Congressional Conversations on Race program and its Congressional Civil Rights Pilgrimages to Alabama. We are indebted to Mrs. Robertson for being such an exceptional teacher and mentor. It is with great pleasure and appreciation that we wish her a very happy 100th birthday on January 11, 2002.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT LAWRENCE COUGHLIN, JR.

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I note the death of a former colleague and a great Pennsylvanian, Mr. Robert Lawrence Coughlin, Jr., who passed away last month.

Larry grew up on his father's farm near Scranton, Pennsylvania. But he was no farmhand. Making the most of his opportunities, Larry graduated from the Hotchkiss School in Connecticut in 1946, he received an Economics degree from Yale in 1950, a Masters degree in Business Administration from Harvard, and a law degree from Temple University's law school in 1958. While at Temple, Larry attended classes at night, and was a foreman on a steel assembly line during the day.

This ''steely'' resolve served him well throughout his career. As a Marine, Larry fought in the Korean War, and was aide-de-camp to Lt. General Lewis B. ''Chesty'' Puller. When he was elected to Congress, he was Chairman of the Capitol Hill Marines, which represented Members who had been in the Marine Corps.

Larry was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1968. He came from a family that had some experience in the field of public service as his uncle, Clarence Coughlin, was a former Republican Representative. Representing a wealthy suburb of Philadelphia from 1969 to 1993, Larry was so popular personally and politically, that he was almost always easily elected. It wasn't until after he retired that Democrats were able to field significant competitors for that seat.

A tall and authoritative man, Larry always had a way with people. With his military background and penchant for bow ties, Larry came across—rightfully so—as a gentleman and a scholar. While he briefly served on the House Judiciary Committee, he spent most of his career on the Appropriations Committee. Although I never had the opportunity to directly work with him on the Judiciary Committee, I did work with him on several issues. The nation last a good legislator when Larry resigned, and on November 30, the world lost a good man.

It is with a heavy heart that I say good-bye to Larry. My wife Cheryl and I would like to express our condolences to his wife Susan, and the entire family, in this time of sorrow and sadness. They will be in our prayers.

HONORING R. LAWRENCE COUGHLIN, JR.

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join in this special order honoring our former colleague, R. Lawrence Coughlin. I want to thank Mr. GEKAS for organizing this special order.

Larry Coughlin represented a suburban Philadelphia district in the House of Representatives for 24 years. He was a gracious gentleman who represented his constituents with integrity and wisdom.

Mr. Coughlin had a remarkable background. Raised on a farm in Pennsylvania, he earned a degree in economics from Yale and an MBA from Harvard. He subsequently attended night school at Temple University to get his law degree while working during the day as a foreman in a steel plant. His academic accomplishments speak to his energy and ability.

Mr. Coughlin was also a dedicated public servant. He served in the Marines in Korea during the Korean War as a aide-de-camp to legendary Marine Lt. General Lewis B. ''Chesty'' Puller. He served ably in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and Senate before running for—and winning—a seat in Congress in 1968.

During his 12 terms in Congress, Representative Coughlin served on the House Judiciary Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control. He was particularly active in working to increase federal housing and transportation assistance to our nation's cities. Mr. Coughlin understood that even affluent suburbs like the ones he represented depend upon central cities for their continued economic well-being. Our nation is healthier and more prosperous as a result of his service in Congress.

Larry Coughlin was always a quiet, upbeat, courteous man. It was an honor and a pleasure to serve in the House of Representatives with him. I join my colleagues in mourning his passing.

HONORING RACHEL WALSHE FOR RECEIVING A RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Rachel Walshe, who hails from my hometown of Warwick, Rhode Island, and is the first woman from a New England public university to receive a Rhodes Scholarship.

Rachel was selected for the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship from among 925 applicants from across the nation for her leadership potential, academic achievement, and personal integrity. Throughout her 23 years, Rachel has consistently demonstrated all of these characteristics. Graduating last year from the University of Rhode Island with highest honors, she focused on the philosophy of religions, a major she crafted to explore her interest in understanding human motivation. While a student at the University of Rhode Island, she fought to affect public policy, founding the URI Chapter of the Campaign to End the Death Penalty, volunteering with America Reads and mentoring children in Head Start. In her spare time she mastered equestrian arts and Tai Kwan Do kickboxing.

At Oxford, Rachel will study English and theater history, and when she returns she hopes to direct theatrical performances. Already, Rachel has shared her talent with Perishable Theater in Providence where she works full-time.

I know my colleagues understand the high honor that the Rhodes Scholarship bestows. It signals tremendous achievement and even greater promise. On behalf of the entire Second Congressional District of Rhode Island, I want to express our pride in Rachel's success. Her example is inspiring and her future is overflowing with possibility. I just hope she comes home once in awhile to remind all Rhode Islanders that the smallest of states can produce the biggest of successes.

BEST PHARMACEUTICALS FOR CHILDREN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1789, the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act. As Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, the welfare of children has always been a top priority for me. The bill before us today is reauthorizing legislation designed to ensure that more medicines are tested for children and that useful prescribing and dosing information appears on labels.

Under a 1997 law, pharmaceutical companies that test drugs on children at the request of the FDA are given an extra six months of exclusive marketing rights. This law was aimed at encouraging drug companies to test their products on children so that a pediatrician would be able to prescribe appropriate doses for children. As a result of this law, we have seen more drugs for children on the market that have a label telling how they can be used, and even more basic information for pediatricians.

The difficulty of prescribing medicine for children results from various factors: a child's weight and metabolism, the quick metamorphosis of a child's body, and a child's inaccurate information about how medicines are affecting them.

A recent six-week study done in Boston found that over that time, 616 prescriptions written for children contained errors. Of those, 26 actually harmed children. Of the errors that were caught before the medication was administered, 18 could have been fatal. Medication errors in hospitals occur three times more often with children than with adults. This bill can help prevent such mistakes by prescribing adequate testing and proper labeling.

Mr. Speaker, S. 1789 also requires that the General Accounting Office (GAO) study the inclusion of children of ethnic and racial minorities in drug studies. Ethnic and racial minorities make up a substantial percentage of our