giving. Of all charitable contributions, more than 60 percent go to religious organizations."

A study by The Independent Sector, a national organization supporting research and excellence for non-profits, reinforces this strong relationship tying religious involvement to charitable giving. Nationally, the average donation to religious organizations increased in current dollars from \$686 in 1995 to \$1,002 in 1998.

Mac says the fact that South Carolina falls high on the "generosity index" is not a surprise. "I think philanthropy in our state is founded on this simple sense of responsibility to help other people, whether it's volunteering, sharing a meal or donating financial resources. There is a concern for human kind—philo, the Latin root, translates to "for the love of man."

Joan Fail, executive director of Communities in Schools in Columbia, agrees and makes similar observations about local giving trends from her experiences at CIS and previously with the Nurturing Center. "I've seen very strong support from individual giving in the 11 years I've been in the non-profit sector. Whether it's a good economy or bad, South Carolinians are just giving people."

Erin believes South Carolina's recent strong charitable giving record can be attributed to two factors—a strong economy and the fact that people give to causes close to their communities and families.

"A strong economy, including a decline in unemployment, leads to increased household

giving. The level of giving is affected by a person's concern about the future, and the strong economy has reduced anxiety about the future," Erin says.

She points to the Independent Sector study, noting that people do tend to give more as their financial security increases. The decision to give is often influenced by whether individuals have sufficient disposable income. On a national level, this report indicates an increase in the percentage of respondents who reported giving a larger amount, up to 24 percent in 1999 from 21 percent in 1996.

While good economic conditions do make for better times in the non-profit sector, Joan does caution against a giver's income level as the sole organizations when identifying potential donors.

"What always surprises me is that I find those people who have less disposable income actually give a much higher percentage of what they have than those who have more," Joan says. "That has taught me many valuable lessons, and I never make an assumption about whether someone may give based on income. I've seen studies that indicate people actually give more if they pay higher taxes rather than lower taxes, disputing the assumption that lower taxes mean increased disposable income for charitable contributions."

So today, with the apparent plateau of economic conditions around the corner, should non-profits be concerned with declining contributions? Not necessarily. Erin says, "People give to people. They give to local concerns or causes in which they have some connection. It's a personal decision."

She notes that three factors generally influence people to give to charitable causes—being asked by someone, through participation in an organization or through a family member or relative. Even in an economic downturn, these personal factors are unlikely to change.

[From the Sandlapper magazine, Winter 1998-99]

FROM ONE SMALL SEED . . . A SUPER BOWL SUNDAY CHARITY STARTED BY COLUMBIA YOUTH QUICKLY WENT NATIONAL

(By Margaret N. O'Shea)

The Rev. Brad Smith often thinks of the tiny seed he tossed into his senior youth group at Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia that winter Sunday nine years ago, because its phenomenal growth has changed his life and the lives of countless others. It was a simple line in a prayer: "Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those among us without even a bowl of soup to eat." But such seeds fall on fertile ground in the generous South, where people instinctively respond to a neighbor's need—or a stranger's—with casseroles and kindness.

Not even the sower could envision how that single seed would flourish. But youth in the church seized the notion and nurtured it. By the 1990 Super Bowl, they had mobilized it. By the 1990 Super Bowl, they had mobilized other young people in 22 Columbia-area churches to collect one dollar each and cans of food from worshippers as they left to go home, filling soup kettles with the donations for local food banks and soup kitchens. They scored \$5,700 and vowed to top it the next year. They did . . . over and over again. In time, more than 125 churches in Richland and Lexington counties were familiar with the kettles and bowls used to collect donations, and churches in other states were borrowing the idea. In 1995, what the Spring Valley youth enthusiastically dubbed "The Souper Bowl" went national.

With its roots in midland South Carolina, it is today a charity branching nationwide and affirming the miracles that can occur when enough people give just a little. Last Super Bowl Sunday, it inspired people in all 50 states and Canada to toss \$1.7 million into soup cauldrons at churches and community centers to help feed the hungry or meet other needs in their local neighborhoods. Now, every year while Americans are riveted on a football game that determines a national championship, more and more of them also focus, however briefly, on the Souper Bowl, which defines a national conscience. It is a simple way for ordinary people to make a difference.

The challenge has been to keep simple a sweeping movement that now has thousands of volunteers, at least 8,000 local branches, corporate sponsors and 10 professional football teams behind it, and high-tech support to keep track of donations. All the money remains in the communities where it is collected; local groups choose where to give the cash and food. Totals are reported to a phone bank in Columbia or logged on the Internet.

The numbers help participants see more clearly what their own contributions, however small, can do when added to others'. "In an age when young people are bombarded with cynicism, it's important for them to know that by God's grace, they can make a difference in the world," Smith says. "We are so divided as a country in so many ways. Republican and Democrat. Rich and poor. Black and white. Young and old. The Super Bowl is a rivalry. But our Souper Bowl transcends differences. It brings diverse people with different backgrounds, different opinions, different faiths, together for a common purpose, and together they make a tremendous difference. Just knowing that changes the way many of our young people choose to live the rest of their lives."

On the Internet—and wherever the Souper Bowl of Caring, as it's now called, is discussed—the football images are tempting. Youth carry the ball. Donors score. Teams win. A youth group in Virginia is called for clipping after challenging their pastor to shave his beard when their collections reach a goal. Some churches blitz their communities with flyers and letters and phone calls. On the Web site, donated by South Carolina SuperNet, football icons offer links to a playbook, coaches' corner, player profiles, and a chance to score a touchdown on a hunger quiz. Prior years' statistics are retired numbers, of course.

But for Brad Smith, the mustard seed is the image to remember. He recalls the half dozen teenagers who showed up after school to brainstorm about the first Souper Bowl. Each had friends who attended other churches and schools and agreed to call them. One by one, those churches joined the effort. Later, as young people went away to college or moved to other cities, they would in the same way get their new churches involved in giving. Each year would bring younger brothers and sisters of kids who'd been involved earlier on, stuffing envelopes with press releases for out-of-state newspapers, making phone calls, manning the phone bank, distributing posters, holding the cauldrons.

When the Souper Bowl first began to spread to other states, it was still through the word-of-mouth concept. Pennsylvania, the state that always comes closest to South Carolina's contributions and once has even surpassed us, began participating after a Lutheran layman in his 80s heard about the program while vacationing in Myrtle Beach and took the idea home.

Laura Bykowski, a Spring Valley volunteer who "retired" from a marketing career to raise a family, has used her child's nap-

time to ply those marketing skills for the Souper Bowl. As a result, professional football players agreed to make public service announcements and nearly a dozen teams, including the Carolina Panthers and Atlanta Falcons, threw their considerable weight behind the Souper Bowl. National Football League star Reggie White and Campbell's Soup launched a nationwide promotional campaign, including radio ads, posters and a press conference in San Diego the Wednesday before the 1998 big game.

Columbian Jim Antley designed and maintains the Web page. Some 30 volunteers help enter data. Frank Imhoff compiled the database.

But it's still the energy of youth that drives the Souper Bowl of Caring. Local tradition is at least one all-night workathon, where young people gather at the Spring Valley church social hall to share pizza, watch a Monty Python movie, stuff envelopes and lick stamps until dawn. And youth make up the bulk of the volunteers who do the actual work on Super Bowl Sunday.

Last year, about a thousand churches and organizations used the Internet to report their donations, but seven times that number telephoned on Super Bowl Sunday, calling into a 50-line phone bank contributed by Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Other companies have offered support and expertise, usually because someone who works there has asked. Some communities get corporations to match what individuals give.

Yet, the focus remains small. The idea still is to ask for only a dollar, only a can of food. If the amount collected is only about what it takes to pay for a 30-second commercial in the televised football game that day, it is still a monumental blessing for the charities chosen to receive that bounty.

With the phenomenal growth of the Souper Bowl, its original organizers have insisted on maintaining the grassroots character. "We believe the idea is a gift from God," Brad Smith says. "It is our task to be good stewards of it."

RIGHT TO ORGANIZE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, The Right to Organize is a fundamental right—workers fought, bled and even died for this right.

Workers organize because they want to ensure that their labor is valued . . . they want a voice at work.

About four years ago, we began working with the AFL-CIO to lend our voices as Members of Congress . . . to help build coalitions with workers as they try to organize.

As elected officials, we can join with clergy and other community leaders to ensure that workers have the freedom to choose to join a union.

That's what the 7 Days in June are all about.

We are here today to join the chorus of voices that says: 'Employer interference with workers' choices is unacceptable.'

This year's 7 Days in June . . . 9th through 16th . . . promises to be even bigger than last year when more than 12,000 workers, community leaders and elected officials participated in more than 120 events in 100 cities.

The participation in these events by Members of Congress is important—when we lend

our support, we help lift the spirits of those trying to organize.

We also help them win!

You know, there are some things an elected official should do . . . and some things an elected official should not do.

Well, let me tell you, one thing an elected official should never do . . . stand by and watch while a state supported university tries to derail a union organizing drive the way Michigan State University tried to stop its teaching assistants from organizing earlier this year.

That is why last February I began to help the MSU graduate students organize.

Graduate students teach classes, grade papers and do research—they spend up to 30 hours a week working with no medical coverage and minimal compensation . . . and that's on top of their own graduate coursework.

MSU was the only research university in Michigan where teaching assistants did not have collective bargaining rights.

So we got together with the students and the Michigan Federation of Teachers to see what could be done.

We began by gathering signatures on petitions in support of the student organizing drive.

I called MSU President Peter McPherson several times asking that his Administration remain neutral during the organizing campaign.

Some of us in the Michigan Congressional delegation (KILPATRICK, KILDEE & CONYERS) sent a joint letter to President McPherson as well.

As it got close to the vote, I wrote a letter in support of the drive which was published in the student newspaper.

And during the election, a number of us who supported the students stopped by the campaign headquarters.

Together, I believe we made a difference in the lives of these students . . . and I am proud to say there are over 1,200 new union members in the State of Michigan today because of it.

I know a number of my colleagues have similar experiences to share, and I would encourage everyone to look for ways to lend their voice to organizing efforts—when we work together, we build a better place to live for all of us.

VICTORY AT MSU REQUIRED TEAMWORK
(By David Decker)

The successful organizing effort at MSU was a yearlong project. It required a massive amount of work and then when we filed enough cards to get an election, the MSU administration launched an anti-union campaign. Through it all the campaign moved forward by talking one-on-one with the graduate employees from each department at work, on campus and in their homes. As the campaign progressed we added a web site, e-mail list, and a get-out-the-vote phone bank. In addition to organizing the graduate employees we also organized our friends in the U.S. Congress, the Michigan House and Senate, and in organized labor to bring pressure on the MSU administration to stop its anti-union campaign.

MFT & SRP organizer Jon Curtiss, the BEU organizing staff, steering committee, and department contacts led the organizing effort at MSU. Augmenting Jon and the GEU crew were numerous volunteers from the Graduate Employees Organization (University of Michigan), including President Cedric

DeLeon and staffer Mark Dilley who worked the campaign full-time in the closing weeks and from the Graduate Employees Organizing Committee (Wayne State), including President Peter Williams, Glenn Bessemer and staffer Charlie Grose. At key point throughout the campaign MFT & SRP PSRP organizer, Krista Schneider, lent her assistance.

But while the key to the victory, the MSU graduate assistants and staff did not stand-alone. They received incredible support from elected officials, other labor organizations, and the greater MSU community.

Congressman David Bonior voiced concern to MSU President McPherson directly and in a letter concerning the university's anti-union campaign, and had a letter printed in the State News supporting the organizing drive. Joining Bonior in a letter were U.S. Representatives John Conyers, Carolyn Kilpatrick and Dale Kildee, Congressman Sander Levin also talked with President McPherson expressing his concerns. And Congressman Bart Stupak sent a letter as well.

State Representatives David Woodard (D-Royal Oak), Buzz Thomas (D-Detroit) and Bill McConico (D-Detroit), a member of the Highland Park Federation of Teachers, all stopped by the office to help with the Get Out The Vote Effort. A total of 26 State Legislators signed a letter to President McPherson, State Senator Diane Byrum sent a letter with similar theme.

State Representative Ray Bashamis staffer, Hoon-Yung Hoppood, Senate Democrat Office staffer Dana Houle, and State Democratic Party staffer Dennis Denno all helped with phone calls.

Scores of MSU alumni, including Detroit teachers President Janna Garrison, Metro Detroit AFL-CIO President Don Boggs, Organization of School Administrations President Diann Woodard, labor attorney David Radtke (who also spent a day helping with organizing house calls), wrote President McPherson.

Numerous unions including Operating Engineers Local 547, AFSCME Council 25 and Teamsters Joint Council 43 let the MSU President know what they thought of the anti-union effort, MSU alumnus Jack Finn, Legislative Director of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 876, expressed his thoughts in a letter printed in the State News. SEIU lobbyist Cindy Paul joined in with house calls, while Julie Barton from Jobs For Justice helped with the phone bank. UAW Regional Director Cal Rapson called University Trustees on our behalf.

Michigan State AFL-CIO President Mark Gaffney and the staff—Denise Cook, Ken Fletcher, Mark Alexander and Mary Holbrook provided their support. Former Michigan AFL-CIO President Frank Garrison also made contracts on behalf of the MSU graduate assistants.

The MSU Labor Coalition, headed by Wayne Cass of Operating Engineers Local 547, was there throughout the yearlong campaign as was the Clerical-Technical Union who early on lent us their offices for meetings and at the end helped with the phone bank.

Two MSU Trustees, Board Chair Colleen McNamara, and Trustee Dorothy Gonzalez took all of our calls, met with us, and urged the Administration not to run an anti-union campaign.

THE THREAT TO WORKERS' FREEDOM TO CHOOSE
A UNION

The struggles working people face are not exceptions to the rule—when a majority of workers say they want a union, employers routinely threaten their right to make their own free choice with a campaign of coercion, harassment and firings.

Ninety-one percent of employers, when faced with employees who want to join together in a union, force employees to attend closed-door meetings to hear anti-union propaganda; 80 percent require immediate supervisors to attend training sessions on how to attack unions; and 79 percent have supervisors deliver anti-union messages to workers they oversee

Eighty percent hire outside consultants to run anti-union campaigns, often based on mass psychology and distorting the law.

Half of employers threaten to shut down if employees join together in a union.

In 31 percent of organizing campaigns, employers illegally fire workers just because they want to form a union.

Even after workers go through all this and win a National Labor Relations Board election to form a union, one-third of the time their employer never negotiates a contract with them.

More than at any time in recent history, working people are joining together in unions with the hope of improving our living standards, our communities and our jobs. But as workers succeed, employers are stepping up a campaign of coercion, firings and harassment to block our freedom to make our own decisions about joining a union.

That's why the AFL-CIO and its 13-million-member affiliated unions have begun a broad, long-term campaign to restore the balance needed to protect the right of workers to make a free choice to join a union.

Through Voice@Work, unions are helping workers form unions in a new way. Right from a campaign's start, workers reach out to their elected representatives, clergy members and other community leaders to gain support for their freedom to form a union. Many of these community leaders eagerly back their constituents' efforts to build better lives for their families and help call on employers to avoid intimidation and coercion.

7 Days in June is the annual high point in our effort. We join together—workers, our unions, state federations and central labor councils, community leaders, clergy, public officials and students—to say employer interference with workers' choices is unacceptable. 7 Days in June this year is June 9 through 16. It promises to be even bigger than last year, when more than 12,000 working people, community leaders and elected officials participated in more than 120 events in 100 cities.

Working families will continue to push for a voice at work by telling Americans why workers are struggling to form unions and how their employers are waging a war against them.

TRIBUTE TO MR. MICHAEL M.
GLASSON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has faithfully served the citizens of Genesee County, Michigan, for 15 years. On June 18, civic, community, and government leaders will join family and friends to honor Mr. Michael M. Glasson, as he retires as County Purchasing Director.

Michael Glasson was born and raised in my hometown of Flint, and holds a Bachelors Degree from Michigan State University and a Masters in Public Administration from Wayne State University. In 1974, he began his career

in purchasing, working as a buyer for Hurley Medical Center, which led three years later to his becoming Chief Buyer for the City of Flint, a position he held for nine years. Michael then made the transition from city to county, as he became Purchasing Director for Genesee County in 1986.

As Purchasing Director, Michael helped usher his department into the modern age with the development of new purchasing regulations, the automation of the purchasing process, and the streamlining of the entire department. Under his leadership, the department set a new standard of efficiency and effectiveness.

Michael serves his peers and colleagues as a member and past president of the Michigan Public Purchasing Officers Association, is a Certified Instructor with the National Institute for Governmental Purchasing, and he has also served as an Instructor at Ferris State University and Detroit College of Business. In 1996, he was recognized by the Michigan Public Purchasing Officers Association and awarded the Klang Award for outstanding contributions to government purchasing.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Glasson has been a positive influence on Genesee County government for the last 15 years. The many people he has come in contact with during that time have benefited from his dedication, his attention to detail, and his ability to work with people from all walks of life. I ask my colleagues in the 107th Congress to please join me in congratulating him on his retirement, and wishing him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

CONSCRIPTION POLICIES

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I highly recommend to my colleagues the attached article "Turning Eighteen in America: Thoughts on Conscription" by Michael Allen. This article was published in the Internet news magazine *Laissez Faire Times*. Mr. Allen forcefully makes the point that coercing all young men to register with the federal government so they may be conscripted into military service at the will of politicians is fundamentally inconsistent with the American philosophy of limited government and personal freedom. After all, the unstated premise of a draft is that individuals are owned by the state. Obviously this belief is more consistent with totalitarian systems, such as those found in the Soviet Union, Nazi Germany, Red China or Castro's Cuba, than with a system based on the idea that all individuals have inalienable rights. No wonder prominent Americans from across the political spectrum such as Ronald Reagan, Milton Friedman, Gary Hart, and Jesse Ventura oppose the draft.

Selective Service is not even a good way of providing an effective military fighting force. As Mr. Allen points out (paraphrasing former Senator Mark Hatfield), the needs of the modern military require career professionals with long-term commitments to the service, not short-term draftees eager to "serve their time" and return to civilian life. The military itself recognizes that Selective Service serves no useful

military function. In 1993), the Department of Defense issued a report stating that registration could be stopped "with no effect on military mobilization, no measurable effect on the time it would take to mobilize, and no measurable effect on military recruitment." Yet the American taxpayer has been forced to spend over \$500 million dollars on a system "with no measurable effect on military mobilization!"

I have introduced legislation, H.R. 1597, which repeals the Selective Service Act, thus ending a system which violates the rights of millions of young Americans and wastes taxpayer dollars for no legitimate military reason. I urge my colleagues to read Mr. Allen's article then cosponsor HR 1597 and join me in ending a system which is an affront to the principles of liberty our nation was founded upon.

TURNING EIGHTEEN IN AMERICA: THOUGHTS ON CONSCRIPTION

(By Michael R. Allen)

In March of 1967, Senator Mark Hatfield (R-Oregon) proposed legislation that would abolish the practice of military conscription, or the drafting of men who are between 18 and 35 years old. Despite its initial failure, it has been reintroduced in nearly every Congress that has met since then, and has been voted upon as an amendment at least once.

This bill was an excellent proposal that should have never been needed. The dovish Hatfield's arguments in promotion of the bill constituted what is actually the conservative position on the item. In its defense, Hatfield asserted that we need career military men who can adapt to system changes within the context of weaponry. Short-term draftees, maintained Hatfield, would not be particularly adept at utilizing modern technology. More recent efforts to overturn the Selective Service Act have similarly stressed efficiency.

This basic logic is the driving force behind the political anti-draft movement. Others oppose the draft because it represents another governmental intrusion into the lives of America's young adults. Those lacking skill or ambition to serve will be greatly humiliated once drafted, and those without developed skill in search of an alternative career will be denied an opportunity to choose that direction. The draft also is a blatant attack on the Thirteenth Amendment, which prohibits involuntary servitude. If the federal government fought individual states over the legalization of private-sector slavery, then should it not also be equally compelled to decry public-sector servitude? Of course it should, but an elastically interpreted "living Constitution" makes all sorts of public schemes safe from legal reproach.

Recruiting students and vagrants is of no use to a competitive military, since both groups are uninterested in active duty. By contrast, a volunteer army—assuming the country needs any army at all—will yield those with an interest in serving their country and those who seek the military as a place to get that necessary step up into a better life. A primary partner to draft reform would be to offer an alternative for those who request not to serve militarily. Non-combatant positions, such as field doctors and radio operators, might be made civilian positions. Then, those who wish not to engage in battle will be able to serve the nation for as long as they need.

Additionally, the government can save some money, albeit not much, by not having to buy uniforms for these civilians.

Yet the most compelling reason for having volunteer military forces is the right of a person to own his or her body. The right to self-ownership must be supreme in a free na-

tion, since without it there is no justification for government or laws at all. If one does not own his body, then why should murder be a crime? Why should there be money for the individual to spend? The self must own itself for there to be any liberty. And clearly one does have self-ownership. A man controls his own actions, and efforts to force him to do what he desires not to do are nugatory. The best the State can do is arrest him after he has disobeyed the law. It cannot prevent a willful person from committing illegal acts. The draft ignores the concept of self-ownership and proceeds to diminish the available benefits of a free society for young men.

Issues of cost and unfairness can sway those not seeing a moral reason to oppose conscription. The government spends a lot of money that might be used in armory for war in order to draft a number of men that would be similar to the number who might otherwise volunteer. In this way, the draft is a redundant method that consumes entirely too much money.

It is unfair because those who do not get called remain free while those called into duty must serve or face charges that will haunt them for the rest of their lives. This practice, while through chance, is unjust because it targets those Americans with low draft numbers. Through the archaic, unjust draft process America once more is embracing authoritarianism. If the government chose, National Guard forces could be utilized to alleviate the costs of draft, recruitment, and salary. The savings could then be used to properly compensate a volunteer army, which would attract more skillful persons if the pay scale were better.

Draft proponents employ some arguments that would be acceptable if they had purchased every male aged 18 to 35. However, the United States of America has not bought—bought off, tricked and fooled, yes—any of her citizens at this time. Some of the stentorian arguments side-step the question of rights and look at other issues, such as mobility, emergency readiness, and social outcome.

Former Senator Sam Nunn of Georgia, a Democrat, said in a 1980 US News and World Report article that "Middle and upper-class America are not sufficiently participating in the defense of the country today except in the officer corp. That's one of the tragedies of the volunteer force . . ."

Nunn's provocative statement is not only designed to evoke resentment towards the "privileged" upper classes, it is also not sound from a practical point of view. Certainly, the classes with a statistically higher amount of college education should be involved in positions in which education can be put to best use. It is apparent that the Nunn argument involves some sort of "duty" the upper classes have to live the life of the foot soldier, and amounts to no less than a feeble attempt at egalitarian blurring of class distinction.

Proponents of the draft continue to ignore their weakest point: namely, that wars which had the support of the American public would not require conscription but instead would have a full supply of eager volunteers. People not only own their own bodies, but a free society also grants people final say over government policy. War is an area where the voice of the people is very important, as their security is at stake. And where else can the people exercise their voice than in the decision on registering to serve? Denying this decision is in effect creating a government that does not respect the people's wishes, and instead dictates to them.

AMERICORPS

There was an effort in June 1997 by President Clinton to use the Selective Service

System to recruit potential volunteers in his AmeriCorps program. Such a move is a two-fold intrusion on civil liberties: it violates the right of those who were forced to register for the draft to avoid having their addresses and other private information released to another agency; and, of course, it is costly to the taxpayer to pay for a joint system that serves two unconstitutional agencies. Ultimately, though, the administration deferred its plans. This issue has not gone away, as national service plans have considerable support from those people who think that everyone has a duty to the government.

Free people can resist the draft easily. They need not register at all, or they can flee the country when they are called to serve. After all, they still own their bodies regardless of what the law says. But the change of life necessary to avoid the government allows the government some control of ones life, even when one does not openly submit. One does not need to recognize the right of the government to conscript its citizens for any purpose in order to be disrupted by the institution. If one pays income taxes and expects to get that money back in the form of college aid, he must register for Selective Service. If one wishes to collect the money stolen through the payroll tax for so-called "Social Security," he must register. Most people are not able to forgo paying taxes if they wish to work, so if they hope to see their tax dollars again they must register for the draft.

As a young man of draft age, I could sleep easier if I knew that my life would never have to be disrupted by a government which has given itself the legal ground on which it may attempt to violate my right to own myself. Even as I refuse to recognize the government's powers, the Selective Service System/AmeriCorps/Department of Education bloc does not care. To them I am their property, regardless of my feelings. The military and charity draft is indeed one of the most evil institutions in the United States government.

HONORING MRS. BARBARA L.
BAILEY OF CONNECTICUT

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Barbara Bailey of Connecticut, who died yesterday at the age of 93. Mrs. Bailey was the wife of the late John M. Bailey, who was the legendary Democratic Party chairman of Connecticut, and was also the chairman of the national Democratic Party in the 1960s. Mrs. Bailey's passing marks the end of an era in Democratic politics in the State of Connecticut.

Mrs. Bailey will long be remembered as the matriarch of the Democratic Party during its golden years, not only for her public service, but also for providing the state with two outstanding public servants—Chief State's Attorney John M. Bailey, Jr. and my distinguished predecessor, former U.S. Representative Barbara B. Kennelly.

All her life, Mrs. Bailey was intensely devoted to her family, to Connecticut, and to the Democratic Party. She and her husband led the state, and the national party, with class and distinction. In all her years her interest and love of people willing to serve in public office never wavered.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Bailey never held public office, yet she was indeed a public servant. She served the public through her immeasurable commitment to her family and the causes she truly believed in—including the rights of women and the struggle of the disadvantaged. She served on the board of Trustees for the University of Connecticut for 10 years and received numerous honors and accolades for her civic work. Over the years, the Bailey's hosted presidential candidates, ambassadors, and dignitaries from all over the world. Mrs. Bailey's trademark was her grace, her dignity, and the way she made everyone around her feel welcome and at home.

She was part of an age in Democratic politics that saw the first Catholic elected President of the United States. She was the co-recipient, along with U.S. Senator Abraham Ribicoff, of the "Keepers of the Flame" award in 1988, which honored those who kept alive the memory and legacy of President John Kennedy.

Her love for the people of Connecticut and politics was superceded only by the devotion she had to her family. The legacy Mrs. Bailey leaves is everlasting and is carried on through her children and grandchildren who continue to serve the state with distinction.

Mrs. Bailey was an exceptional person whose humanity, class and grace touched everyone she came in contact with. The nation, the State of Connecticut, and most of all her family, will truly miss her.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED
CAREER OF DICK QUINLIN UPON
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, Dick Quinlin has spent his life serving the people of Belmont County; and

Whereas, He began his career with the Emergency Management Agency in 1985 as EMA Coordinator, and was named full time coordinator in 1994; and,

Whereas, during his tenure in office, Belmont County repeatedly benefitted from his expertise as nature saw fit to test his skill with the 1990 Flood of Wegee and Pike Creeks, the snow emergency of 1994, and the flash flood of June 1998; and,

Whereas, Dick Quinlin was ever present to guide our community out of disaster, and was duly recognized by the Governor of Ohio as he was presented with the Ohio Commendation Medal, by the Ohio National Guard, and by the Belmont County Bar Association with the Liberty Bell Award; and

Whereas, I desire to add my voice to the chorus of well wishers who have repeatedly expressed admiration, respect and friendship, for Dick Quinlin;

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the career of Dick Quinlin. His lifelong service and commitment to Belmont County is to be commended.

HONORING CAMERON VETERANS'
HOME

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of the Missouri Veterans' Home located in Cameron, Missouri. A landmark in the community, the Cameron Veterans' Home provides a healing hand to those honored Americans that have fought to preserve the privileges of freedom we all enjoy today.

In April of 2000, Missouri's sixth veterans home admitted its first resident. The Cameron Veterans' Home today is a 200-bed facility committed to providing a service to Missouri's Veterans.

Cameron Veterans' Home is dedicated to providing quality healthcare to veterans and assists them in achieving their maximum level of independence. The Cameron Veterans' Home works to ensure a safe, comfortable environment to its residents conducive to personal dignity and happiness in a community living setting.

In recognition to the staff of the Cameron Veterans' Home and the City of Cameron which supports our Veterans so well, I commend the Cameron Veterans' Home for the unconditioned level of support and compassion they extend to those brave Americans that have sacrificed their lives for this great nation.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CLARENCE
STRAHAM

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, as a former teacher, I am happy to rise before you today on behalf of the school district of my hometown, Flint, Michigan. On July 13, members of Flint Community Schools will join family and friends to honor the career of Dr. Clarence Straham, who is retiring after 35 productive years.

Originally from Moffett, Oklahoma, Clarence Straham's path to greatness began in 1956, when he joined the United States Air Force, where he served as an Academic and Drill Instructor/Counselor in San Antonio. Honorably discharged in 1962, Clarence attended the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, where he received a Bachelors Degree in Mathematics and Science in 1964. In 1971 he received a Masters Degree from Eastern Michigan University, and furthered his education with a Doctorate from the University of Michigan.

Clarence's career as a teacher began following his graduation from the University of Arkansas, where he became a mathematics teacher at Merrill Junior/Senior High in Pine Bluff. After moving to Michigan, he taught at Bryant Community Junior High and later moved to Northwestern Community High, where he remained from 1968 to 1976. During that time, Clarence also taught at C.S. Mott Adult High School and Mott Community College. In 1976, Clarence moved to Flint Southwestern Academy, where he has remained to

this day. In addition to his tenure at Southwestern, he spent two years as a member of the part-time faculty at the University of Michigan-Flint.

For more than four decades, Clarence has selflessly worked to improve Flint Community Schools. An 11-year member of the Four North Central Evaluation Team in mathematics, he saw to it that the curriculum for high schools in four different cities was kept to a high quality of standards. He has also been the co-chairperson of the Flint NAACP Scholarship Committee, and a member of the Flint Multi-Cultural Community Education Task Force, among many other accomplishments. Clarence is a member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Urban League, and is a Life Member of the NAACP.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Clarence Straham is a tremendously respected individual. Thousands of his students, past and present, have greatly benefited from his insight, as has the entire Flint community over the course of the last 35 years. He has always been a fighter for education for he believes that a strong educational background is the basis toward improving the quality of life. I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating him on his retirement, and wishing him the very best in his future endeavors.

FAITH-BASED INITIATIVES

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I recommend to my colleagues the attached article, "The Real Threat of the Faith-Based Initiative" by Star Parker, founder and president of the Coalition on Urban Renewal and Education (CURE). Miss Parker eloquently explains how providing federal monies to faith-based institutions undermines the very qualities that make them effective in addressing social problems. As Miss Parker points out, religious programs are successful because they are staffed and funded by people motivated to help others by their religious beliefs. Government funding of religious organizations will transform them into adjuncts of the federal welfare state, more concerned about obeying federal rules and regulations than fulfilling the obligations of their faith.

If religious organizations receive taxpayer monies, they will have an incentive to make obedience to the dictates of federal bureaucrats their number-one priority. Religious entities may even change the religious character of their programs in order to avoid displeasing their new federal paymaster. This will occur in large part because people who currently voluntarily support religious organizations will assume they "gave at the (tax) office" and thus will reduce their level of private giving. Thus, religious charities will become increasingly dependent on federal funds for support. Since "he who pays the piper calls the tune" federal bureaucrats and Congress will then control the content of "faith-based" programs.

Those who dismiss these concerns should consider that funding religious organization will increase federal control of religious programs; in fact the current proposal explicitly forbids proselytizing in federally-funded "faith-based" programs. While religious organizations will

not have to remove religious icons from their premises in order to receive federal funds, I fail to see the point in allowing a Catholic soup kitchen to hang a cross on its wall or a Jewish day center to hang a Star of David on its' door if federal law forbids believers from explaining the meaning of those symbols.

Miss Parker points out that the founding fathers recognized the danger that church-state entanglement poses to religious liberty, which is why the First Amendment to the United States Constitution protects the free exercise of religion and forbids the federal government from establishing a national church. As Miss Parker points out, the most effective and constitutional means for Congress to help those in poverty is to cut taxes on the American people so that they may devote more of their resources to effective, locally-controlled, charitable programs.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I hope all my colleagues will read Miss Parker's article and join her in supporting a return to a constitutional policy that does not put faith in federal programs but instead in the voluntary actions of a free and compassionate people.

[From GOPUSA.COM, May 25, 2001]

THE REAL THREAT OF THE FAITH-BASED INITIATIVE

(By Star Parker)

The faith-based initiative is our latest proof that politicians are great entrepreneurs in finding ways to expand the scope of government, their own power and control over our lives. This particular initiative should be of concern to all because, in the best scenario, it will only waste money. In the worst case, however, it will be destructive to our nation.

Although for President Bush this initiative is a crusade to reach minorities, welfare programs have already done enough damage in black America. Government dependency has created an environment in which black illegitimacy rates have soared seventy percent. This time the victim of government intervention will be the black church.

However, there is an even deeper concern facing us than this.

Those who claim that the faith-based initiative merely saves charitable programs of religious organizations from discrimination miss the most basic point. The main reason faith-based programs are successful is the fact that free people choose to fund them and that free people choose to participate in them.

The truth is that we all are already participating in a great faith-based initiative. It is called the United States of America and its principles and rules are in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

When we examine these great documents, we see that the founders referenced our most fundamental rights to our Creator and then defined the role of government to secure these rights. Our great and blessed country, has been a story of unprecedented success because of the crucial premise that man is and must be free to exercise his God-given rights.

It is worth noting that although the founders declared this; they then prohibited, in the very first amendment to the Constitution, the establishment of religion by government. Clearly, they did not make haste to keep government out of religion because they were not religious men or because they were opposed to religion or religious activity. They did this because they understood that faith, freedom, and choice cannot be separated and that it is critical to preserve and protect these core elements of our society.

Our goal should be to eliminate government from those aspects of our society that have been politicized: not to politicize the very faith and freedom that have made our country great. The very idea of welfare is the antithesis of both faith and freedom.

A true faith-based initiative is one defined by freedom and not one defined by politics. Humankind already has a tragic history of incidents where governments and politicians have gotten into the business of defining faith and religion.

I respect our President, but he is dead wrong on this one. We still have billions of unused dollars in our welfare budgets. Let us return these funds to our citizens and exercise true faith that they will make the right decisions regarding charitable giving. Let us remember the simple wisdom of Ronald Reagan that government is the problem, not the solution.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING BISHOP GILBERT J. SHELDON

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join with me and the citizens of Ohio in celebration and commemoration of the Twenty-Fifth year of Bishop Gilbert J. Sheldon's ordination as Bishop in the Catholic Church.

Whereas, Bishop Sheldon's journey began on February 28, 1953 when he was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Edward Hoban; and,

Whereas, Bishop Sheldon was ordained Bishop on June 11, 1976 by Most Reverend James A. Hickey; and,

Whereas, Reverend Sheldon has tirelessly dedicated himself in service to God and to his fellow man as he served as Bishop of the Diocese of Steubenville; and,

Whereas, such institutions of God's will as Saint Rose Church in Cleveland, Saint Clare in Lynhurst, and Sacred Heart Church in Oberline have all benefited and prospered under his guidance;

Therefore, I invite my colleagues to join with me and the Citizens of Ohio in celebration and commemoration of Most Reverend Gilbert J. Sheldon's twenty fifth anniversary of his Episcopal Ordination.

AMERICAN LEGION PONY EXPRESS POST #359

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of the American Legion Pony Express Post #359 in St. Joseph, Missouri.

The American Legion Pony Express Post #359, chartered on January 24, 1946, has a long history of providing aid to children's assistance organizations and charities as well as assisting needy veterans in the St. Joseph area.

The American Legion has been a patriotic organization dedicated to providing community

service. They open their doors to assist those brave Americans that have served our country and instill a warm sense of pride in our nation that these men and women fought so hard to defend.

In honor of Flag Day, I rise to extend my appreciation to thank all the brave veterans, and the men and women in our Armed Forces for serving and protecting our nation from assaults on our freedoms and liberties. Because of your tireless efforts, this truly is the land of the free and the home of the brave, and I am honored that we can share and enjoy the peace and prosperity of this great nation.

TRIBUTE TO CHESSYE BAUGHMAN POWELL

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, April 30th, Chessye Baughman Powell retired from the United States House of Representatives, after thirty-four (34) years of devoted service. Chessye began her service to the people of the Second Congressional District of South Carolina in the Orangeburg Office of my predecessor, Congressman Albert Watson, on March 11, 1967. When I became a Member of Congress, in January 1971, I was glad that Chessye wanted to continue to assist the constituents who were being served through my Orangeburg Office.

From 1967 to 2001, Chessye dedicated herself to the various needs of the constituents of the Second Congressional District, as well as to those of persons from throughout our State. Chessye mastered the bureaucracy of the Federal Government and she was very adept at contacting the appropriate officials to address the many situations that were presented to her. Also, I was always proud of her representation of me at meetings and events in the Second Congressional District. In a 1997 profile in the (Orangeburg) TIMES AND DEMOCRAT, Chessye reflected on her career and the changes that have taken place over the more than thirty (30) years that she has served the citizens of the Second Congressional District. Chessye noted that, during her career, the UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MANUAL has become "probably ten (10) times the size that it was twenty-five (25) years ago." Chessye also observed that she has been guided by the motto: "When duty calls, you have to rise to the occasion." Chessye has always risen to the occasion, whatever the circumstances have been.

Chessye attended Newberry College, in South Carolina, and she began working for the (South Carolina) State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) at the time that it was being developed by Chief J.P. "Pete" Strom. Chessye later was employed by SCM, an industry in Orangeburg, South Carolina, where she met her husband, Roy. Chessye and Roy have a son, Greg, who is a health care executive in Atlanta, and a daughter, Allyn, who is a graduate student at the College of William and Mary. In 1990, Chessye became a District Administrator on my staff, based in my Orangeburg Office.

Chessye has dedicated thirty-four (34) years of her life to helping others. She can be justifi-

ably proud of her many accomplishments, and I am pleased to join her many friends in wishing her much happiness in her future endeavors.

B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL HONORS DAN S. WILFORD

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true leader in the field of health care, Mr. Dan S. Wilford. On Monday, June 18, 2001, Mr. Wilford will be recognized by B'nai B'rith International for his leadership and commitment to the public in the field of health care.

For the past 17 years Mr. Wilford has served as the President of Memorial Hermann Health Care System and its nine subsidiary corporations. He also serves as the Chief Executive Officer of a community-based, non-profit hospital system, comprised of thirteen hospitals in the greater Houston area and two hospitals in Beaumont and Orange, Texas. The system also includes an outpatient center, two nursing homes, and a retirement community. Mr. Wilford's involvement in these organizations has set him apart as a leader and an activist in the health care community.

Dan Wilford is involved in many different professional organizations. He is active in the Texas Hospital Association, American Hospital Association, and serves on the Board of Directors of the Voluntary Hospitals of America, the Hospital Research and Development Institute, the United Way of Texas Gulf Coast, and the Greater Houston Partnership.

As a member of the University of Mississippi's class of 1962, he was inducted into the University's Alumni Hall of Fame in 1995. In 1966, Mr. Wilford received a Masters Degree in Hospital Administration from Washington University, in St. Louis, Missouri, and later was awarded the University's Distinguished Alumnus Award. He has countless recognition for his devotion to the health care industry, but the award he receives tonight truly stands out.

B'nai B'rith International's National Health Care Award is given to a health care professional who embodies their commitment to making our communities a better place to live. Through his community involvement and multiple leadership roles Mr. Dan Wilford exemplifies the goals B'nai B'rith sets to achieve. Mr. Wilford's sense of community activism helps to make the city of Houston a better place to live and I am proud to join B'nai B'rith in recognizing him for all that he has done.

TRIBUTE TO MS. JOYCE M. HAYES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, as a former teacher, I am happy to rise before you today to recognize Ms. Joyce M. Hayes, who is retiring from Flint Community Schools after 33 great years of teaching.

Armed with a desire to teach, Joyce Hayes began her college career in Marshall, TX, where she graduated in 1967 from Wiley College with a Bachelors Degree in English and a minor in History. In 1968, she worked as an English teacher at Terrance Manor Middle School in Augusta, GA. Later she moved to Flint, where she began teaching Adult Education courses at C.S. Mott Adult High School and Beecher Community High School. She later became an English and Speech teacher at Jordan College in Flint, and at Longfellow Middle School, also in Flint.

In 1981, Joyce began a term with Flint Northern High School, one that has lasted to this day. In addition to English, Joyce taught World, American, and Modern Literature, Mythology, Grammar and Composition, and Successful Writing and Reading to hundreds of students from ninth to twelfth grades. She also served as the Instructor for the school's Honors/Gifted Student Program, Class Advisor, and Student Council Advisor. In 1992, Joyce became English Department Head, a position she has also held to this day. The same year, Joyce successfully completed her Masters Degree in Education from Eastern Michigan University. Two years later, she completed another degree from Eastern Michigan, this time a Masters in Guidance and Counseling.

For many years, Joyce has been dedicated toward working to improve our schools, not just in Flint, but also throughout the state and the nation. She is a member of the Michigan Education Association, National Education Association, and the National Council of Teachers of English, among many other groups. She has been an important part of many citywide and statewide committees designed to further educational and emotional growth among our students. Joyce has been recognized for her efforts by inclusions in Who's Who Among High School Teachers, American Educators, and American Women, and was recently chosen as the 2001 Saginaw Valley Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, Joyce Hayes is a tremendously respected individual. Many of her students, past and present, have greatly benefited from her insight, as has the entire Flint community over the course of the last 33 years. She has always been a fighter for education, for she believes that a strong educational background is the basis toward improving the quality of life, I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating her on her retirement, and wishing her the very best in her future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO THE CARPENTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 845

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Carpenters Local Union No. 845 in Delaware County. Founded a century ago, three Local Unions from Pennsylvania united to form the Delaware County District Council. Over the next 75 years, Local Union No. 845 evolved to become the largest of the three locals in Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

Carpenters Local Union No. 845 has established itself as one of the most distinguished

organizations of its kind. The members of this organization, and their families, have made innumerable sacrifices in order to help future generations of Americans. Furthermore, many of the members of Local 845 have served in the armed forces for our great nation. These individuals have demonstrated impeccable American values, and have participated in countless works of charity. The Union has stood as the backbone of thousands upon thousands of its members by providing decent wages, and a better standard of living for themselves and their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, as a carpenter myself, I know that Local No. 845 has benefited the Philadelphia community, and will continue to do so for years to come. On its 100th anniversary, members of the Local 845 are leading through example by hard work and dedication. They have been the pioneers for the working class, and will continue to make new advancements and achievements through their endurance, commitment, and leadership.

TRIBUTE TO BOB AND GAY
SMITHER

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate my constituents, Bob and Gay Smither, on receiving the Texas Young Lawyers Association Liberty Bell Award on behalf of their work with the Laura Recovery Center Foundation. I couldn't think of two more worthy people to receive this award.

I met the Smithers just over four years ago, after the disappearance of their daughter, Laura Kate. Sadly, Laura's body was recovered a couple of weeks later. The Smithers chose to turn this terrible tragedy into something positive, the founding of the Laura Recovery Center. It is because of Laura and her parents' inspiration, that I founded the Congressional Caucus on Missing and Exploited Children.

Through this harrowing experience, we have learned of thousands of families who suffer this same tragedy every year in this nation. Bob and Gay have dedicated their lives to protecting our children and keeping our families safe. So many in their community worked so hard to bring Laura home that I can't imagine a stronger outpouring of love and support by a community.

The Smithers have told me that they intend to accept it on behalf of all of their volunteers. This is just one more indication of their commitment to their community and their selflessness—they choose to share this honor rather than accept it only on behalf of themselves.

The Foundation has recently received Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education certification for their training program on rapid response to child abduction and have been invited to present monthly training courses at the Houston Police Academy and Galveston County Sheriff's Department.

I am honored to call Bob and Gay Smither my constituents, and am honored that they have been selected to receive the Liberty Bell Award.

HONORING CENTRAL
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th Anniversary of "The First German Evangelical Lutheran Church," presently known as Central Congregational Church, located at 1311 Holman, Houston, Texas. In 1851, Pastor Casper Braun arrived in Houston to help German speaking settlers transition to their new home. He was responsible for founding the congregation in September of 1851.

Over the years, the church has built three permanent facilities; a white wooden colonial style structure, a red brick building with a Gothic style white sandstone trim, and its most recent structure, built in 1927, a tan brick with red terra cotta roof directly from northern Italy. The church currently houses the Houston chapter of Habitat for Humanity and the Houston Graduate School of Theology, and is also responsible for financing five new Lutheran churches in the Houston area.

The 87 members of the Central Congregational Church, under the leadership of Pastor Dr. W. Clark Chamberlain have been involved in many community outreach programs in hopes of attracting new parishioners. Since 1975, Central Congregational Church has participated in the Christian Community Services Center of Houston. This service organization is an interfaith alliance of more than three dozen congregations, who work together for betterment of the community. The alliance provides job training, job placement, emergency relief, clothes, back-to-school programs, a thrift shop, day care services, and delivers meals to senior citizens who are shut in. Currently, the church prepares more than 100 meals a day for home-bound individuals.

Mr. Speaker, the Central Congregational Church has a long history of faithful service to the Houston area. The tireless efforts of the leaders and parishioners at Central Congregational Church has made them a shining example for other community groups to emulate. I applaud the parish and its members for their commitment to the community and wish them success in the forthcoming years.

TRIBUTE TO MARCEL GROEN

HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marcel Groen of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Marcel has been awarded the first Mark E. Goldberg Memorial Award which recognizes individuals for their commitment to Jewish culture and civic life and also for participating in the Israel Bonds Program. The Mark E. Goldberg Memorial Award was established in memory of Mark E. Goldberg and his strong devotion to the Jewish community.

Marcel is a founding partner in the law firm of Groen, Laveson, Goldberg & Rubenstone in Bensalem, Pennsylvania. He is extremely active in his community as a former chairman of

the Bucks County International Trade Council, a board member of the Bucks County Male Teen Conference, and he was former counsel to the Lower Bucks County Chamber of Commerce. Marcel has served as a special counsel to numerous municipalities and their agencies.

Marcel has long been an active supporter of the Democratic party. He is the Chairman of the Montgomery County Democratic Committee and is a member of the Pennsylvania Democratic State Committee. He was also the former Finance Chairman of the Bucks County Democratic Committee.

Marcel has dedicated much time and efforts to Jewish causes. He is an officer of the board of Beth Shalom Congregation, served as past-president of the Philadelphia ORT and the Bucks County Jewish National Fund, and a former vice president and board member of the Philadelphia Solomon Schechter Day School.

Marcel and his wife Bernice are the proud parents of four children: Marlon, Jennifer, Rachel, and Justin. Their family also includes son-in-law Ami Dolev and future son-in-law, Elad Yagur.

Marcel is my close friend. He is a good man committed to public service and civic leadership. I am pleased to congratulate Marcel for this distinguished award.

THE SAVINGS FOR WORKING
FAMILIES ACT

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, the last decade has seen some of the greatest prosperity in American history. This has provided new opportunities not only for the savvy Wall Street investor, but also for those who are gainfully employed for the first time. And while some economic indicators are down a bit, we still have a great opportunity to help those who once had few opportunities. We have the chance to help them find new ways to gain a permanent foothold in the financial mainstream.

Today, Congressman Charlie Stenholm and 33 other bipartisan cosponsors are joining me to re-introduce The Savings For Working Families Act. This legislation will provide tax credits to banks providing matching funds for Individual Development Account (IDA) savings. IDAs are savings accounts that may be used for education, housing, or to start a small business.

IDAs are a proven success in my home state of Pennsylvania. For example, Jacqui Fulton, a 66-year-old woman from Philadelphia told the Philadelphia Daily News recently that when she used to get depressed about her circumstances, she would raid the cookie jar where she kept her money and go buy herself a manicure. It made her feel better for a short time. But now, she goes to the bank every week and deposits another twenty dollars into her IDA account. She now says that she "almost skips to the bank"—it makes her feel so good. Jacqui started saving in her IDA account in July of 1997. She saved over 12 hundred dollars and received her saving match of six hundred dollars in August of 1999. She

used the money to expand a talent search business called Direction and Exposure.

She says, "This is one of the smart moves I made to have more money to invest in my business." She feels good about herself, and she's saving money to make a dream come true. And she's no longer raiding her cookie jar.

Jacqui's is just one success story among many. This program is working in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania has one of the largest IDA programs in the country. The Commonwealth has appropriated \$4.5 million dollars to the program to date, and another \$1.5 million is included in this year's budget. Right now, there are 2584 contracted accounts divided among 15 financial institutions around the state. At the end of last year, IDA investors in Pennsylvania had saved almost three-quarters of a million dollars.

IDAs are a proven success in many other states too. But they are under utilized. Where they have been made available, they have worked. They are meant to be a springboard to continued prosperity. Making higher education possible makes prosperity possible. Helping people start small businesses makes prosperity possible. But without hopeful that will be very soon. I look forward to working with the President, House Leadership, and all of the cosponsors of this legislation to make this dream come true.

A TRIBUTE TO THE FATHER'S DAY
GALA

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great institution that is serving the needs of families in my district and the entire Delaware Valley.

For the past two years, the Father's Day Gala Program Committee, led by Karen Burton, has honored that most important of all men, the father. As Father's Day approaches, all of us are compelled to think of our fathers and the role they played in our lives. Those of us who are privileged to have had the support of strong fathers know that our paths were made easier by the love, the advice, the nurturing and the discipline they gave us. Those who have not had that privilege know well the void that lack left in their lives.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, we don't often take the time to honor our fathers, or step fathers. Most Dads are too busy being Dads to worry about that. But it is wonderful that a group of citizens would come together as volunteers to say thank you to all the fathers out there. I must say that I am especially proud of this gala, since so much of the work on this event was done by Karen Burton, who was born and raised in my district. Ms. Burton, her mother Sara, and her entire family have worked tirelessly to make my district a better place. This event is in keeping with their family tradition.

And so, to all the fathers at the Gala, and to all the women and children who love them, I say Happy Father's Day and keep up the good work.

INTRODUCING THE CHILD
POVERTY REDUCTION ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Child Poverty Reduction Act. Senator CHARLES SCHUMER is introducing companion legislation in the Senate.

During the welfare debate of 1995–96, I had concerns that too much emphasis was placed on kicking people off of welfare rolls rather than reducing poverty. Unfortunately, my concerns—and those of several of my colleagues and administration officials who quit their jobs in protest of welfare reform's passage in 1996—proved accurate.

The emphasis on reducing welfare caseloads has caused welfare caseloads to drop faster than the poverty rate. From 1996–99, the number of people receiving welfare dropped 41 percent, while child poverty was reduced only 16.3 percent in the same period. As a result, almost one in six children (12 million) continue to live in poverty.

Child poverty can have devastating impacts that last a lifetime. Studies show that poverty has harmful effects on children's cognitive ability and school performance and can contribute to early sexual activity and pregnancy, crime and incarceration, and unemployment.

To encourage states to use funds to improve the well-being of our nation's children, this bill amends the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program by making reducing child poverty an explicit goal of the welfare law and creating a \$150 million high performance bonus grant to states that reduce child poverty.

To receive this new TANF high performance bonus, states would have to reduce their child poverty rate from the previous year's poverty rate. To ensure that states sustain their efforts to reduce child poverty, the high performance bonus is only awarded to states whose most recent child poverty rate does not exceed their lowest poverty rate since the beginning of this bonus program.

I find it even more troubling that almost 5 million children live in extreme poverty in which their families' incomes are less than 50 percent of poverty (\$8,731.50 annually for a family of four, or just \$728 a month). This bill attempts to help those especially needy children by only rewarding states that reduce poverty for children at all levels of need.

Thus, the high performance bonus is only given to states that both reduce the overall poverty rate and prevent any increase the percentage of poor children living in extreme poverty.

Children have no choice as to whether they are on welfare and I will continue to look for methods to protect them from the effects of TANF. While this legislation is not the overall solution to reducing child poverty, it is a clear step in the right direction.

Reducing child poverty is one of the smartest policy initiatives that this Congress can embark on since children are our nation's future. I urge my colleagues to please join me in this small, but important, investment to reduce child poverty and improve child well being by enacting the Child Poverty Reduction Act.

IN MEMORY OF TIMOTHY LAWSON

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Timothy Lawson, a young man who lived a life of honor, patriotism, and had a keen sense of service to our nation.

I was deeply saddened when I heard of Timothy's passing. However, we can take comfort in this trying time by knowing that he served our country courageously. Timothy embodied a truly dignified manner during his service to our country.

While enlisted in the Navy during the Persian Gulf War, he received a Navy Achievement Medal for saving two people out of a liquid oxygen fire. After returning to California from the Persian Gulf, he studied criminal justice together with his brother, Gary, at California State University, Sacramento. Before enlisting in the Marines, Timothy held a position in the United States Secret Service while attending California State University, Sacramento.

Not only did Timothy emanate dignity in his professional life, but he also strove to lead a life modeled on the lessons he learned from his family. His parents instilled this sense of service during his childhood in Northern California and Clinton, Iowa.

During a training mission Timothy's plane went down in the desert in California's San Joaquin Valley. He and Navy Lt. Timothy Gilbreth were flying a T-34C Turbo Mentor about three miles north of the El Centro Naval Air Station.

During my time in the United States Army I witnessed the passing of many of my fellow soldiers. Whether during peacetime or in times of conflict, when a member of our Armed Services passes away in the line of duty, we should not fail to recognize the sacrifices they made.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the service and patriotism Timothy Lawson. It is appropriate, during a week in which we are remembering Americans who lost their lives in the Armed Services, that we all acknowledge and appreciate the sacrifices that Timothy made for our country.

EUGENE AND CONNIE ROTH
HONORED WITH SHOFAR AWARD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my very good friends Gene and Connie Roth, who will receive the Shofar Award on June 14 from the United Hebrew Institute of Kingston, Pennsylvania.

The shofar, or ram's horn is a religious musical instrument having profound significance in the Jewish religion. It constitutes an important part of the Jewish prayers in the synagogue during the festivals of Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year, and Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

The name of this award is certainly fitting. Just as the shofar plays an integral role in the

Jewish faith, so too have Gene and Connie been an integral part of the United Hebrew Institute family for more than 40 years. All of their children, Joan, Steven, Jeffery and Larry, are graduates of LJHI. Both Gene and Connie have served and still serve on the Board of Trustees, including Gene's service as chairman from 1967 to 1969. In addition, Connie served as president of the PTA from 1971 to 1973 and still serves as president of the Ladies Auxiliary of Talmud Torah.

But UHI is far from the only Wyoming Valley institution to benefit from the services and talents of this dedicated couple. Among the organizations which have benefited from their expertise and commitment are the Gelsing Wyoming Valley Medical Center, Wilkes University, the Jewish Community Center, Wilkes-Barre Industrial Fund, Congregation Ohav Zedek and its Sisterhood, the Jewish Federation, United Jewish Appeal, the United Way, the Osterhout Library, the Jewish Home, Queen Esther Hebrew Ladies Aid Society, Jewish Family Service, Martin Luther King Committee for Social Justice and Hospice St. John.

Mr. Speaker, both Gene and Connie are pillars of the community. Gene has been honored many times by groups including B'nai B'rith, the Boy Scouts of America, and Who's Who, among several outstanding organizations. For her part, Connie was named the Woman of Valor by Congregation Ohav Zedek and was honored by the Women's Division of the Jewish Campaign and by B'nai B'rith Lodge.

The primary focus for Gene and Connie has always been their family, their community and the preservation of Jewish heritage. Their longstanding efforts on behalf of the school, their synagogue and the community are truly inspirational. I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives this well-deserved award being presented to Gene and Connie Roth as well as their many good works, and I wish them all the best.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FRANK MOLINA

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the departure of a key member of my staff, Frank Molina, a field representative in my El Monte office who is leaving this Friday to pursue his life-long dream of attending law school.

The single child of working-class parents, Frank became one of the first members of his family to earn a college degree when he graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles last year. Armed with a major in International Development Studies and minors in Latin American Studies and Spanish Literature, Frank set out to give back to the community that had already given him so much.

He started as a field representative in my California State Senate office in August 2000 and moved to the U.S. House of Representatives in January. Beyond helping constituents with casework, Frank assisted with higher education, transportation, immigration and economic development issues in my district of-

vice. The residents of my district are better off because of him.

Frank's fluency in Spanish was an extremely important asset for our office. He routinely communicated with constituents in their native tongue and wrote many of my Spanish-language speeches and position papers.

His biggest asset, though, was his dedication to the residents of the 31st Congressional District. Day after day, Frank worked to ensure that small businesses prospered in our area, that recent immigrants settled into their new community and that high school students benefited from the advantages of higher education.

And now Frank is hoping to reap those same benefits. He plans on spending these next few months studying for the Law School Admission Test and hopes to attend an Ivy League university for law school. Although I and the constituents of the 31st Congressional District will miss Frank, we wish him the best.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO WAIVE FEDERAL WEIGHT LIMITS ON THE MAINE INTERSTATE

HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to exempt commercial vehicles traveling on the Maine Interstate from federal weight limits. Maine finds itself in a rather unique and dangerous situation. Canada and states surrounding Maine have much higher weight limits for trucks than those on Maine's Interstate. As a result, when they enter Maine, these heavy trucks are diverted onto smaller state and local roads. This diversion has caused two major problems.

First, the diversion of these trucks onto state and local roads is destroying these roads. Most are not built to handle the wear and tear caused by heavy trucks which would not normally be driven on secondary roads. As a result, the state and local governments are forced to use scarce funds to meet high repair and maintenance costs. In a geographically large state where every transportation dollar counts, such expenditures drain funds away from other high priority projects. By contrast, the Interstate is designed to absorb the wear and tear caused by heavy vehicles, and I believe that is where they should be driving.

Second, having these trucks on secondary roads causes an extreme safety hazard. Heavy vehicles, such as tanker trucks carrying hazardous material and fuel oil, simply should not be traveling through communities with small roads, narrow intersections and difficult rotaries. Regrettably, there have been many accidents—some fatal—between large trucks and private vehicles on these smaller roads. The roadways are not designed to accommodate heavy trucks, whereas the Interstate system clearly is. I believe that getting these trucks back on the Interstate where they belong will enhance safety.

My bill will institute a 3-year pilot program during which time the federal weight limits will not apply to Maine's Interstate. During this waiver period, traffic data will be collected and reviewed by a Safety Committee headed by

the Maine Department of Transportation. If the Committee finds that the waiver in fact has not negatively impacted safety, then the waiver will become permanent.

This important bill represents a good first step in solving this very real and very dangerous problem for Maine's people and Maine's roads.

INTRODUCTION OF SAFE PLAYGROUNDS ACT

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in supporting legislation I introduced today that would ensure that our nation's playgrounds are safe and properly constructed throughout America.

As the school year ends and summer begins, children all around the United States will be spending more time outside playing with friends at our community playgrounds. While most kids enjoy horsing around at the playground, it can be a dangerous place if the equipment is either broken or not up to code. Every year more than 200,000 children are injured on America's playgrounds, and, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), 147 children died between 1990 and 2000 from playground equipment-related injuries.

In a 1998 survey, U.S. playgrounds received an overall grade of C— when rated on the presence of physical hazards and behavioral elements, including supervision and age-appropriate design. Mr. Speaker, many may think that this is an acceptable grade because states, counties and local communities don't have any specific standards to follow when building playgrounds.

However this is not true. For the past several decades, the CPSC has written a very detailed national code to help states and local governments build the safest possible playgrounds. Unfortunately, only five states require that all public playgrounds in their respective communities abide by these standards.

My legislation, the Safe Playgrounds Act, would urge states to pass a law that assures that all playgrounds are safe for our kids.

The Safe Playgrounds Act will provide \$1 million grants to states that enact statewide laws regulating public playgrounds according to the CPSC's Handbook for Public Playground Safety. States could use these funds to either build new playgrounds or bring older ones up to code.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in protecting our kids from playground accidents by cosponsoring this bill. Playground accidents will always be a reality, but by making these grounds as safe as possible, we can reduce those accidents that are not the fault of the child but of the playground itself.

MAGNOLIA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the

students and faculty of Magnolia Junior High School of Magnolia, Texas to Washington, DC. I would also like to recognize the students from Maywood Middle School who are visiting with them from my colleague, Congressman DOUG OSE's, district in California. These students have traveled over great distances to enjoy the many national museums and learn the significance behind the many historic monuments that are in this great city. I would like to wish them all the best and hope they relish this tremendous educational opportunity.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCIS M.
FULKERSON, JR.

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I wish to pay tribute to Francis M. Fulkerson, Jr. who has retired from the Army Corps of Engineers in Napoleon, MO.

In 1956, Mr. Fulkerson began his federal career as a student trainee with the Corps. Mr. Fulkerson accepted a full time position in 1958 as a Surveying Technician at the Napoleon Office Area. During his career, Mr. Fulkerson served the Glasgow Area Office, the New Orleans District, the Kansas City District Office, the Jefferson City Resident Office, and then returned to Napoleon in July, 1988. Mr. Fulkerson has served for over 40 years.

Mr. Speaker, Francis Fulkerson's federal career has been far reaching. I know the members of the House, please join me in expressing appreciation for his years of service.

AMERICAN BREAKTHROUGH
RESEARCH ACT OF 2001

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that I, along with my friend and Colleague Congressman BOB MATSUI, are introducing the American Breakthrough Research Act of 2001. This important legislation remedies a shortcoming in the federal income tax incentives available for research and development activities. To a considerable extent, our country's competitive position in the world economy and our citizens' standard of living are dependent on maintaining and enhancing our leadership in pure science and in the equally important commercialization of the fruits of scientific discovery. Over many years, the Congress and administrations across political parties consistently have supported tax incentives for those crucial activities.

Much of the risky and capital intensive work of developing the commercial potential of scientific findings is undertaken by relatively small and even start-up businesses. It often takes many years and many millions of dollars of investment to turn discoveries into products, and along the way these entrepreneurs tend to have few if any products to sell and little or no revenues. The U.S. bioscience industry, for example, which many call the industry of the 21st century is comprised of about 1200 com-

panies, most of which are relatively small. While the medicines and treatments that these companies are developing hold great promise to reduce or eliminate major diseases such as cancer and cystic fibrosis, few companies can go to the market with products to sell.

A key goal of Congress in enacting and re-enacting the research tax credit and expensing provisions of the Code has been to foster this long-term intensive R&D work. Yet the fact is that many such companies derive no benefit from these provisions. As estimated by a major U.S. accounting firm, 95 percent of the Nation's biotechnology firms did not earn any profits in 2000. The existing research tax incentives thus fail to reach these companies because the incentives can be utilized only by companies that have significant profits and taxable income.

This is a fundamental problem that we need to address now. This defect in existing law puts these companies, which are critically dependent on investment to sustain their research, at a disadvantage in raising capital compared with other, often larger companies that do have current income. Without current access to these tax incentives, these smaller companies whose research activities are so vital to our Nation, are hard pressed to find needed capital.

The Crane-Matsui legislation fixes this shortcoming. It provides eligible long-term research companies with the opportunity to obtain a current benefit from these tax attributes through an election to claim a refundable tax credit in exchange for relinquishing the research-related losses and credits. There is growing precedent for this type of proposal among the States, several of which have enacted or are considering similar provisions to provide research companies with a current benefit from otherwise unusable tax incentives. We hope our colleagues will join us in supporting this important legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO ANNE BLUE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable young woman who spent a brief sojourn on this earth, but who has left giant footprints "on the sands of time." The life of Anne Blue reminds us that the measure of a person's life is not the quantity of years, but the quality of years on this earth.

Anne Elizabeth Candace Blue was born in Georgetown Guyana on June 14, 1956 and departed this life July 5, 1993. In her 37 years of existence, she rose to the heights of academic and professional achievement. She passed the Common Entrance Examination in Guyana and attended Bishop's High School. She migrated to England and entered the London Hospital School of Nursing where she graduated as a State Registered Nurse. She migrated to the United States where she obtained the Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Hunter College and the Juris doctor degree from Hofstra Law School. She was active in various social, cultural and professional associations. She was a member of the Bishop's High School Alumni Association; founding member of the Caribbean American

Bar Association; founding member of New York Reggae Music Festival Inc. She was a licensed Real Estate broker and Mortgage broker and, together with her parents John and Hyacinth Blue, she carried on a prosperous and successful Real Estate and Home Care business on Church Avenue.

Anne Blue "walked with kings, nor lost the common touch." She never lost contact with her native land and visited Guyana on an annual basis. As tribute to her patriotic and humanitarian commitment, her parents have created four Anne Blue scholarships in her memory—The Anne Blue National C.X.C. scholarship, awarded to individuals who obtained outstanding marks on the C.X.C. examination; The Anne Blue University of Guyana Law student scholarship, awarded to second year law students who obtain outstanding grades in their first year of law school; A scholarship to St. Gabriel's Elementary School, her elementary school alma mater; and a scholarship to Bishop's High School, her high school alma mater.

In the United States, the Anne Blue Scholarship Fund is sponsoring Project Amethyst, an academic enrichment program designed to help students to help students prepare for the specialized High School Admissions examinations. The participants begin the program in the 7th grade and continue through the 8th grade. They attend classes for four hours on Saturday's where qualified teachers tutor them in the areas of English, Mathematics, Biology and Computer Science.

In paying tribute to Anne Blue, we also pay tribute to her remarkable parents, John Blue and Hyacinth Blue, who transformed their pain into triumph by preserving and perpetuating the memory of their remarkable daughter. They have named their Real Estate and Home Care business establishments in her honor, and have created a Scholarship fund, which opens the door of academic opportunity to underprivileged young people in Guyana and Central Brooklyn. In the words of Horace, "exigit monumentum, perennius aere"—they have built a monument more lasting than bronze.

FEDERAL FIRE FIGHTERS
DESERVE HEALTH BENEFITS

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of thousands of federal fire fighters and emergency response personnel nationwide who, at great risk to their own personal health and safety, protect America's defense, our veterans, Federal wildlands and national treasures. Although the majority of these important federal employees work for the Department of Defense, federal fire fighters are also employed by the Department of Veteran Affairs, and the United States Park Service. From first-response emergency care services on military installations around the world to front-line defense against raging forest fires here at home, we call on these brave men and women to protect our national interests.

Yet under federal law, compensation and retirement benefits are not provided to federal employees who suffer from occupational illnesses unless they can specify the conditions

of employment which caused their disease. This onerous requirement makes it nearly impossible for federal fire fighters, who suffer from occupational diseases, to receive fair and just compensation or retirement benefits. The bureaucratic nightmare they must endure is burdensome, unnecessary and, in many cases, overwhelming. It is ironic and unjust that the very people we call on to protect our federal interests are not afforded the very best in health care and retirement benefits our federal government has to offer.

Today, Representatives CONNIE MORELLA (R-MD), JO ANN DAVIS (R-VA), and LOIS CAPPAS (D-CA) joined me to introduce bipartisan legislation, the Federal Firefighters Fairness Act of 2001, which amends the Federal Employees Compensation Act to create a presumptive disability for fire fighters who become disabled by heart and lung disease, cancers such as leukemia and lymphoma, and infectious diseases like tuberculosis and hepatitis. Disabilities related to the cancers, heart, lung and infectious diseases enumerated in this important legislation would be considered job related for purposes of workers compensation and disability retirement—entitling those affected to the health care coverage and retirement benefits they deserve.

Too frequently, the poisonous gases, toxic byproducts, asbestos, and other hazardous substances with which federal firefighters and emergency response personnel come in contact, rob them of their health, livelihood, and professional careers. The federal government should not rob them of necessary benefits.

The bipartisan effort behind the Federal Firefighters Fairness Act of 2001 marks a significant advancement for fire fighter health and safety. Federal firefighters deserve our highest commendation and it is time to do the right thing for these important federal employees.

Thirty-eight states have already enacted a similar disability presumption law for federal firefighters' counterparts working in similar capacities on the state and local levels. The Federal Firefighters Fairness Act of 2001 is about parity for federal fire fighters; the same level of support provided to other important groups, such as teachers and police officers, should also be granted to these dedicated federal employees.

Mr. Speaker, the job of fire fighting continues to be complex and dangerous. The nationwide increase in the use of hazardous materials and the recent rise in both natural and man-made disasters pose new threats to fire fighter health and safety. The Federal Fire Fighters Fairness Act of 2001 will help protect the lives of our fire fighters and it will provide them with a vehicle to secure their health and safety.

I urge my colleagues to embrace this bipartisan effort and support the Federal Firefighters Fairness Act of 2001 on behalf of our nation's federal fire fighters and emergency response personnel.

SENSATIONAL SOCCER IN THE 6TH DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, On May 26, the Sixth District of North Carolina became the

home of the 3-A state championship girls soccer team—Southwest Guilford High School. The Cowgirls completed their victory run with a season record of 24–3. After winning state championships in 1995 and 1997, the team brought the title home again when they beat T.C. Robeson 4–1.

With a team that has the Regional Player of the Year Erin Sides, All-State Player and leading goal scorer Kelly Whitaker, Conference Defender of the Year Lauren Field, and Erin Gonzalez as the All-State Stopper, Southwest Guilford had a leading advantage in capturing the 3-A state title.

The Cowgirls won all five state championship title games. The final game was a scoreless tie at halftime. But the team remained united and was ready for the second half.

"We said at halftime, whoever scored that first goal is going to win the game," sweeper Lauren Field, one of three captains, told the High Point Enterprise.

The Cowgirls' Erin Sides, scored their first goal, only two minutes into the second half. Laura Allen drilled another goal three minutes later. The final two goals that sealed the victory were by Kelly Whitaker, who was the championship game MVP.

Congratulations are in order for Head Coach Mike Fitzpatrick along with his Assistant Coach Gary Sabo, Goalkeeper Coach Chris Barrett and JV Coach Jim Coggins.

Members of the championship team included Laura Allen, Deanna Carr, Sara Crowder, Lisa Demeyer, Lauren Field, Erin Gonzalez, Natalie Henderson, Melissa Hunter, Andrea Lance, Bevan Menamara, Jolie Reed, Erin Slides, Marty Thompson, Marianne Trexler, Claire Walley, Kelly Whitaker, and Wendy Williams.

Everyone at Southwest Guilford High School can be proud of the Cowgirls. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District, we congratulate Athletic Director Brindon Christman, Principal Wayne Tuggle and everyone at Southwest Guilford for winning the state 3-A girls soccer championship.

INTRODUCTION OF THE AIRCRAFT CLEAN AIR ACT OF 2001

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Aircraft Clean Air Act of 2001 along with Senator DIANE FEINSTEIN who has introduced the companion bill in the Senate. This legislation is intended to create a procedure within the FAA to record cabin air quality incidents on commercial flights and to require airlines to turn over certain information regarding those complaints to the FAA.

The problem, Mr. Speaker, is that there is no way for passengers and crew members to register complaints about poor air quality they may have experienced on a commercial flight in the United States. Airlines are not required to save, or make available, valuable maintenance records of the flights where air quality problems are reported. Nor are they required to make available the chemical constituents present to which a person on the plane may be exposed. As a result, we have very little information as to the frequency or nature of cabin air quality incidents.

The Aircraft Clean Air Act of 2001 addresses this problem by allowing passengers and crew members to register cabin air quality complaints directly with the FAA. The FAA is then required to pass the complaint on to the appropriate airline, and to keep records of all complaints for ten years. Further, a passenger or crew members may request that the airline named in their complaint turn over the applicable mechanical and maintenance records of the flight in question if they have had a medical professional verify their symptoms. Airlines would have 15 days to turn over this information, after which a civil penalty of \$1,000 per day would be levied on the airline for every day they do not turn over the requested information.

The Aircraft Clean Air Act of 2001 addresses another issue as well, the level at which aircraft are pressurized in flight. Currently airplanes are pressurized at 8,000 feet while they are in the air. This means that for the duration a flight is in the air, it feels to the passengers as if they are at 8,000 feet above sea level, regardless of the actual altitude of the aircraft. The 8,000 foot standard was based on outdated research that used an unrepresentative sample of the population. Recently, there have been questions regarding the safety of the 8,000 foot level. As a person goes higher above sea level, the rate at which oxygen is absorbed into the body decreases. This could cause problems such as shortness of breath and numbness in limbs, and lead to other health related problems.

The Aircraft Clean Air Act of 2001 authorizes the FAA to sponsor a study to determine if the cabin altitude rate, as currently defined by existing government regulation, should be lowered. The study would examine the affects of altitudes between 5,000 and 8,000 feet on various types of people that broadly represent the public. The bill allows universities to compete to conduct the study, and allows the National Academy of Sciences' "Committee on Air Quality in Passenger Cabins of Commercial Aircraft" to select the winner.

Mr. Speaker, airlines should be required to record all air quality complaints from passengers and crew members and to turn over the requested maintenance information in order to insure that our airlines remain the safest in the world. This is a matter of extreme importance for the flying public as well as those who work in the industry, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

ELIMINATE PENALTY FOR IMMIGRANT CHILDREN—H.R. 1209

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1209—The Child Protection Act of 2001. Too many injustices affect immigrants as a result of how the current Immigration and Nationality Act is written. H.R. 1209 is but one way to ensure that children of citizens are not penalized because it takes the INS an unacceptable length of time to process their adjustment of status petitions.

Alien children of U.S. citizens are eligible for admission as an immediate relative. They are not subject to any numerical limitations on

visas. The only wait time for these children is the actual time the INS takes to process their petitions.

However, when these children turn 21 years of age, their status shifts from immediate relative status to the status of family-first preference. This category is subject to a limited number of visas per year.

If these children turn 21 after their immediate relative petition is filed, they are moved to the bottom of the wait list for the family-first preference category. Since this category is backlogged for many countries, the child's wait time for processing unfairly increases.

H.R. 1209 would ensure that an alien child of a U.S. citizen shall remain eligible for immediate relative status as long as an immigrant visa petition was filed before the child turned 21. The date the petition was filed, and not the date the petition is processed, shall apply.

I urge my colleagues to support this piece of legislation to correct this inequitable outcome.

IRRELEVANT WEEK 26TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate an unusual community event that takes place in my district each year. "Irrelevant Week," now being celebrated for the 26th year in a row, was the vision of former National Football League player Paul Salata.

Founded on the premise of "doing something nice for someone for no reason," Irrelevant Week has inspired generous acts that have made this popular event one of the most relevant altruistic programs held in Orange County. The honoree of the week is, by tradition, the person chosen last in the National Football League draft. Whether first or last in the NFL draft, Paul Salata knows that beyond pure talent, it is the character and drive of the player—even if the last one picked—that will determine how successful he will be on the field. Proceeds from the week's events are donated to charities in Southern California, including this year's beneficiaries: the Orange County Youth Sports Foundation and Save Our Youth.

This year's honoree is future Arizona Cardinal Tevita Ofahengae. He was the 246th pick in the NFL draft this year. Born in Tonga and raised in Laie, Hawaii, he is a 6'2" 251-pound tight end from Brigham Young University.

Tevita, along with his wife and four children, will undoubtedly enjoy celebrating his reign as "Mr. Irrelevant" during the week's festivities. On behalf of the United States Congress and the people of Orange County whom it is my privilege to represent, congratulations to Tevita, his family, Paul Salata, and everyone associated with Irrelevant Week XXVI.

HONORING HOWARD SCHARLIN

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who will be greatly missed by all

who knew him. A man who served his country proudly in its hour of need, and a man whose love for his work and his life are only eclipsed by his immeasurable love of family. It brings me great sadness to report that Howard Scharlin of Coconut Grove, Florida, passed away last Tuesday at the age of 73.

Howard Scharlin attended school at Brooklyn College and later at Brooklyn Law School. He was admitted to the New York State Bar Association in 1951. Before entering the practice of law, he joined the Navy and attended Officers Training School from which he eventually became a line officer on the *Battleship Wisconsin*. It was on the *Wisconsin* where Howard began service to his country during the Korean War.

After the war, Howard Scharlin moved to Miami in 1955. It was in Florida that he began his legal career as a real estate attorney and also a real estate developer. As a developer, Howard used his intellect and creativity to play a great role in the development of the City of Hialeah. Other accomplishments in the field include the co-creation of Palm Springs Mile, the creation of Anchorage Way and Commodore Plaza, and more notably, the development of the first townhouses in Florida and the laws creating condominiums.

However, Howard may best be known for his intense involvement in community service and his most generous philanthropy. He was a major supporter of the Boys and Girls Club, the United Way, and a myriad of Arts associations both in Florida and Aspen Colorado, where his family spent a considerable amount of time. He showed a great interest in educational institutions as well, as he was on the Board of Trustees for the Coconut Grove Playhouse and the Ransom Everglades School, as well as endowing the I Have a Dream Foundation at the Drew Elementary School.

In addition, Howard was an outstanding member of the Jewish community and a passionate supporter of the State of Israel. He was a board member on the American Jewish Committee, board member and Past President of the Miami Jewish Federation, President of the local chapter of AIPAC, participant in a number of missions to Israel, influential member on the boards of several Temples, and a number of other organizations.

Mr. Speaker, Howard Scharlin was both well-loved and widely respected by all those blessed to have known him, especially his wife, three children, and six grandchildren by whom he is survived. He selflessly served his country. His life's work was his dream. And his family was a source of admiration and great pride. Today we celebrate Howard's life which serves as a wonderful example to all who follow in his footsteps.

TRIBUTE TO MR. FRED WENGER

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late Mr. Fred Wenger, an outstanding citizen and dedicated community leader in Delaware County, Indiana for three decades. I join his lovely wife Karen and three children in expressing gratitude for his loyal service as an Indiana State Representative.

Mr. Speaker, ask everyone in the Indiana General Assembly about the legacy of Mr. Wenger and they will unanimously refer to his gentle soul. He was dedicated to building strong constituent relationships and stronger Christian values.

Mr. Wenger's powerful faith influenced all of his work at the State House. He routinely voted his conscience for each of his three years in office. His passion for public service made him an inspiration to all of his colleagues. He is not only deeply regarded, but also deeply loved.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this respected man who helped make selected communities of east central Indiana the pleasant places they are today. Indiana will miss Mr. Fred Wenger.

INTERNET FREEDOM AND
BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT ACT
OF 2001

HON. TOM SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1542, the Internet Freedom and Broadband Deployment Act of 2001. While this bill is controversial, I believe that it is fundamentally headed in the right direction. In fact, I authored an amendment to this bill to assure that, if the Bell Operating Companies receive relief to deliver high-speed Internet services, they would be required to deliver Internet services to underserved areas.

The bill would free the Bells of regulation to compete freely with long-distance providers and cable companies for high-speed Internet services. Of course, those companies which are already unregulated in providing high-speed Internet services oppose putting the Bells on an equal playing field.

I am less interested in the great turf wars among competitors than I am in how fair competition benefits the consumer, and whether technical advances—especially high speed Internet services, or broadband—will be made available across America.

Broadband access, along with the content and services it might enable, has the potential to transform the Internet—both what it offers and how it is used. For example, a two-way high speed broadband connection could be used for interactive applications such as online classrooms, showrooms, or health clinics, where teacher and student (or customer and salesperson, doctor and patient) could see and hear each other through their computers. An "always on" connection could be used to monitor home security, home automation, or even patient health remotely through the Internet.

The high speed and high volume that broadband offers could also be used for bundled service where, for example, cable television, video on demand, voice, data, and other services are all offered over a single line. In truth, many of the applications that will best exploit the technological capabilities of broadband, while also capturing the imagination of consumers, have yet to be developed.

My amendment, which was adopted by the House Committee, requires the Bells to make

20 percent of their central [switching] offices capable of carrying high speed data within the first year after enactment. In the second year, that number would rise to 40 percent of the central offices, and in the third year, 70 percent. After five years after enactment, 100 percent of the offices must be able to provide high-speed Internet access. While this does not mean that 100 percent of the nation will be hooked up, it will make an enormous leap in availability.

The amendment is flexible in that it allows the Bell Operating Companies to provide service through alternative technologies other than Digital Subscriber Lines (DSL), which utilize copper and fiber telephone infrastructure, in meeting this requirement. If a company would like to provide wireless or satellite as an alternative to DSL, they can under my amendment. A failure to comply with the requirements could trigger substantial Federal Communications Commission (FCC) fines.

Finally, the amendment requires the affected companies to report annually to the FCC on progress in deployment of these services to the underserved communities.

I believe this is a reasonable approach, that simply holds the Bells accountable for what they have promised if they get relief.

The bill, with my amendment, was accepted by the Energy and Commerce Committee on May 9, 2001. The Judiciary Committee has also held a hearing on the bill and plans to consider it before it comes to the floor of the House for a vote later this summer.

The future of telecommunications is full of uncertainty as competing companies and industries try to anticipate technological advances, market conditions, consumer preferences, and even cultural and societal trends. Congress should work to ensure industry competition and to provide for service to all sectors and geographical locations of American society. I believe the bill, with my amendment, has the potential to reach this public policy goal.

STATE DEPARTMENT LETTER DESCRIBING RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION IN CHINA

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, as co-chairman of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, I want to share a letter I recently received from the State Department regarding religious persecution in China. The letter notes that the State Department currently estimates that, "roughly ten Catholic Bishops, scores of Catholic priests and house church leaders, 100-300 Tibetan Buddhists, hundreds (perhaps thousands) of Falun Gong adherents, and an unknown but possibly significant number of Muslims are in various forms of detention in China for the expression of their religious or spiritual beliefs." An illustrative list of religious prisoners in China notes that many have been tortured to death or are serving sentences of up to 21 years for simply practicing their religion.

I look forward to the day when the citizens of China will be free to worship the religion of their choosing and enjoy the basic human right of religious freedom.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC, May 31, 2001.

HON. FRANK WOLF,
Co-Chairman, Human Rights Caucus,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. WOLF: This is in response to your request of Acting Assistant Secretary Michael Parmly for additional information during his testimony before the Human Rights Caucus on May 15 on the status of religious freedom in China. We appreciate your concern about the recent deterioration of religious freedoms in China and the large number of persons held in China for the peaceful expression of their religious or spiritual views. We regret the delay in responding to your request for information, but we wanted to provide as comprehensive a list of these individuals as possible.

We currently estimate that roughly ten Catholic Bishops, scores of Catholic priests and house church leaders, 100-300 Tibetan Buddhists, hundreds (perhaps thousands) of Falun Gong adherents, and an unknown but possibly significant number of Muslims are in various forms of detention in China for the expression of their religious or spiritual beliefs. The forms of detention range from de facto house arrest to imprisonment in maximum security prisons. As you know, we regularly raise cases of religious prisoners with Chinese officials both here and in China. Our information about such cases comes from sources as diverse as religious dissidents, human rights NGOs, interested Americans and, most importantly, regular reporting from our embassies and consulates. Unfortunately, the opaqueness of the Chinese criminal justice system and absence of any central system that provides basic information on who is incarcerated and why makes it exceedingly difficult to determine the exact number of religious prisoners currently being held in China. We have, however, attached lists of cases of particular concern that we have raised with Chinese authorities or have included in our human rights and religious freedom reports.

We recognize the importance of compiling and maintaining a database of political and religious prisoners from additional sources such as Chinese newspapers and government notices and appreciate Congressional interest in providing us additional resources to fund such activities. At present, the Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor is discussing with the International Republican Institute a proposal which will be submitted through the National Endowment for Democracy. This proposal will be for a Human Rights and Democracy Fund grant specifically for the purpose of funding a U.S. NGO's efforts to develop and maintain a list of political and religious prisoners in China.

Such a database will be extremely valuable to the human rights work done not only by this bureau but also by other government agencies, the Congress, and NGOs. We welcome your interest in and support of this effort and look forward to cooperative efforts to develop and fund a comprehensive record of religious prisoners in China.

In the meantime, we hope the information in this letter and the attached lists are helpful to you. We would welcome any case information that you might have available that could improve the quality of this list.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL E. GUEST,
Acting Assistant Secretary,
Legislative Affairs.

Enclosure: Listing of Religious Prisoners in China.

ILLUSTRATIVE LIST OF RELIGIOUS PRISONERS
IN CHINA

Note: See comments in cover letter. The following illustrative list is compiled from

various sources, including information provided to us by reputable non-governmental organizations and from the State Department's annual reports on human rights and on religious freedom. We cannot vouch for its overall accuracy or completeness.

STATUS

MUSLIMS

Xinjiang Abduhelil Abdumijit, tortured to death in custody.
Turhong Awout, executed.
Rebiya Kadeer, serving 2nd year in prison.
Zulikar Memet, executed.
Nurahmet Niyazi, sentenced to death.
Dulkan Roid, executed.
Turhan Saïdalamoud, sentenced to death.
Alim Younous, executed.
Krubanjiang Yusseyin, sentenced to death.

PROTESTANTS (MISC.)

Qin Baocai, reeducation through labor sentence.
Zhao Dexin, serving 3rd year in prison.
Liu Haitao, tortured to death in custody.
Miao Hailin, serving 3rd year in prison.
Han Shaorong, serving 3rd year in prison.
Mu Sheng, reeducation through labor sentence.
Li Wen, serving 3rd year in prison.
Yang Xian, serving 3rd year in prison.
Chen Zide, serving 3rd year in prison.

EVANGELISTIC FELLOWSHIP

Hao Huaiping, serving reeducation sentence.
Jing Quinggang, serving reeducation sentence.
Shen Yiping, Reeducation; status unknown.

COLD WATER RELIGION

Liu Jiaguo, executed in October 1999.

FENGCHENG CHURCH GROUP

Zheng Shuquian; reeducation; status unknown.
David Zhang; reeducation; status unknown.

CATHOLICS

Bishops

Bishop Han Dingxiang; arrested in 1999, status unknown.
Bishop Shi Engxiang; arrested in October 1999.
Bishop Zeng Jingmu; rearrested on September 14, 2000.
Bishop Liu; house arrest in Zhejiang.
Bishop Jiang Mingyuan; arrested in August 2000.
Bishop Mattias Pei Shangde; arrested in early April 2001.
Bishop Xie Shiguang; arrested in 1999; status unknown.
Bishop Yang Shudao; arrested Feb. 2001; status unknown.
Bishop An Shuxin; remains detained in Hebei.
Bishop Li Side; house arrest.
Bishop Zang Weizhu; detained in Hebei.
Bishop Lin Xili; arrested Sept. 1999, status unknown.
Bishop Su Zhimin; whereabouts unknown.

Priests

Fr. Shao Amin; arrested September 5, 1999.
Fr. Wang Chengji; serving reeducation sentence.
Fr. Wang Chengzhi; arrested September 13, 1999.
Fr. Zhang Chunguang; arrested May 2000.
Fr. Lu Genjun; serving 1st year of 3 year sentence.
Fr. Xie Guolin; serving 1st year of 1 year sentence.
Fr. Li Jianbo; arrested April 19, 2000.
Fr. Wei Jingkun; arrested August 15, 1998.
Fr. Wang Qingyuan; serving 1st year of 1 year sentence.
Fr. Xiao Shixiang; arrested June 1996, status unknown.

Fr. Hu Tongxian; serving 3rd year of 3 year sentence.

Fr. Cui Xingang; arrested March 1996.

Fr. Guo Yibao; arrested April 4, 1999.

Fr. Feng Yunxiang; arrested April 13, 2001.

Fr. Ji Zengwei; arrested march 2000.

Fr. Wang Zhenhe; arrested April 1999.

Fr. Yin; serving 1st of 3 year sentence.

Fr. Kong Boucu; arrested October 1999.

Fr. Lin Rengui; arrested Dec. 1997, status unknown.

Fr. Fr. Pei Junchao, arrested Jan. 1999, status unknown.

Fr. Wang Chengji; arrested Dec. 1996, status unknown.

TIBETAN BUDDHISTS

Lamas

Gendun Choekyi Nyima; house arrest.

Pawo Rinpoche; house arrest.

Nuns

Ngawang Choekyi; serving 9th year of 13 year sentence.

Ngawang Choetzom; serving 9th year of 11 year sentence.

Chogdrub Drolma; serving 6th year of 11 year sentence.

Jamdrol; serving 6th year of 7 year sentence.

Namdrol Lhamo; serving 9th year of 12 year sentence.

Phuntsog Nyidrol; serving 12th year of 17 year sentence.

Yeshe Palmo; serving 4th year of 6 year sentence.

Ngawang Sangdrol; serving 9th year of 21 year sentence.

Jigme Yangchen; serving 11th year of 12 year sentence.

Monks

Ngawang Gyaltzen; serving 12th year of 17 year sentence.

Ngawang Jamtsul; serving 12th year of 15 year sentence.

Jamphel Jangchub; serving 12th year of 18 year sentence.

Ngawang Kalsang; serving 6th year of 8 year sentence.

Thubten Kalsang; sentence not reported.

Lobsang Khetsun; serving 5th year of 12 year sentence.

Phuntsok Legmon; sentenced to 3 years in prison.

Namdrol; sentenced to four years in prison.

Yeshe Ngawang; serving 12th year of 14 year sentence.

Ngawang Oezer; serving 12th year of 17 year sentence.

Ngawang Phuljung; serving 12th year of 19 year sentence.

Lobsang Phuntsog; serving 6th year of 12 year sentence.

Sonam Phuntsok; arrested in October 1999.

Phuntsog Rigchog; serving 7th year of 10 year sentence.

Lobsang Sherab; serving 5th year of 16 year sentence.

Sonam Rinchen; serving 15 year sentence.

Ngawang Sungrab; serving 9th year of 13 year sentence.

Jampa Tenkyong; serving 10th year of 15 year sentence.

Ngawang Tensang; serving 10th year of 15 year sentence.

Lobsang Thubten; serving 7th year of 15 year sentence.

Agya Tsering; arrested in October 1999.

Trinley Tsondu; serving 5th year of 8 year sentence.

Tenpa Wangdrag; serving 13th year of 14 year sentence.

HONORING CINDY CALERICH FOR HER DEDICATION AND HARD WORK

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to ask Congress to pay tribute to one of Colorado's leading citizens. Earlier this year 41-year-old Cindy Calerich of Monte Vista passed away unexpectedly. Throughout her life, Cindy donated her time to help others. For that she was named its "Hero" for the past year, an award given as an honorary memorial tribute by the San Luis Valley Red Cross.

A Colorado native, Cindy moved to the San Luis Valley 5 years ago. For the last two and a half years she volunteered at the San Luis Valley Red Cross. She spent most of her time on call for disaster services and assisted families in the San Luis Valley during emergency situations. Several times a week, coupled with her on call status, she went into the Red Cross office and helped answer phones and entered computer data.

During the Sand Dunes fire, Cindy worked three days straight without any sleep to assist in feeding and caring for the families who were relocated, and the firefighters involved in the disaster. Cindy also volunteered for the Alamosa Search and Rescue Service. According to the Red Cross, Cindy will always be remembered as "someone who was always on call and willing to help."

Cindy donated a great deal of her time to the Red Cross to help those in need, while managing to raise her son Ben. Mr. Speaker, Cindy is a role model to her friends and family for all that she has done for those families that needed a helping hand. Family, friends, co-workers and the community will miss her. Cindy touched many lives and for that Congress should take a moment to remember her and thank her for her helping hand.

7 DAYS IN JUNE

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to send a simple message: employer interference with workers' choices is unacceptable. When working people join together to form unions with the hope of improving their standard of living, their community and their jobs, harassment, coercion, firings and other attempts by employers to block the efforts of workers will not be tolerated.

This message is at the heart of the AFL-CIO's "7 Days in June" campaign. "7 Days in June" is a week long series of activities around the country sponsored by the AFL-CIO to shine the spotlight on how hard it is for people to form legal unions in the United States. I am pleased to participate in today's special order and to be a part of this campaign. And I thank my Colleague, Mr. BONIOR for organizing this event today.

Whenever I hear the term union-busting, I think back to my high school history book, with

black and white pictures of men with fedoras and billy clubs hopping out of old trucks and rushing picket lines to break up strikes in the 1920s and 30s. But the sad reality is that union busting is not relegated to the history books. It is a practice that is alive and well.

Today, the men in fedoras have been replaced with lawyers in Armani suits. The billy clubs have been replaced with lawsuits, company-sponsored sham-unions, and other tactics intended to harass or intimidate employees. These new tactics may not be as brazen as they once were, but they are just as effective in squelching the rights of workers to organize.

I had the unfortunate opportunity to see these new tactics first hand earlier this year. On March 5, 2001, I was joined by 63 of my colleagues in the House of Representatives in sending a letter to the Chairman and CEO of Delta Airlines, Leo Mullen, a copy of which I will submit to the record. In this letter we simply asked him to allow the flight attendants at Delta to decide for themselves whether to support union representation.

The genesis of this letter was a meeting I had with constituents from Kew Gardens, New York, who are flight attendants at Delta. They told me of the difficulties that they were having in organizing at Delta due to interference by supervisors and other employees who opposed the union's efforts. When I heard their stories, I offered to send a letter to Delta's CEO, asking him to sign the Association of Flight Attendants' "Appeal for Fairness," a six-point pact aimed at creating an atmosphere that will allow for a free and positive discussion, void of intimidation, threats and harassment.

When word got out that I was sending this letter, I was overwhelmed by the amount of letters, e-mails, phone calls and faxes that my office received. From all over the country, flight attendants at Delta were contacting me to let me know of their own personal stories of intimidation, harassment and interference by supervisors and other employees at Delta Airlines who were opposed to the union's organizing efforts.

The stories I heard were textbook cases of modern union-busting activities. Flight attendants in Boston who told me of a supervisor's effort to deny them meeting space in the airport. The supervisor even attempted to get them thrown out of the food court when he saw AFA literature on a table where three activists happened to be sitting. I also heard from flight attendants in Orlando whose supervisors were keeping lists of union supporters. And I hear from flight attendants in New York who were told that they weren't allowed in their own crew lounge if they were going to distribute AFA literature.

Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, the experiences of the flight attendants at Delta are not isolated incidents. All over the country there are companies that foster such an anti-union corporate culture that encourages these familiar union busting activities. I believe that it is our responsibility as Members of Congress to stand-up and lend our voices in criticizing this behavior, which is why I am participating in this "7 Days in June" special order tonight.

Working men and women who undertake union organizing drives do so for many different reasons. But at the heart of every organizing drive is a desire to improve their lives and the lives of their co-workers. Employer

tactics that block the freedom to choose a voice at work are wrong. We should begin to change the way employers behave by passing laws that provide for stiff punishments for such acts and allow these workers the chance to express their views without the fear of company reprisals.

In closing I want to commend the work of the flight attendants at Delta Airlines and the Association of Flight Attendants who are trying to improve their standard of living, their community and their jobs and wish them luck in their continuing efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD a letter to the chairman and CEO of Delta Air Lines by me and several of my colleagues.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, March 5, 2001.

LEO F. MULLIN,
Chairman and CEO, Delta Air Lines,
Atlanta, GA.

DEAR MR. MULLIN: It has come to our attention that the Delta Air Lines flight attendants are attempting to form a union. We write to urge you to allow the flight attendants at Delta Air Lines to decide for themselves whether to support union representation.

For nearly 75 years the policy of this country, as expressed in our national labor laws, has been to encourage employees to choose whether to join a union without interference or coercion by their employer. Collective bargaining is the time-honored method for resolving issues between management and employees in the American workplace. Workers have a right to a voice on the issues that affect their careers and their working conditions.

The Association of Flight Attendants' six-point pack, "Appeal for Fairness," is well-designed to ensure that both the union and management conduct themselves fairly. It not only calls on both management and the union to refrain from coercive tactics but also provides for balanced meetings in which both points of view can be expressed openly. And, in the end, it calls for both management and the union to respect the employees' final choice.

We urge you to approach this, and every union organizing drive, in a fair and balanced manner. We encourage you to sign the "Appeal for Fairness" on behalf of Delta management, to demonstrate to the Delta flight attendants that the company is committed to respecting their rights under the law and will honor their decision regarding whether to join a union.

Sincerely,

Anthony Weiner, William O. Lipinski,
John E. Sweeney, David E. Bonior,
Jerry F. Costello, Robert A. Borski,
Jerrold Nadler, Corrine Brown, Eddie
Bernice Johnson, Juanita Millender-
McDonald, Nick J. Rahall II, Peter A.
DeFazio, Robert Menendez, Bob Filner,
Frank Mascara, Earl Blumenauer.

Bill Pascrell Jr., Tim Holden, Steve
Israel, Jose E. Serrano, Carolyn McCar-
thy, Gregory W. Meeks, James P.
McGovern, Shelley Berkley, Nita M.
Lowey, Nydia M. Velazquez, Maurice D.
Hinchey, Joe Baca, Jay Inseele, Carolyn
B. Maloney, Robert Wexler, Cynthia A.
McKinney, Carrie P. Meek, Rush D.
Holt, Earl F. Hilliard, Lucille Roybal-
Allard, Martin Frost, Sam Farr, Wil-
liam J. Coyne, Ron Kind.

Patsy T. Mink, Portney Pete Stark,
Mike Thompson, Tom Sawyer, Mike
Ross, Dennis Moore, John J. LaFalce,
Barney Frank, Dennis J. Kucinich, Ed
Pastor, David Wu, Steven R. Rothman,
Nancy Pelosi, William Lacy Clay, Mel-

vin L. Watt, John B. Larson, Neil Aber-
crombie, Julia Carson, Hilda L. Solis,
Carolyn C. Kilpatrick, Michael E.
Capuano, Rod R. Blagojevich, Jim
Matheson, Karen L. Thurman.

MOTOR CARRIER FUEL COST
EQUITY ACT OF 2001

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the bi-partisan "Motor Carrier Fuel Cost Equity Act of 2001" with my colleagues Mr. BLUNT of Missouri, Mr. MOLLOHAN of West Virginia, Mr. NEY of Ohio, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. STRICKLAND of Ohio, Mr. LIPINSKI of Illinois and Ms. BROWN of Florida.

In the 106th Congress, the House passed this bill by suspension of the rules on October 10, 2000 because Members recognized the hardship small business truckers suffer when they must pay for price spikes in the cost of diesel fuel. However, the bill was received in the Senate the next day and no further action was taken. Today, my colleagues and I re-introduce this bill with the hope that it will be enacted into law. Our goal is to ease the financial burden on small business truckers who need relief from diesel fuel price spikes.

Small business truckers are the Owner-Operators, approximately 350,000 men and women throughout the United States who own, operate and maintain their own 18-wheelers for their livelihood. They comprise about 67 percent of our nation's trucking force. They pay for their own diesel fuel, taxes, highway tolls and permits. These men and women do not work for the large trucking companies which negotiate long term fuel contracts and can defray part of the cost of skyrocketing fuel prices. Unlike the large trucking companies, the Owner-Operators are at the mercy of diesel fuel price spikes. They simply do not have the market clout to negotiate fuel contracts.

In the last 18 months, the price of diesel fuel has risen more than fifty cents a gallon over the 1999 levels. While the price spikes have hurt the entire trucking industry, no one is hurt like the little guy. Fuel is the single biggest operating cost of a small business trucker and accounts for up to one-third of their budget. According to an analyst with A.G. Edwards, almost 200,000 trucks have been repossessed since January of 2000 because small business truckers could not make ends meet.

In the third quarter of 2000 over 1,350 companies owning five trucks or less went bankrupt. This is nearly double the record set in the previous quarter. The price of diesel fuel prices was the primary factor in causing these bankruptcies. Just-in-time deliveries are being threatened, fewer transportation alternatives for shippers are available and consumers could face a rise in the price of various goods and commodities resulting in a national economic downturn.

The "Motor Carrier Fuel Cost Equity Act of 2001" gives a safety net of relief to owner-operators, shippers and consumers by ensuring that a fuel surcharge will be assessed at times of diesel fuel price spikes. Under terms of a surcharge, a shipper pays to the trucking companies the difference between what is deemed

to be a baseline cost of diesel fuel and the sudden, dramatic increases in the cost of that fuel. The legislation provides that the fuel surcharge must be itemized on the freight bill or invoice to trucking customers. The fuel surcharge arrangement will be enforced solely by the parties themselves through private action. The federal government will have no regulatory or enforcement authority.

The bill will not abrogate existing fuel surcharge arrangements. Customers who already pay a fuel surcharge will not be affected by this legislation. Nothing in the bill will prevent parties in the future from establishing a fuel surcharge agreement that is different from this pending legislation. All past, current and future privately negotiated fuel surcharge agreements are fully respected.

In calculating a diesel fuel surcharge, pricing will be based on the National Average Diesel Fuel Index which is published by the Energy Information Administration of the United States Department of Energy. Whenever fuel costs return to normal levels, the surcharge will no longer be applied.

America watched the economies of Britain and France thrown into chaos on the issue of diesel fuel prices. A lack of relief from diesel fuel prices is a formula for disaster in the making, considering the large number of bankruptcies we have recently witnessed in the United States.

The essential feature of the Motor Carrier Fuel Cost Equity Act of 2001 is that it provides a private right of action as a means to ensure that the entity which actually pays for the fuel receives the surcharge. No Federal Government enforcement. No cost to the taxpayers. Just simply equity and fairness.

High diesel fuel prices have also had a devastating effect on our nation's port drivers. Their poor working conditions have come to the attention of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, which is involved in an ongoing effort to organize port truck drivers and to bring national attention to their plight.

It is time that we go to bat for the little guy, the small businessperson, and for the integrity of our economy by enacting the Motor Carrier Fuel Cost Equity Act of 2001.

THE HONORABLE MAERSK
MOLLER, A MARITIME VISIONARY

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a most extraordinary maritime leader, Mr. Maersk Mc-Kinney Moller, a true visionary of the international shipping community and owner of the A.P. Moller Group. Mr. Moller's company, Maersk-Sealand, is a global transportation provider whose fleet of ships make it the world's largest shipping company. I am also very pleased to note that Maersk Moller's ships fly the American flag and generate much needed jobs for U.S. maritime labor. In fact, Maersk-Sealand directly generates employment for approximately 9000 people in its United States shipping business and it also serves more than 30,000 U.S. based companies engaged in international trade.

Maersk is truly a remarkable company, Mr. Speaker, and Maersk Mc-Kinney Moller is an

exceptional person. Mr. Moller's family history is rooted in the United States. His mother was an American, born in Kansas City. During the time spent in this country during World War II, Mr. Moller developed a keen appreciation of the many sacrifices Americans made during that great struggle. Many of the ships in the A.P. Moller fleet were used by the United States and our allies. Following World War II, Maersk Moller, his father, and many other people worked hard to rebuild their civilian shipping enterprise into the world-class company it is today.

I would like to cite a few of the significant Maersk milestones.

The company's United States headquarters was founded in 1943.

Today Maersk has 10 United States corporate entities dedicated to ship management, terminal operations, trucking, rail transportation, and third party logistics and, as mentioned, it generates employment for approximately 9000 Americans.

In 1947, a prominent affiliate, Maersk Line, Limited, was chartered in Delaware.

Maersk Line, Limited is the largest U.S.-flag carrier serving the foreign trades of the United States.

53 vessels documented under the U.S.-flag are owned, operated or chartered by Maersk Line, Limited.

29 of these ships are dedicated to service for the U.S. government.

Maersk Line, Limited has become a critical partner in the preposition ship program for the Marine Corps and U.S. Army.

Maersk Line, Limited ships were the first vessels to arrive in Desert Storm and off-load critically needed Marine Corps supplies and equipment.

Space on Maersk commercial ships was provided free of charge to the U.S. government so the government could load much needed supplies for our troops during the sustainment phase of the operation.

Mr. Speaker, during a recent discussion with Mr. Maersk Moller, I was impressed with his deep desire to maintain a competitive U.S.-flag presence in the international trade. Mr. Moller is a true believer in United States flag shipping and our maritime interests are the better for his support of a U.S.-flag fleet.

I believe that we need new initiatives to stimulate an international U.S.-flag presence. A tax-based methodology, for instance, has been used in other countries to encourage growth in their merchant fleets; we should have similar incentives for American workers to attract talented people to this important industrial base.

I am working on legislation to provide such incentives for our U.S.-flag operations, under the Maritime Security Program. Companies like Maersk are very willing to invest in U.S.-flag shipping and make a contribution to the national security interests of the United States. We must give them encouragement to do so.

I congratulate Mr. Maersk Mc-Kinney Moller on his many personal accomplishments, his longstanding desire to maintain a U.S.-flag presence, and the numerous contributions he has made to foster trade in the foreign maritime commerce of the United States.

HONORING WORLD WAR II
VETERAN ALFORD LEE GRAY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to honor World War II veteran Alford Lee Gray of Olathe, Colorado. Alford endured the terrors of the War, including the Battle of Leyte, in order to help ensure a victory on the side of justice. While mere words cannot express Alford's heroism, I am proud to have this opportunity to honor the valor he exhibited during the war.

Even before World War II, Alford was well aware that sacrifice and persistence are sometimes needed for survival. A witness of the Depression, Alford also discovered the necessity of teamwork. He says, "You relied on your neighbor and he relied on you. Without knowing it, I think we took that feeling into the war with us," said Alford in a article from the Montrose Daily Press. Indeed, these lessons seem to have provided him with the means not only to survive, but also to help ensure an American victory. Alford demonstrated remarkable heroism when it was most needed of him.

Before the Battle of Leyte, Japanese Vice Admiral Takeo Kurita expected to stamp out the American resistance, and he armed himself with weapons to complete that feat. Kurita's 18-inch guns, Japanese Zeros, and incendiary bombs destroyed several of American Admiral William F. Halsey's ships, including the U.S.S. Kitkun Bay, on which Alford resided. Then, according to Alford, "A Kamikaze came out of nowhere and exploded on deck," resulting in such terrible damage that the men were given permission to abandon ship. Even in this precarious state, however, Alford and others followed the captain's commands to extinguish the fires and somehow got the ship back to Pearl Harbor. "After the Battle of Leyte, I counted 270 holes punched through the side of our ship. Some of the shells had gone completely through the Kitkun Bay. I don't know why we were still floating after that fight," said Alford.

In spite of the severe damage to Halsey's ships, American forces destroyed ten Japanese cruisers, four carriers, three battleships, and nine destroyers. Thanks to the teamwork and courage of men like Alford, what the Japanese expected to be an easy victory turned into a cruel defeat. In fact, the Japanese would never recover from this crucial defeat.

In recognition of his valor, Alford Gray has been honored with a Good Conduct Medal, an Asiatic Pacific Ribbon with five stars, a World War II Victory Medal, a Philippine Liberation Medal, and a Presidential Citation. Today, Mr. Speaker, I ask Congress to also recognize and honor Alford Lee Gray for his legendary bravery and sacrifice. He is a great American who plainly deserves the thanks and esteem of this body.

TRIBUTE TO COURTNEY JOHNSON,
ELIZABETH JACKSON AND ERIK
GREB

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize three of New York's outstanding young students, Courtney Johnson, Elizabeth Jackson, and Erik Greb. Tomorrow, on June 14th, the women of Girl Scout Troop 1909, Service Unit 19 will recognize Courtney and Elizabeth for receiving their gold awards, and on June 15th, Troop 284 will recognize Erik on his Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

Since the beginning of last century, the Girl and Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of young men and women each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards, as their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Courtney, Elizabeth, and Erik, and bring the attention of Congress to these successful young men and women on their day of recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, for Roll Call Vote No. 161, on final passage of H. Con. Res. 145, condemning the recent order by the Taliban regime of Afghanistan to require Hindus in Afghanistan to wear symbols identifying them as Hindu, I was unable to be present and voting in the Chamber as I was on my way to Connecticut to attend funeral services for Mrs. Barbara L. Bailey, the mother of my predecessor, former Congresswoman Barbara B. Kennelly. Had I been present and voting in the Chamber, I would have joined my colleagues in voting in favor of condemning the Taliban for their atrocious policies.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE
HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE
HONORABLE JOHN JOSEPH
MOAKLEY, A REPRESENTATIVE
FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2001

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 31st a vigil service honoring our friend and colleague JOE MOAKLEY was held at the Massachusetts Statehouse in Boston.

During the service, Father J. Donald Monan and Senator EDWARD M. KENNEDY both gave moving tributes to JOE. I'd ask that both sets of remarks be included at an appropriate place in the RECORD.

VIGIL SERVICE IN HONOR OF JOHN JOSEPH
MOAKLEY, 1927-2001

STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, MAY
31, 2001

(Homily by J. Donald Monan, S.J.)

"Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."

Both here in Boston and in the tiny Central American country of El Salvador, this is the final week of the Easter Season, the season when Christ's death is still fresh in our memories, but when we celebrate in faith our confidence in newly-risen life. In the three short days since Memorial Day, the word of Joe's passing has kindled not only the brilliance of the City's writers and its cameramen; it touched their hearts as well. Every step along the route of his public career, from the streets of South Boston to the halls of Washington, has been faithfully, even lovingly portrayed.

Those portraits I will not attempt to retrace this evening. I believe that there is one reason why Congressman Moakley suggested that I have the privilege of speaking this evening. Joe frequently and publicly said that of all the accomplishments that were his in over forty years of public service, his proudest accomplishment was in bringing to light the truth about the atrocious murders of six Jesuit priest-educators and their housekeepers at the University of Central America in El Salvador. It was that thin but sharp ray of light that was the beginning of the return of peace and justice to that troubled land.

As one who stood on the ground in El Salvador during Joe's work there, I would like to recreate, as much as I can ten years later, the circumstances that made what he did so important to the world and so proud an accomplishment to Joe. Why did a gruesome murder three thousand miles away stir Joe Moakley to what he considered his greatest accomplishment?

The persons murdered were Jesuit priests and two of their housekeepers. People the world over, if they know of the existence of Jesuits, think of us as educators. But Jesuit education, especially at the University of Central America, has never pursued knowledge merely for its own sake, but always as a cultural force to bring about greater equality among people, as an instrument to improve the condition of the human family, to ease the oppression that comes from poverty, at times, even the oppression of political leaders who use well-trained armies to enforce their oppression.

Such was the case in El Salvador in the decade of the '80s. As Ignatio Ellacuria, the

murdered Jesuit President of the University of Central America expressed it: "The reality of El Salvador, the reality of the Third World, that is, the reality of most of this world—is fundamentally characterized by the—predominance of falsehood over truth, injustice over justice, oppression over freedom, poverty over abundance, in sum, of evil over good—that is the reality with which we live—and we ask ourselves what to do about it in a university way. We answer—: We must transform it, do all we can to ensure that—freedom (predominates) over oppression, justice over injustice, truth over falsehood, and love over hatred. If a university does not decide to make this commitment, we do not understand what validity it has as a university. Much less as a Christian-inspired university."

It was because of this message successfully being communicated that at one o'clock in the morning of November 16, 1989, a battalion of troops entered the campus of the Jesuit University in El Salvador, roused the Jesuit President and five of his brother professors from their sleep, forced them onto a little plot of grassy land behind their simple residence, and then dispatched them on the spot. They then proceeded to shoot up the surrounding buildings with machine guns to make the murders look as though they were perpetrated by guerrilla forces.

It all appears so clear-cut and transparent today. But when it happened, the Military High Command issued a statement declaring that it had been guerrillas that were responsible for the murders. The American Embassy, whose government had trained here in the States some of the very trigger men who committed those murders, pointed the finger of blame not at the military, but at the guerrillas.

In January of 1990, the Speaker of the House appointed Congressman Joe Moakley to an extraordinary, select committee to investigate the crimes in El Salvador. In some ways, that appointment changed Joe Moakley's life forever. But for all who knew him best, from the Speaker who appointed him to the former Speaker who encouraged him, that appointment simply tapped into the rich veins of faith and determination and courage, veins of optimistic hope and of care for those most in need that had been his since childhood.

Faith was not something that Joe wore on his sleeve or that made people uncomfortable, yet it was a perspective that he brought to everything he did in public and private life. It was a lifelong perspective on himself and on the people around him. In that perspective, he saw the inviolable dignity of every human person and the irresistible call of those in need; faith gave a new dimension to his sense of justice and of fairness; it made him unswerving when the powerful served themselves at the expense of the weak. It was this faith and his courage and sense of justice Joe Moakley brought to El Salvador.

The measure of Joe Moakley's faith and of his courage in carrying out his charge is the measure of the forces that opposed him—not a few ruthless individuals, but the US-trained military establishment of a sovereign nation that could enforce silence on witnesses as effectively as it had committed murder. Perhaps most difficult of all, Joe also faced the embarrassing efforts of some of his own governmental colleagues to set false trails away from the guilty and to withhold keys to the truth that they themselves held.

There is no doubt but that the authoritative voice of one man and his courage to use it ultimately broke the dam of silence and kindled hope that peace and justice could again be realities. Within a year of his

appointment, criminal investigations in El Salvador were raised to the level of full trials. For the first time in history, two military officers were convicted for their part in the crime. Within another year, peace accords were signed in the U.N. between the government and its warring opponents. And although those suspected of ultimately ordering the murders were never tried, and men who confessed to killing the University Jesuits were exonerated for acting under orders, the system of governmentally-organized oppression and murder had been broken. Thanks to Joe, the truth had come to light; the nation itself has begun to taste the first fruits of peace. And in the light of that truth and that peace, a whole people have realistically begun to live again.

What made this story the greatest accomplishment of Joe's public life? It was its straight-line continuity with what Joe had done all his life. It simply played out on a world stage Joe's lifelong faith in the inviolable dignity of every human being, his unique sense of justice and fairness and the unswerving courage he had always shown on behalf of those who were weak and in need. That was what Joe had been for forty years in South Boston and in the halls of Congress, and most of all, it was what he had believed from the first time he heard the Gospel message in his Parish Church, "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."

REMARKS OF SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY VIGIL SERVICE FOR CONGRESSMAN JOE MOAKLEY, STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MAY 31, 2001

It's an honor to be here with all of you this evening to pay tribute to our dear friend Joe Moakley, a remarkable Congressman, an outstanding leader and one of the best friends Massachusetts ever had.

Joe tried so hard in recent months to prepare us for this moment, but none of us was ready for this loss. It was simply too hard to contemplate. But as Shakespeare wrote, our "cause of sorrow must not be measured by his worth, for then it hath no end." And Joe's worth, his decency, his legacy truly do have no end.

Joe Moakley's life was a life of service to his country and to his community, and he was one of the most beloved political leaders of our time. He had a zest for life and a love of Congress not for the glory it might bring to him, but for the good he could do for the people.

All of us who served with Joe admired his strength, his wisdom, his dedication to public service, and his incredible common touch that inspired the people he served so well and made them love him so deeply in return. The Irish poet could have been talking about Joe when he said that there were no strangers, only friends he didn't met.

Joe was a patriot in the truest sense of the word. He joined the Navy at 15 to serve his country in World War II, and he served honorably and well.

He returned home and pursued higher education under the G.I. Bill, eventually earning a law degree. And as it should be in this great land, Joe Moakley's future was limitless—from the Boston City Council to the Massachusetts Legislature to the halls of Congress, where he earned the respect and admiration of colleagues on both sides of the aisle. Joe worked long and hard and well, and always in the service of the people.

And what a beautiful team Joe and his wife Evelyn made. We loved them both so much, and now, they are together again.

We were never surprised to hear that Joe was a boxer in college, because in all the years we worked with him in Congress, he

was always fighting for the underdog, constantly helping those who needed help the most, battling skillfully and tirelessly for better jobs, better education, better health care, better lives and better opportunities for the people he so proudly served. How fitting that it was our Joe Moakley who shined the light of truth and justice on the atrocities in El Salvador and changed our national policy to protect human rights and promote democracy in that country. Yes, Joe's life was a life of constant service.

When I think of all Joe has done for Boston and Massachusetts, I recall how brilliantly he fought for support to build the South Boston Piers Transitway, to clean up Boston Harbor, to modernize the Port of Boston, to preserve so many Massachusetts historic sites—the Old State House, the Old South Meeting house, the USS Constitution, Dorchester Heights, our world-renowned marketplace, Faneuil Hall—and, of course, the new federal courthouse that now proudly bears his name. Because of Joe Moakley's leadership in protecting and preserving and creating these extraordinary aspects of our heritage, they will always be part of our state's history and our nation's history too—and so will Joe.

Even in recent months, even in recent days, even while Joe struggled so bravely with the illness that finally took his life, he continued to do the work of the people he loved so dearly.

And at a stage when others might be winding down or turning inward, Joe continued to turn outward, establishing a charitable foundation to make the dream of education a reality for young people. The G.I. Bill had given Joe a chance to reach for the stars, and Joe's commitment, through his foundation, will give countless young people a chance to reach for the stars too. Joe never forgot where he came from, and he never stopped working to serve the people he loved so much.

He was elected to the Massachusetts House in 1952—the same year that a young Congressman named John F. Kennedy was first elected to the Senate. And now, the Moakley Public Speaking Institute—to be launched this summer at the Kennedy Library to teach public speaking skills and public service to local low-income high school students—will forever link Joe Moakley to President Kennedy.

As my brother said so eloquently on the eve of his inauguration, in his farewell address here to the State Legislature:

“When at some future date the high court of history sits in judgment on each of us, our success or failure will be measured by the answers to four questions:

- Were we truly men of courage?
- Were we truly men of judgment?
- Were we truly men of integrity?
- Were we truly men of dedication?

Measured by those four high standards, Joe Moakley was “four for four”—he batted a thousand in the annals of public life.

Service to his nation. Service to his State. Service to his District. Service to his people. Service. Service. Service.

It's no wonder that God chose to call him home on Memorial Day—the national day of honor for those who served the nation so well. We miss you, Joe, and we always will.

Near the end of Pilgrim's Progress, there is a passage that tells of the death of Valiant, and it could well have been written about Joe Moakley:

“Then, he said, I am going to my Father's; and though with great difficulty I am got hither, yet now I do not regret me of all the troubles I have been at to arrive where I am. My sword I give to him that shall succeed me in my pilgrimage, and my courage and skill to him that can get it. My marks and scars I carry with me, to be a witness for me, that I have fought his battle who now will be my rewarder.

“When the day that must go hence was come, many accompanied him to the river-side, into which as he went he said, ‘Death, where is thy sting?’ and as he went down deeper, he said, ‘Grave, where is thy victory?’ So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side.

HONORING “THE GRAMMY MAN”,
JOHN BILLINGS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to stand before you today and pay tribute to the

shinning star of the Western Slope of Colorado. That's where John Billings the Grammy Man resides. He is only the second man ever to create, by hand, each gold gramophone statue that is presented at the GRAMMYS.

Every year since 1958, that gold gramophone has been handed to some of the biggest recording stars in the industry. John is the only person allowed by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences to make what is arguably the industry's highest honor—the Grammy statuette. When John started in 1977, there were only 51 categories, today there are 100. John spends five months a year casting about 300 awards. “Its kind of unique that in just 43 years, two of us have made them,” John said. “It's a dying art and a lost craft, and somebody's got to keep it alive.”

John grew up in Van Nuys, California during the 1960's, where he used to hang around the garage workshop of his neighbor Bob Graves, the original maker of the Grammy statuette. After Bob began to lose his eyesight making the creation of the statues difficult, he asked John if he would like to become the next craftsman. He would spend the next 7 years learning the craft. “One of the last things he said to me was ‘Don't ever let anyone get those Grammys away from you.’” When John cannot make the award any longer, he will pass the tradition to his son.

For the last 25 years John has perfected its design. “I have sat in the audience for so many years, and I sit there and cry. To see something that I have made to honor this person, and they're standing there holding it up in the air like it's an Olympic medal. There is really a lot of pride in that, and I think that's what keeps me going.”

Mr. Speaker, the statue is a labor of love and a matter of pride for John. Los Angeles may be the real home of the Grammy Awards, but Ridgeway, Colorado is much bigger in the eyes of the music industry. He is truly one of a kind.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 14, 2001 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 15

9:30 a.m.
 Governmental Affairs
 Investigations Subcommittee
 To continue hearings to examine the nature and scope of cross border fraud, focusing on the state of binational U.S.-Canadian law enforcement coordination and cooperation and what steps can be taken to fight such crime in the future.
 SD-342

JUNE 19

9:30 a.m.
 Energy and Natural Resources
 To hold hearings on S. 764, to direct the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to impose just and reasonable load-differentiated demand rates or cost-of-service based rates on sales by public utilities of electric energy at wholesale in the western energy mar-

ket; and S. 597, to provide for a comprehensive and balanced national energy policy.
 SD-366

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 To hold hearings to examine local telecommunication competition issues.
 SR-253

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
 Housing and Transportation Subcommittee
 To hold oversight hearings to examine the implementation of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997.
 SD-538

10 a.m.
 Indian Affairs
 To hold oversight hearings to receive the goals and priorities of the member tribes of the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes/Inter-tribal Bison Cooperative for the 107th Congress.
 Room to be announced

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
 Aging Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine geriatrics, focusing on meeting the needs of our most vulnerable seniors in the 21st century.
 SD-430

2:30 p.m.
 Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
 International Trade and Finance Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for the United States Export-Import Bank.
 SD-538

JUNE 20

9:30 a.m.
 Governmental Affairs
 To hold hearings to examine the role of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission associated with the restructuring of energy industries.
 SD-342

10 a.m.
 Appropriations
 VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
 SD-138

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
 To hold hearings to examine the condition of the United States banking system.
 SD-538

Foreign Relations
 To hold hearings to examine United States security interests in Europe.
 SD-419

JUNE 21

9:30 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine issues regarding blood cancer.
 SD-124

10 a.m.
 Indian Affairs
 To hold oversight hearings to examine Native American Program initiatives.
 SR-485

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 To hold hearings to examine international trade issues.
 SR-253

2:30 p.m.
 Governmental Affairs
 To hold hearings on the nomination of Kay Coles James, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management; and the nomination of Othoneil Armendariz, of Texas, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority.
 SD-342

JUNE 26

10:30 a.m.
 Indian Affairs
 To hold oversight hearings to receive the goals and priorities of the Great Plains Tribes for the 107th Congress.
 SR-485

JUNE 27

10 a.m.
 Judiciary
 To hold hearings to examine the protection of the innocent, focusing on competent counsel in death penalty cases.
 SD-226