

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ESSAY BY RACHEL SPELLMAN

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to insert an essay by one of my constituents, Ms. Rachel Spellman, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Rachel's eloquent remarks regarding her struggle with cancer have been an inspiration to me and I believe that we all can benefit from her positive outlook and the thankfulness with which she greets each day. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to read this wonderful essay and join me in saluting Rachel for her strength in her battle with this disease.

I CAN BREATHE

(By Rachel Spellman)

You have cancer. Imagine hearing that. You have cancer. I was only two and didn't understand. Everyone has to go to the hospital everyday and get tested, pricked, poked and x-rayed, right? I hadn't the faintest idea how in danger my life was. I am glad I was so young and naive, so I didn't emotionally fall apart. But it does bother me that I cannot remember anything. Only little flashbacks and stories from my parents can evoke the slightest hint of a memory. I am fighting an emotional and sometimes a physical battle everyday. I learn to take one day at a time. I can do it. Just one day at a time.

Having lived with cancer has taught me many of life's hard lessons. I feel an immense appreciation for life itself. Just being alive. Now, eleven years in remission, I know how lucky I am and I am so very grateful for my second chance. My experience has taught me to believe in something stronger than myself. I learned to have hope and faith during hard times. One must slow down to notice the small things and how simply pure and wonderful they are. Even those little, annoying things you know you wouldn't have any other way.

The doctor called my parents three days early and he said to come in right away. It's not important. I had myelodysplasia, a malignant disease of the bone marrow cells. Chemotherapy and radiation were not enough. I needed a bone marrow transplant. Allyson, my sister, was a match. I was very lucky. It is very hard to find donors. The procedure hurt her more than it hurt me. I was in the hospital for about 4 months straight. The next year I was in, on and off, for follow up. I had an IV put in my chest to put meds, and sometimes food, through. I still have a scar on my neck and chest from it. I was on immunosuppressive drugs for 8 years, until I was 10. An endless list of pills and liquids to take everyday. I am now doing much better and only go to the hospital about every three months or so. It's very hard to listen to people tell me about their little cuts and bruises when I know the things that really do hurt.

I often feel alienated and different. "Friends" do not understand me, but I really shouldn't expect them to. That doesn't make it any easier. I am so different. Girls talk of their highlights and sloppily braid each other's hair. Looking in the mirror, I think

about how great it would feel to pull my hair back into a ponytail and not have a wig fall off. Flowing. Like the little mermaid, her long hair dancing about her as she swims. Yeah, that's it, I want to be Ariel. It really would be great. In gym class the kids are sweeping past, I am unable to keep up. My skin is scarred. My hands are wrinkly. I am constantly being mistaken for 10 when actually being 14. The list could go on forever. But what hurts the most is not having a friend to talk with. No one ever takes me seriously. I often blame this lack of true companions on cancer. I find my favorite part of the day is coming home. I finally get to remove the things that I use to try to fit in and appear normal. Shut the front door, take off the heeled shoes, remove the itchy wig to reveal my short dull brown wisps, and slip into some comfy clothes that are more me. I feel like a player exiting the stage. Removing my costume, I shake off the character of the day. On stage, I must hide my true emotions and let this other character shine through. I get so good at it, I even fool myself.

However, the tears are real; that is irrefutable. That is when I know I have stopped pretending. Show's over. My mother, a strong and inspiring woman, has always been there for me, but this need to connect with peers is overwhelming. Sometimes, I feel guilty for my emotions. There are so many amazing things about life! What right do I have to feel like this? I am selfish. I'm alive, aren't I? Survivor guild perhaps. My mother says its OK to be upset. I guess I believe her. Juggling these feelings and those of a regular teenager can get very nerve racking. I'm not sure of too much, but I know one thing. It'll take time. Just time.

One must remember that painful days will pass. Often they pass too soon. Waste not your time here; we live in a wonderful place. Smile. Take pleasure in the simple things and see the complicated ones as a challenge, a new journey. The little stresses of each day should be seen as a comedy of errors; enjoy your mistakes and remember to keep your life in perspective. Above all, love. Love simply the fact that you are here, and that when you awake each morning, you can breathe. For your breath might stagger occasionally, but you're still going. In. Out. In. Out. One day at a time. In. Out. In.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID LUCCHETTI

**HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to David Lucchetti, one of Sacramento's most outstanding citizen leaders. David is retiring after many years of wonderful contributions to the Sacramento Neighborhood Housing Service Board of Trustees. As his friends and family gather to celebrate David's numerous achievements, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in saluting one of Sacramento's most accomplished citizens.

David began his illustrious career in 1970 when he was hired by Anderson Lumber Com-

pany, a division of Pacific Coast Building Products, Inc. Through his trademark hard work and dedication, David was named the Chief Financial Officer for Pacific Coast Building Products in 1979. Under his leadership, Pacific Coast Building Products was awarded the prestigious "Best in the Business" awarded by the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce. In addition, the company was also recently recognized as one of the ten Most Admired Companies in the Sacramento area. Perhaps, most impressively, the company has maintained a regular presence on the influential Forbes 500 list under David's tenure. All in all, David has steadfastly represented the interests of Pacific Coast Building Products with great honor and results for the past three decades.

Aside from his contributions to Pacific Coast Building Products, David has also offered his valuable services to a number of worthy community organizations. David has been a long time member of the Big Brother/Big Sisters Foundation. In addition David has also been a member of the Sutter Club, California State University Sacramento, the Sacramento Business Advisory Board, and a Board of Trustee member to the Sacramento Regional Foundation and Sacramento Neighborhood Housing Service. David is also associated with Succeed Catholic Social Service.

It is not surprising that David has been widely recognized for his involvement in the community. In 1996, David was named by the Sacramento Diocese as the Distinguished Catholic School Graduate of the year. Earlier in 1993, David was appointed by Governor Pete Wilson to serve on the California Contractors State License Board. In 1997, David and his wife, Chris, were the proud recipients of the Philanthropist Couple Award in recognition for all their charitable work over the years.

Dave's unparalleled success in the boardroom and in the community truly makes him one of Sacramento's most accomplished and treasured citizens. His commitment to help others is a shining example to everyone who follows his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, as David Lucchetti's friends and family gather for his honorary luncheon, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most honorable residents. His successes are considerable, and it is a great honor for me to have the opportunity to pay tribute to his contributions. I ask all my colleagues to join with me in wishing David Lucchetti continued success in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
SANDRA L. KOFFMAN

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very special woman, the

• 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.

Honorable Sandra L. Koffman, the Mayor of Pacific Grove, California. Sandy, as she is known throughout town, has been a true leader in Pacific Grove and in the wider Monterey Bay region. As she steps down after four consecutive terms as Mayor, I want to take this time to honor her public service. I think it is particularly important that this House, at the pinnacle of American democracy, honor the fundamentally important role that local elected officials such as Mayor Kaufman play in the governance of our great nation. Local politics is the foundation on which our nation rests. Members of Congress simply stand on the shoulders of the Mayors, City Council members, County Supervisors, School Board Members, and the other local elected office holders who give so generously of their time to make our communities work. Sandy is just such a local official. She is the kind of leader who is the first to arrive, the last to leave, and is always there with persistence and energy to move Pacific Grove forward.

Sandy was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. After college, Sandy made her way to California where she began a career in retailing in the Los Angeles area. Sandy and her husband Dan moved to Pacific Grove in 1990, where she immediately became active in the community, serving as a docent for the Monterey Bay Aquarium, cofounding Pacific Grove Eco-Corps in 1991 and the Pacific Grove Residents Association in 1993, and participating in the Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce and many other local, national and international organizations. In 1994, the citizens of her adopted city elected Sandy their mayor.

Since her election as mayor, Sandy has contributed in numerous ways to the improvement of Pacific Grove, including protection of the environment, preservation of historic homes, and revitalization of the downtown business district. Sandy has led the City Council effectively through major projects, including a new Youth Center, restoration of historic City Hall and an addition to the Civic Center, approved plans for affordable housing for senior citizens, and a comprehensive sewer maintenance and improvement project.

Sandy has been a highly public, accessible and outgoing Mayor, spending countless hours with all segments of the community to build consensus and bridges of understanding, and has unfailingly conducted meetings with a skillful combination of cordiality and focus. She has participated actively in regional planning and policy-making as Pacific Grove's representative to the Fort Ord Reuse Authority and other organizations, and has worked closely and effectively with the other mayors on a wide range of countywide issues.

On behalf of this House I want to commend Mayor Koffman for her dedicated service and call on her to continue her good work on behalf of the people of Pacific Grove and the United States.

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#### TRIBUTE TO ABBA EBAN

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fallen hero in the cause of

peace, Mr. Abba Eban. In nearly a half-century of service as Israel's premier diplomat, Mr. Eban played a critical role in securing the future of his embattled nation and in defending democracy in the Middle East. News of his passing Sunday grieves all those who knew him and knew his historic work.

My wife and I had the honor of first meeting Abba Eban nearly four decades ago. Even at this early stage in his extraordinary career, he had distinguished himself as one of the most passionate, articulate and compelling voices on the world stage. In introducing President Harry S. Truman to Israel's future leaders, Mr. Eban helped forge a partnership between our two countries that has grown only stronger with the passage of time. Throughout Israel's struggle to survive, Abba Eban provided the words that emboldened the Israeli people and persuaded the world. Perhaps his finest moment came in 1967, when he addressed the United Nations in a heroic and spirited defense of Israel's right to exist. Israel's continued survival is the lasting legacy of his immortal words.

Abba Eban's Churchillian orations at the United Nations are the stuff of legend, capturing the spirit of a brave nation and captivating an anxious world. He instilled pride in all who shared his vision of a free and independent homeland for the Jewish people—and he earned the respect of all who did not. If the pen is mightier than the sword, than Abba Eban's eloquence was among the strongest weapons in Israel's arsenal. He personified his nation's fearless quest for peace.

Abba Eban was also a character the likes of whom the world may never again know. His brilliant intellect, cosmopolitan style and biting wit cast him as the consummate diplomat. He was the picture of professionalism. But behind this polished public persona was a human being who, like his countrymen, struggled to live in peace and with dignity.

Reflecting on the life of Abba Eban, we better understand that a nation's greatness is defined not by the strength of its arms or the extent of its wealth, but by the virtues of its people. Abba Eban was indeed a great and virtuous man, a most fitting emissary of a great and virtuous people. Let us commemorate his life by leading our own as he led his.

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#### TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE TIM ROEMER

### HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most highly regarded members of the House of Representatives, the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Select Education, TIM ROEMER, from Indiana's Third District.

As David Broder, the esteemed Washington journalist wrote of TIM, he is "ending a singularly useful House career by retiring."

Throughout his 12 years as a member of the House, TIM has focused on important matters aimed at improving our way of life such as education and the AmeriCorps program. Likewise, he brought his considerable talents to bear as a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Most notably, his tenure here has been marked by his consistent willingness to put aside partisan differences in effort to find reasonable and worthwhile solutions.

I recently had the privilege of working with TIM on a matter that we both considered to be very important, the Adams Memorial, which will honor our second president, John Adams, and his wife, Abigail. As the ranking member of the Resources Committee, which passed the bill out, I'm proud to say that President Bush signed the bill into law last year. Similarly, just the other day, the House passed legislation approving the Secretary of the Interior's decision on placement of the memorial.

Mr. Speaker, TIM is the embodiment of the true civil servant who interrupts his career in order to serve his Nation. And when his service is complete, he simply chooses to return to private life as still a young man with great potential for even more achievement.

While we here will miss TIM and his valuable contributions, we wish him well as he returns to private life, and most importantly, to his wife and their children.

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#### RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COLONEL GARY WOODWARD

### HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my constituent, Lieutenant Colonel Gary Woodward, U.S. Air Force Reserve, who will be retiring on November 30th of this year.

Col. Woodward began his service as a member of the Ohio Air National Guard, USAF Security Police (Air Police) and was a graduate of the first class of the ANG Academy of Military Sciences (NCO Academy) at the McGhee-Tyson Air Force Base in Knoxville, Tennessee.

He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in 1972, and named Commander of the 178th Security Police unit at Springfield, Ohio. In 1974, Lt. Woodward's unit was mobilized to provide humanitarian support to the Xenia tornado disaster. Under his leadership, this unit was awarded the Air Force's Outstanding Unit Award, recognized for its excellent support to the Ministry of Defense in the United Kingdom concerning a number of successful European deployments, and also was recognized for its outstanding inspection ratings.

In 1993, Lt. Col. Woodward was promoted to his present grade and awarded the USAF Commendation Medal. In 1995, he was recognized for his professionalism and outstanding support to the Space and Missile Center, Los Angeles AFB, and three years later the U.S. Secretary of Defense acknowledged Lt. Col. Woodward's leadership as the Project Officer for the National Defense Conference at Wright-Patterson AFB. Identified as mission critical and extremely valuable to the USAF, Lt. Col. Woodward was selected and approved to continue service beyond his retirement date.

During all of this, Lt. Col. Woodward had a successful, 25-year banking career and served on the Fairborn City Council. He and his wife, Diana, still reside in Fairborn, and are the proud parents of two daughters, Elizabeth and Melody.

As a former member of the Ohio Air National Guard, I am proud to come to the floor to recognize Lt. Col. Gary Woodward's service to his nation, his community and his family, and congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE HARTFORD  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Hartford Public Library as one of only six recipients of this year's National Award for Museum and Library Service.

The Hartford Public Library's Chief Librarian, Ms. Louise Blalock, and the Board President, Mr. Paul Shipman, recently attend an awards ceremony at the White House during which First Lady Laura Bush presented them with the citation for their innovative efforts to expand the Library's services to the community. The Hartford Public Library received the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) award, in part, for developing community partners and innovative programs to address current educational, social, economic and environmental issues. Major partnerships developed by the Library include the Partnership Library, the Integrated Library Information and Management System and the Creating Readers program.

The National Award for Library Service was established in 2000 and is the only national award of its kind to recognize the public service record of America's libraries. The award is presented in conjunction with the National Award for Museum Services, which was established in 1994.

This year the Hartford Public Library has truly transformed the traditional meaning of a library with the development and installation of its "Community Information Database". The Hartford Public Library has responded directly to the needs of Hartford residents by compiling this database with such helpful information as employment opportunities, social services, and neighborhood council reports.

In addition to its model partnership with the Hartford Public System in which it has helped schools achieve curriculum goals for language development, the Library has forged a stronger relationship with the Hartford community this year by connecting all its residents to a distinguished collection of books, technology, social services, and community expertise.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in offering my most sincere congratulations to the Hartford Public Library for its exemplary service to Hartford and Connecticut's First Congressional District and for setting an example for innovation and excellence for libraries across the country.

TRIBUTE TO VALERIE  
DOMBROWSKI

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the distinguished life and career of a constituent and community leader, Redondo Beach School Board Member Valerie Dombrowski, who passed away on November 11, 2002.

Valerie served the city of Redondo Beach as a dedicated school board member for twenty-five years. She was a tireless advocate for special and fine arts education. Among her accomplishments are the equalization of funding for girls' and boys' sports programs and the procurement of musical instruments for children who could not afford them.

Her dedication served the students in the community while gaining her respect from others who were impressed by her resolve to fight for causes she thought worthy. As a woman who always spoke her mind and asked the tough questions, she was the voice of the teachers, parents, and administrators in the district.

While being a matriarch of the Redondo Beach community, she was also a mother of eleven, grandmother of nineteen, and great-grandmother of one. Widowed in 1980, Valerie raised her children alone and ran the two family businesses. Her strength and leadership is an inspiration to us all.

In keeping with the spirit of Valerie's commitment to special education and fine arts education, her children have established the Valerie K. Dombrowski Scholarship Fund to help children with special needs and arts programs in Redondo Beach.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join Valerie's family and friends in commemorating the loss of an outstanding educator, mother, and community leader. Valerie's tireless efforts and unwavering dedication have touched the community. We will miss her dearly, but her spirit will continue to survive.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JACK COLWELL

**HON. TIM ROEMER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, an accomplished journalist, and an astute observer of politics, Mr. Jack Colwell of South Bend, Indiana. After nearly 40 years as the political writer for the South Bend Tribune, Mr. Colwell will soon be stepping down from that post. It is my great honor to have this opportunity to wish him well as he embarks on his well-deserved retirement.

In an age when political communication often generates more heat than light and political discourse is dominated by cynicism and spin, Mr. Colwell has set the standard for accuracy, fairness, and integrity in political journalism. The insights and observations found in his weekly column and regular news articles for the Tribune have inspired generations of readers to engage in the political process. As

a longtime reader and frequent subject of Mr. Colwell's pieces, I have marveled at his ability to inform and entertain, report the facts while also providing the broader context of an issue, and share his knowledge with a characteristic modesty, humor, and respect for the political process.

Although Hoosiers now proudly claim him as one of their own, Mr. Colwell originally hails from Ottawa, Illinois. Upon graduation from the University of Illinois College of Journalism, he began his professional journalistic career at the Champaign-Urbana Courier. Later, Mr. Colwell honed his journalistic skills while serving our country in the United States Army as the editor for the Fifth Army newspaper. Upon completion of his service, he joined the South Bend Tribune as a night police reporter. In 1964, Mr. Colwell assumed the position of political reporter for the Tribune—a post he has held ever since.

Over the course of his 38 years covering politics, Mr. Colwell's relentless pursuit of political news led to coverage of every major politician in Indiana, 20 national political conventions, and too many local, state, and national elections to count. His distinguished career in journalism earned him numerous writing awards from the Hoosier State Press Association and the Indiana Associated Press Managing Editors.

In addition to his obligations to the South Bend Tribune, since 1988, Mr. Colwell has provided a forum for conversations between citizens and their elected officials as the host of a local public affairs television program. He also finds time to share the insights of his craft with the next generation of journalists as an adjunct associate professor of journalism at the University of Notre Dame.

Mr. Speaker, it is difficult to imagine following politics in Northern Indiana without the benefit of Jack Colwell's contributions. I believe that Jack Powers, the former managing editor of the South Bend Tribune, perhaps put it most succinctly when he said at the time of Mr. Colwell's induction into the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame in 2000, "Jack Colwell is the greatest single journalist in the history of the community and the newspaper. He made us all look good. He still does." I join my constituents in thanking Jack for his years of service and wish him much success in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO BETTY PERRY

**HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a friend with a noteworthy career in advocacy and public service. On November 19, 2002, the National Chapter of the Older Women's League will honor Betty Perry with the OWL Chapter Leader Award for her tireless work on behalf of OWL California. As her associates and friends gather to recognize her passionate work in the advocacy arena, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in saluting one of Sacramento's outstanding citizens.

Born and raised in Sacramento, Betty was first exposed to the public arena when she often attended committee hearings and legislative sessions in the state capitol with her father. In 1948, Betty received her M.A. degree

from U.C. Berkeley where she also earned her B.A. a few years earlier. In pursuit of a career in teaching and counseling, Betty returned home to Sacramento, where she began an almost 4 decade long career at Kit Carson Jr. High and McClatchy High School.

In 1984, shortly after her husband Calvin Perry passed away, Betty joined the Sacramento Capitol Chapter of OWL. What started out as a limited volunteer activity soon manifested into a full time volunteer position. Whether the task called for making phone calls or serving as chapter Secretary, Betty demonstrated her trademark commitment to excellence in all her duties. Betty would go on to serve every chapter office with distinction, including President, in 1993 and 1994. After a one-year stint as Co-President OWL California, Betty was ultimately elected to serve as statewide President in 1995.

As President, Betty remained a strong voice for older women by representing OWL on the Sacramento County Board of Supervisor's Task Force on Long Term Care. In 1997, she became OWL-CA's Education and Research Coordinator and following, Public Policy Director. Along with her work in public policy, Betty played an instrumental role in the coordination of the OWL-CA Mother's Day program. She aggressively advocates for legislation that benefits women and seniors in California. In 2001, she worked passionately on behalf of OWL to secure the passage of a resolution in the California State Senate that recognized the goals of OWL including, the staunch opposition of privatizing social security.

Despite a hectic schedule, her involvement in community service is not exclusive to OWL. She has been the co-chair of the local Breast Cancer Early Detection Program and works closely with the Congress of California Seniors, Gray Panthers, California Seniors Coalition, AARP, and the Consumer Federation of California, to protect and advance the interests of California citizens on a myriad of issues. She has worked on a variety of social causes promoting issues such as the California Patient Bill of Rights and reducing prescription drug prices for people on Medicare.

Her continuous leadership is a true testament to her devotion to help others. Her career as a social and political activist is commendable and I am pleased to acknowledge one of Sacramento's outstanding citizens. Mr. Speaker, as Betty Perry is honored with the OWL Chapter Leader award, I ask my colleagues to join with me in paying tribute to her numerous accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RAYMOND F.  
DASMANN

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Raymond F. Dasmann, a founder of international environmentalism and a tireless proponent of increased efforts for sustainability on a planet with limited resources. Mr. Dasmann, a UC Santa Cruz professor emeritus of ecology, passed away on November 5, 2002, and is survived by daughters Marlene, Sandra, and Lauren, five grandchildren; and one great-

grandchild. His wife of 45 years, Elizabeth Sheldon, passed away in 1996.

Raymond was fascinated with our living Earth from an early age. His undergraduate education in biology was interrupted by World War II; he served in Australia and New Guinea. Upon his return he enrolled at UC Berkeley, where he studied zoology under the famed wildlife biologist Starker Leopold.

Mr. Dasmann began working as a conservation biologist in the 1950s, when the field was in its infancy. His early research documented threats to the environment from population growth and pollution. Raymond wrote over a dozen influential books in his lifetime, on subjects ranging from endangered species to the loss of irreplaceable wildlands to environmental decline. Mr. Dasmann's works were must-reads for national researchers concerned about the environment.

Raymond did pioneering work in the 1960s with the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, where he helped launch the Man and the Biosphere program. During the 1970s he worked in Switzerland as a senior ecologist for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

Mr. Dasmann was recognized many times for his work. He was honored by the World Wildlife Society and the Smithsonian Institute. The prestigious Order of the Golden Ark, which recognizes internationally distinguished conservationists, honored Raymond in 1978. He became an elected fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1984 and received the Distinguished Service Award from the Society for Conservation Biology in 1988. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the life and achievements of Raymond Dasmann.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN LAFALCE

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to put in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the tremendous accomplishments of JOHN LAFALCE, who has served this body with such great distinction since 1974.

In 1999, JOHN steered the financial Services Act through Congress, which began the process of modernizing the financial services industry.

And this year, his magnificent leadership brought about tough, comprehensive investor protections that will help preserve pensions for years to come.

As this record attests, JOHN LAFALCE made a great deal of law during his outstanding career, without making a great deal of noise.

I wish JOHN and his family the very best, which is what he had given his fellow Americans day in and day out for nearly 30 years.

CONGRESSMAN JOHN J. LAFALCE

John J. LaFalce was first elected to the 94th Congress in 1974 and was re-elected to each succeeding Congress through the 107th, serving his Western New York congressional district for 28 years, from 1975-2002. He served as Chairman of the House Small Business Committee from 1987-1994, and as Ranking Democrat on the House Financial Services Committee from 1998-2002. He declined to seek re-election to the 108th Congress.

PERSONAL

John LaFalce was born in Buffalo, New York, on October 6, 1939. He graduated from Public School 49 (1953), Canisius High School (1957), Canisius College (1961), and Villanova University School of Law in 1964. From 1965 to 1967, Rep. LaFalce served in the United States Army during the Vietnam era, leaving active duty with the rank of Captain.

He returned from military service to practice law in Western New York with the law firm of Jaeckle, Fleischman and Mugel, and soon became active in public service. In 1970, he ran successfully for the New York State Senate, and in 1972 was elected to the State Assembly.

He is married to the former Patricia Fisher and they have one son, Martin, now a senior at Georgetown University.

CONGRESSIONAL SERVICE

In 1974, at the age of 35, Rep. LaFalce became only the second Democrat, and the first since 1912, to win election to what was then the 36th Congressional District of New York. During his career in the House of Representatives, he served on both the Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs (now the Committee on Financial Services). In January 1987, he was elected by the Democratic Caucus as Chairman of the Committee on Small Business, thus becoming the first member of his class (those elected in 1974) to chair a full, standing committee of the House. Following the change in control of Congress in 1994, he continued to play the key role as the Committee's Ranking Democrat. In February 1998, he was elected the Ranking Democrat on the Financial Services Committee and served in that capacity through 2002.

In Congressional Quarterly's Politics in America profile of Rep. LaFalce, he was characterized as "one of the smartest members of Congress." A Buffalo News article referred to him as "a workhorse, not a showhorse."

LEGISLATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

As Ranking Democrat of the Banking Committee since 1998, Rep. LaFalce became the point man for the Clinton Administration on all financial economic issues, and consistently demonstrated his leadership by initiating, advocating and securing the enactment of numerous laws designed to increase consumer protection; expand housing and community development; increase competition to provide consumers the widest range of financial services at the lowest cost; ensure the safety, soundness and competitive strength of the banking system; and improve the efficacy and fairness of international development programs.

His leadership role was enlarged further in 2001, at the beginning of the 107th Congress, when the House Banking Committee became the House Financial Services Committee, with expanded jurisdiction that encompassed all three pillars of the U.S. financial system: banking, securities, and insurance. Since that change, Rep. LaFalce has played the key leadership role in developing and enacting new regulatory oversight and increased investor protections in the securities area, to restore market confidence after the corporate abuses revealed by Enron, Global Crossing, WorldCom and others.

*Financial services*

Financial Services Modernization (Gramm-Leach-Bliley)—For decades, Rep. LaFalce served as a leader in congressional efforts to modernize the Nation's complex financial services system, consistently advocating legislation that would eliminate the arbitrary barriers between commercial and investment banking. His dedication to modernizing the

financial services system increased with his chairmanship of a special Task Force formed in 1989—The International Competitiveness of U.S. Financial Institutions. Concluding that the current system increased costs to consumers, denied them easy access to a full range of integrated services, impeded necessary diversification, and put U.S. institutions at a clear disadvantage vis-a-vis foreign competitors in a newly-global marketplace, he made enactment of financial modernization a top priority.

Early in 1999, working closely with the Clinton Treasury Department, Rep. LaFalce crafted bipartisan legislation that jump-started consideration of financial modernization by garnering Administration support, led by Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, for the first time in the recent history of that debate. Working co-operatively with the Committee Chairman, and acting as the “point man” both for the Administration and House Democrats, he was able to fashion a revised bipartisan bill that ultimately served as the basis for committee passage of the legislation with a strong bipartisan vote of 51-8. That bill provided the basis for the bipartisan agreement that led to enactment of the Financial Services Act of 1999, referred to by The New York Times as “landmark legislation. . . . The pre-eminent legislative accomplishment of the year.” The Associated Press referred to Rep. LaFalce’s “leading role” in crafting the final compromise measure and National Journal’s Congress Daily called him the Administration’s “point man on financial issues.”

For his leadership role, Rep. LaFalce, along with Senate Banking Committee Chairman Phil Gramm, House Banking Committee Chairman James Leach, and former Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, was given the “American Financial Leadership Award” by the Financial Services Roundtable.

Federal Reserve Board and Banks—Over the years, Rep. LaFalce has worked closely with the various Chairmen of the Federal Reserve Board, the individual Board Members, and the heads of the various Federal Reserve Banks, particularly the New York Federal Reserve, on a variety of macro- and micro-economic, financial services, consumer and international issues. Most recently, he has worked closely with Chairman Alan Greenspan in an effort to pass important corporate netting legislation that would reduce systemic risk related to financial contracts; with New York Federal Reserve Bank President Bill McDonough, Vice-Chairman Roger Ferguson and Governors Susan Bies, Mark Olsen, and Ned Gramlich on the development of the Basel II Accord, on improving the Federal Reserve’s regulatory oversight of predatory lending, and on unfair and deceptive trade practices.

In prior years, Rep. LaFalce worked closely with Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker and New York Federal Reserve Bank President Gerald Corrigan on efforts to resolve the Third World debt crisis that was undermining Latin American economies. He also worked closely with the Federal Reserve leadership over many years to ensure the progressive implement of the existing Glass-Steagall statute, and subsequently, to effectively implement the Glass-Steagall Act repeal contained in the Gramm-Leach-Bliley legislation.

New York City Bail-Out and Chrysler Loan Guarantee Program—In 1978, the Banking Committee played a central role in devising a loan guarantee program to address the economic difficulties and pending bankruptcy of New York City. Again in 1980, the Committee devised another loan guarantee program to secure the economic viability and continued existence of one of the country’s major auto manufacturers and major employers, the

Chrysler Corporation. Rep. LaFalce played a central role in the development of both loan guarantee programs. His key contributions, which became central elements in both legislative initiatives, were his insistence on “conditionality” to ensure that the government assistance was conditioned on changes that would ensure each recipient’s independent viability in the longer term, and shared sacrifice by all parties in a position to benefit.

*Corporate account ability and investor protection*

Rep. LaFalce has been Congress’s leading advocate for strong investor protections. In 2001, he played a prescient role in altering the world to the warning signs that these problems were just around the corner. Long before Enron was front page news, in early 2001, he repeatedly warned that the earnings manipulation and deceptive accounting practices of large corporations in America threatened the very integrity of our capital markets. At the same time, he repeatedly expressed strong concerns that the significant number of financial restatements and investigations into earnings manipulation—by corporate officers, directors, and accountants, undetected by stock analysts—represented only the tip of the iceberg.

As the Buffalo News reported, “If the warning signals of two men in government had been heeded many months ago, the Enron disaster possibly could have been averted. One voice heard but not listened to was that of Arthur Levitt, the former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission. . . . A second figure who sounded a warning early on is our own Western New York Congressman, John J. LaFalce. The ranking member of the House Financial Services Committee, in a letter to his constituents in June 2001, wrote: ‘Investing has become more risky for Americans. Practices such as earnings manipulation by corporate management, unchecked by boards of directors or auditors, often create a misleading or false story of the financial position of the companies that you may invest in. In addition, stock analysts who recommend stocks often have conflicts of interest that compromise them.’”

LaFalce, elaborating on his concerns, added: “Since compensation for management and boards of directors is closely tied to companies’ stock prices, the pressure on corporations to manipulate earnings can only increase. While auditors should be acting as watchdogs for shareholders, many have become dependent on consulting revenues from the companies they audit, creating a conflict that makes it difficult for them to stand up to their clients.”

LaFalce’s remarks, made many months before the Enron failure, are prophetic of the practices that have since come to light. LaFalce also stated in his newsletter that: “I believe we may have seen only the tip of the iceberg of accounting irregularities, and I have called for the Financial Services Committee to focus on accounting issues, which have such a profound effect on the integrity of our markets.”

The colossal failures of Enron, WorldCom, Global Crossing and other firms, and the devastating impact on investors and on the working men and women of those companies, have justified LaFalce’s concerns. At the same time, Rep. LaFalce has also worked with financial regulators and his colleagues to eliminate conflicts of interest by stock analysts, who in many cases hyped stocks in order to win and maintain investment banking business.

Corporate Accountability Act (Sarbanes-Oxley)—Rep. LaFalce was the prime mover of the sweeping corporate accounting reform

legislation signed into law on July 25, 2002, marking the first step toward bringing about needed change to U.S. capital markets and restoring credibility to corporate America. The new Corporate Accountability Act largely parallels the original bill introduced by Rep. LaFalce in February 2002. That bill, the Comprehensive Investor Protection Act (HR 3818), was the first comprehensive legislative solution to bring substantial and systemic reform to capital markets that have been rocked by corporate bankruptcy scandals. The Senate bill subsequently introduced by Banking Committee Chairman Paul Sarbanes was modeled on the LaFalce bill, and its strong provisions remain the centerpiece of the new Corporate Accountability law. As former SEC Chief Accountant Lynn Turner said “while [the Sarbanes-Oxley bill] may not have the LaFalce name on it, it will have the LaFalce intent and heart behind it.”

Rep. LaFalce was also widely praised by consumer, investor, and labor groups, and the House Democratic Leadership, for his leadership in bringing about these essential auditing reforms. AFL-CIO President John Sweeney praised his “courageous leadership” and said “I particularly want to thank Congressman LaFalce, who has really stood out these last few months as a leader ready to take on powerful Wall Street and big money interests on behalf of working families.”

House Minority Leader Rep. Richard Gephardt said “The LaFalce approach does more than make cosmetic reform. It restores accountability to corporate America. . . . [LaFalce has been] a Patton-like General [winning] an unconditional surrender from opponents. . . . He has been a gold standard on this issue.” House Minority Whip Rep. Nancy Pelosi said “kudos to Financial Services Ranking Member John LaFalce for a magnificent display of leadership . . . in passing the LaFalce-Sarbanes corporate reform legislation.”

New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer said, “You should enact the LaFalce legislation.” Both the Consumer Federation of America and U.S. Public Interest Group also commended Representative LaFalce “for proposing tough, far-reaching auditing reform.”

SEC Oversight and Resources—In order to address widespread problems with our system of financial disclosure, Rep. LaFalce in early 2001 began calling for a significant increase, 200-300 per cent, in the budget of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to strengthen its personnel, oversight, and enforcement. In early 2002, President Bush signed legislation to reduce the fees that American corporations pay to the SEC for transactions and registration of stock. The new law also included provisions that would authorize the SEC to pay its staff on a basis that is comparable to the other Federal financial regulatory agencies, potentially improving the ability of the SEC to attract and retain the highest quality staff.

Rep. LaFalce opposed the bill because of provisions that actually could have reduced the resources available to the SEC. He said of the legislation: “One of our greatest priorities is the critical need to ensure adequate government oversight of our securities markets. This legislation does nothing to ensure that the SEC has the additional resources it greatly needs to address the many significant issues investors face in these markets.” In the June 2001 debate on the floor, prior to Enron, Rep. LaFalce said: “the SEC budget . . . should be beefed up at least 200 percent to 300 percent in order to protect the American investor . . . today’s bill precludes the type of effective investment I believe we need.”

Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery and Enforcement Act (The S&L Crisis)—Rep.

LaFalce warned of the impending S&L crisis in the early 1980's and sought to address the inadequate regulation, supervision and funding that threatened the solvency of thrift institutions. As the Buffalo News reported, "Congressman John J. LaFalce, a member of the House Banking Committee, warned that deregulation of the thrifts had gone too far. . . . LaFalce worried that the thrifts' assets were simply thin air, buoyed by a ponzi scheme of overpriced acquisitions." He was a staunch critic of the legislation developed to address the crisis, the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (FIRREA), and ultimately opposed its enactment.

Throughout the 1980s, Rep. LaFalce consistently supported legislation that would have improved the examination and supervision regime governing thrift institutions and recapitalized the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, which consistently had inadequate funding to resolve the problems of insolvent thrift institutions.

By 1989, a combination of years of inadequate regulation and supervision, and inadequate funding, had resulted in a crisis situation. In February 1989, the Bush Administration unveiled the broad outlines of a plan to borrow \$50 billion to close down or sell more than 350 weak Savings and Loan institutions. The proposed FIRREA legislation, which evolved from congressional consideration of this broad plan, dramatically restructured federal regulation of thrifts and provided \$50 billion over three years to close down or sell off hundreds of insolvent savings institutions.

While Rep. LaFalce voted for the bill in the House to move it forward with the hope of improving it in conference, he opposed the final legislation, believing it would be ineffective, overly restrictive, costly to taxpayers, and would have serious unintended consequences. He emphasized several problems with the legislation during debate on the bill. First, he noted that the Administration's estimates were based on a series of unreasonably rosy assumptions that resulted in a gross underestimation of the ultimate cost to the taxpayer. Had the enormity of the costs been better appreciated, he was convinced closer scrutiny might have been applied in determining how the bail-out would be structured and how the costs would be funded. He emphasized that, under the plan, it was only the taxpayers' obligation that was indeterminate, and that the structure of the program made the taxpayer the ultimate recourse for any increased financial burden beyond preliminary estimates. The cost of the bail-out was eventually hugely in excess of original estimates, and substantial additional funding was subsequently required.

Rep. LaFalce also believed that borrowing to pay for the bail-out unnecessarily increased the costs and unfairly passed those costs onto future generations. He argued that it was fiscally irresponsible to borrow to cover even present consumption, let alone the past consumption represented by thrift losses. He emphasized that borrowing the money would turn what was more likely to be a \$130 billion problem into a \$500 billion drain over the next several decades, imposing the problem on future generations and diverting funds from more pressing social needs.

Rep. LaFalce also objected to the fact that the states were held harmless from assuming any responsibility for the cost of the bail-out, even though the vast majority of the problem was attributable to state-chartered institutions operating, in many cases, under lax state regulation and supervision. It was his view that having federal taxpayers assume the entire burden for these problems was an abuse of the dual banking system and

he called for greater regional equity in bearing the financial burden for the bail-out.

Rep. LaFalce also argued that the precipitous application of new capital standards made weak, but potentially, viable institutions into problem institutions, and made strong thrift institutions vulnerable. He believed that the structure of the legislation made it virtually impossible for potentially healthy thrifts that could form the core of a revitalized industry to survive. Many weak but viable institutions were in fact lost, and institutions became increasingly risk averse, contributing to a subsequent credit crunch that he had predicted.

Finally, Rep. LaFalce argued strongly during Committee consideration and subsequently that the suggested treatment of supervisory goodwill under the proposed legislation was a breach of contract that the government could not expect to engage in without the ultimate payment of damages. Thrifts had entered into contracts with their regulator which allowed them to count supervisory goodwill as capital under defined terms and conditions. The legislation would no longer permit such capital treatment.

As a practical matter, Rep. LaFalce argued that this would result in more thrift failures and a higher cost associated with resolution of the crisis. As a legal matter, Rep. LaFalce foresaw that litigation would ensue and that the government would ultimately be required to pay damages for breaking the contracts that governed the treatment of supervisory goodwill, again increasing the cost of the bail-out. His judgment and foresight was vindicated when the U.S. Supreme Court, in July 1996, in the case of *United States v. Winstar Corporation*, held that contracts were broken and the government was liable for damages.

In an effort to construct a more workable proposal, Rep. LaFalce advanced a number of amendments in the course of the legislative process. Those amendments, first of all, would have eliminated reliance on the borrowing which was unnecessarily increasing the overall cost of the bail-out; second, would have given weak, but viable, institutions better prospects of improving their situation, so they would not eventually have to be bailed out by the taxpayer; and third, would have required the states to make some reasonable contribution to the cost of the bail-out. Unfortunately, those amendments were not adopted.

Credit Union Membership—Rep. LaFalce recognized early in his congressional career the important role played by credit unions within a diversified financial services marketplace. Upon taking a leadership role in the Banking Committee, he provided an influential voice for permitting credit unions to serve a broader segment of American consumers, while also attempting to moderate the banking industry's competitive objections to an expended credit union industry. In 1997, when it appeared that banker-initiated litigation would completely stall future credit union growth, he introduced legislative proposals designed to reopen opportunities for credit union membership and to address key competitive concerns expressed by the banks. This balanced proposal provided the framework for the Credit Union Membership Access Act of 1998, which was passed by Congress with huge majorities and signed by President Clinton within months of its formal introduction. The legislation provided a new framework for multiple-group credit unions and for community charter conversions that has significantly expanded credit union membership. Rep. LaFalce has continued to advocate legislative changes that offer new opportunities to expand credit union membership and services within the balanced framework of the 1998 Act.

His work on behalf of credit unions was recognized with special awards from the Credit Union National Association in 1999 and the New York Credit Union League in 1998, and a special career recognition award from the National Association of Federal Credit Unions in October, 2002.

Interstate Banking/Branching—Rep. LaFalce was one of the first advocates in Congress for repealing outdated federal prohibitions on interstate banking. In 1985, he introduced one of the first bills to authorize interstate branching by national banks, bank holding companies, and thrifts. The bill would have permitted a bank of one state to establish a branch in another state to the same extent as those of other states allowed interstate branching by state banks. His initial bill became the model for the landmark 1994 law, the Riegle-Neal Interstate Banking and Branching Efficiency Act, which repealed prohibitions on interstate banking, increased availability of credit to our communities nationwide, and led to the emergence of a more competitive, safer and sounder banking system.

Insurance—Rep. LaFalce recognized very early in his career that state-by-state regulation of the insurance industry severely limits the ability of the national government to respond to crises in the insurance industry that affect the national economy. The 1945 McCarran-Ferguson Act assured that insurance companies would remain under state regulation and that they would enjoy a limited exemption from antitrust laws.

The Act led to a situation in the 1970s and 1980s that caused businesses, particularly small firms, to have difficulty in obtaining product liability insurance. When the insurance was available, the premiums were very expensive. As Chairman of the Small Business Subcommittee on Capital, Investment and Business Opportunities, Rep. LaFalce led an extensive investigation into the product liability crisis. His Subcommittee determined that much of the blame for the crisis could be pinned on panic pricing by insurance companies that was left unchecked by most state regulators. The Subcommittee also found evidence that the antitrust exemption led to a lack of competition in the pricing of product liability insurance, and that a fairer Uniform Product Liability law would be far preferable to 50 separate state laws.

Rep. LaFalce introduced legislation to address the crisis through the establishment of a national insurance commission, which would have ensured that premiums for product liability and other types of insurance were reasonable and that policyholders were protected from unfair and deceptive practices of insurance companies. Rep. LaFalce's legislation would have limited McCarran-Ferguson by eliminating the industry's antitrust exemption, thereby curbing anti-competitive practices. He also worked with Professor Victor Schwartz to introduce in Congress the first Uniform Product Liability Act, a bill that was, unfortunately, then opposed by Republicans and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Although the Commerce Committee never took up the legislation, persistent crisis in the insurance industry confirmed Rep. LaFalce's belief that the Federal Government must play a role in regulating an industry that is so vital to the national economy. Following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001, the market for reinsurance for risks related to terrorism began to evaporate. Rep. LaFalce was among the first in Congress to call for the creation of a federal backstop for terrorism insurance. He believed that the lack of adequate and affordable terrorism insurance could slow reconstruction of New York City and weaken the

nation's entire economy. The Federal Government was slow to respond to that crisis, in part, because there was no insurance expertise within the Executive Branch.

Rep. LaFalce also was one of the first in Congress to recognize that state regulation of the insurance industry increases costs for both insurance companies and consumers. This regulatory structure also creates inconsistent protections for consumers and regulatory requirements for companies because not all states can do a good job of protecting consumers from unfair and deceptive practices in the insurance industry. In February 2002, Rep. LaFalce introduced the Insurance Industry Modernization and Consumer Protection Act (IIMCPA), which provides insurance companies the option of a single federal insurance regulator rather than 50 state regulators. The IIMCPA would protect consumers by establishing for the first time national minimum standards to combat unfair and deceptive practices in the insurance industry.

#### *Consumer protections*

Rep. LaFalce has been a longstanding consumer and community advocate as reflected in his work on the landmark Financial Services Act of 1999 as well as on numerous other legislative initiatives during his career on the House Banking Committee.

He authored key provisions of the financial modernization that are designed to protect consumers against deceptive practices in the sales of insurance and investment products in a bank's lobby. At his insistence, the Financial Services Act of 1999 incorporates strong safeguard to (1) ensure that consumers are not confused about new financial products, the risk they carry, and whether or not they are insured; (2) prevent a bank from forcing its customers to purchase another product, such as an insurance policy, as a condition for receiving a loan; (3) ensure a consumer grievance process is put in place; and (4) require full disclosure of ATM surcharges.

Upon his retirement, the Consumer Federation of America, in a letter dated June 27, 2002, praised Rep. LaFalce for his effort on behalf of consumers: "No one in Congress has fought harder for everyday consumers and investors than John LaFalce. He combines a bedrock commitment to consumer protection with a savvy awareness of how to move important legislation through Congress in the face of special interest opposition."

**Financial Privacy**—In the area of financial privacy, it was legislation that Rep. LaFalce had introduced in 1998 and 1999 that laid the basis for the historic financial privacy protections that Congress included within the Financial Services Act. He led a bipartisan effort to craft provisions that provided the strongest consumer privacy protections ever enacted into law. Considering these efforts as only a first step in safeguarding consumer privacy, Rep. LaFalce joined with the Clinton Administration early in 2000 to introduce new legislation to further enhance these financial privacy protections, and he helped usher through the Banking Committee new legislation providing strong policy protections for consumer health and medical information.

**Enhancing Access to Credit**—Rep. LaFalce was a staunch defender of the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) during numerous attempts to repeal or limit its mandate that financial institutions serve all segments of their community. He was instrumental in expanding the CRA within the context of the financial modernization legislation to require all banking institutions seeking new, non-banking activities to demonstrate a continuing commitment to meeting the financial services needs of low-income and minor-

ity communities. As a result of his efforts, the Financial Services Act ensure that the CRA, which requires that financial institutions meet local community needs, will remain of central importance in the new, evolving financial marketplace.

Rep. LaFalce also led the effort to incorporate many of the nation's "un-banked" low- and moderate-income individuals into the financial mainstream. His legislation, the First Accounts Act of 2000, became the basis for a pilot program initiated by the U.S. Treasury Department. The program is designed to help more than eight million low- and moderate-income people for whom the cost of checking or savings accounts are too high. Working in partnership with financial institutions, the U.S. Treasury helps these individuals gain access to basic, low-cost financial services, including ATM access and checking accounts. The First Accounts program will widen access for many Americans to the mainstream banking and credit system so that no family may be left behind.

**Mortgage Servicing Rights and Protections**—Rep. LaFalce authored the initial legislation that resulted in the 1990 amendments to improve consumer protections in the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA). Those improvements provide for advance notice to homeowners—now known as "LaFalce" notices—alerting them that their mortgage servicing is to be transferred to another financial institution. The notices also provide certain protections to consumers during the transfer, including assurance of the proper handling of monthly mortgage payments and prompt payment of insurance and tax obligations from escrow accounts.

Rep. LaFalce also was instrumental in securing enactment of "Mortgage Loan Consumer Protection Act" (H.R. 4818) in 1996 that granted consumers new rights, based on New York law, to cancel unnecessary and costly private mortgage insurance (PMI). In the 107th Congress, he also introduced legislation providing for comprehensive reform of RESPA's mortgage settlement procedures to help simplify the mortgage settlement process and further enhance protections for consumers.

**Abusive Credit Card Practices**—Rep. LaFalce led the effort in Congress to identify and address a growing number of abusive practices in connection with credit card solicitations and the management of credit card accounts. He first introduced the "Consumer Credit Card Protection Amendments" in 1999 to protect consumers against the most egregious practices common to most credit cards, including misleading "teaser" interest rate claims in card solicitations, inadequately disclosed late payment penalties and default interest rates, and penalties for paying card balances in full. A key provision of the bill also sought to prohibit issuing credit cards to minors without parental approval or evidence of means of repayment. The LaFalce bill served as the basis for Democratic efforts to add credit card reform proposals to a bankruptcy bill strongly favored by the credit card industry.

Press reports during 1999 and 2000 began to focus public attention on fraudulent schemes to withhold the posting of credit card payments to generate late fees and to trap vulnerable consumers in high-cost credit accounts with misleading "bait and switch" tactics. Rep. LaFalce responded by introducing the "Credit Card Predatory Practices Prevention Act" (H.R. 1060) in 2001 to require federal banking regulators to issue detailed regulations defining unfair and deceptive practices in credit card accounts. The bill proposed to expand the scope of the federal Truth in Lending Act to address abuses in the administration of credit card accounts as

well as impose new restrictions on deceptive practices in credit card solicitations.

**Unfair and Deceptive Credit Practices**—from his work drafting legislative responses to predatory mortgage lending and abusive credit card practices, Rep. LaFalce discerned that federal law provided little, if any, protection for consumers against unfair or deceptive practices generally in credit transactions. A 1975 change in law exempted financial institutions from the general prohibition against unfair and deceptive business practices in the Federal Trade Commission Act. The Federal Reserve Board was given responsibility for issuing separate rules defining unfair and deceptive practices for regulated financial institutions, which it has failed to use. Beginning in 2000, Rep. LaFalce used the opportunity of Committee oversight hearings to challenge the Federal Reserve Board for its continuing failure over a twenty-five year period to write comprehensive rules prohibiting unfair and deceptive credit practices. In a series of direct meetings and letter exchanges with Board Chairman Alan Greenspan, he continued to press the need for more specific prohibitions on unfair credit practices. The exchanges led to a change in Federal Reserve Board policy in June 2002 in which the Board acknowledged its authority to prohibit unfair practices by regulation and, in the absence of such regulations, that the banking regulatory agencies could act to prohibit unfair practices on a case-by-case basis. The change in policy provided support for enforcement actions by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency against several credit card companies and new guidance on unfair and deceptive banking practices from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

**Automobile Leasing Protections**—Rep. LaFalce was the first Member of Congress to recognize automobile leasing as an important consumer transaction and an area of growing consumer abuse. Consumer unfamiliarity with the complex terms and cost factors of leases make them particularly vulnerable to manipulation and abuse. He joined with the Consumer Federation of America in drawing attention to the lack of clear and accurate cost information in auto lease advertising and in information provided by auto dealerships. In 1995, and again in succeeding Congresses, he introduced the "Consumer Automobile Lease Advertising Improvement Act" (H.R. 1056 in the 107th Congress) to provide uniform cost disclosures in lease advertisements, prevent abusive practices in connection with advertised lease offers, and require that all relevant information on available lease terms and manufacturer incentives be made available to consumers upon request. The bill sought to apply, for the first time, the traditional principle of the consumer's "right to know" to more complex auto lease transactions.

#### *Economic and community revitalization*

Rep. LaFalce has been a leader in economic revitalization and community development issues throughout his career in Congress, using his position on the Banking Committee to direct federal dollars to institutions that invest in economic development and job growth in distressed communities and to provide targeted assistance to those communities. He worked especially hard to assure that federal funds were available to assist needed housing and economic development efforts throughout Western New York.

**Renewal Communities**—Rep. LaFalce played a key role in creating and enacting into law Renewal Community legislation, which provides a broad range of investment tax incentives designed to spur economic development and create jobs in 40 Renewal Communities nationwide. He also played a critical role in having three of those 40 Renewal Communities designated locally—in

Niagara Falls, Buffalo, and Rochester. In October 2002, the House adopted Rep. LaFalce's bill (HR 3100) to expand these renewal community areas to include those census tracts that declined economically over the past decade.

**Urban Development Action Grants**—In 1977, Rep. LaFalce co-authored legislation creating the federal Urban Development Action Grants (UDAG) program, which has targeted billions of dollars over the years for distressed cities to help spur private development and create jobs.

**Community Development Block Grants**—Rep. LaFalce worked hard to assure the continuation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for Buffalo, Rochester, Niagara Falls, Erie County and other jurisdictions, which they have used to revitalize downtown shopping areas, redevelop waterfront areas, create historic districts, develop industrial parks, and rehabilitate thousands of units of needed moderate-priced housing. He also was the driving force in changing the formulas to advantage other communities, largely in the Northeast.

#### *Small business*

During his time as Chairman of the House Small Business Committee (1987–1994), and as Ranking Member (1995–1998), Rep. LaFalce was an active, committed advocate for the needs and concerns of America's vital small business community. He worked to create and expand federal programs that provide loan guarantees for new and growing small businesses; direct federal loans to micro-enterprises; expand the authority of the Federal Home Loan Bank System to invest in economic development and small business projects; make loans more readily available to women entrepreneurs; provide technical and managerial assistance to new small businesses; and increase small business participation in federal procurement. Rep. LaFalce's long history of support for our nation's small businesses continued into his final term in Congress, when he worked to help small businesses recover from the September 11 terrorist attacks (see Terrorism Response, below).

**Small Business Innovation & Research**—As author of the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program in 1982, Rep. LaFalce helped create thousands of jobs through development of new and innovative technology. This program calls on federal agencies to direct a portion of their research and development budgets to small businesses that use creative technology to solve problems. To date, the SBIR program has shifted more than two billion dollars in federal research and development funds to the nation's small high-tech firms. The leading small business magazine, *INC.*, termed Rep. LaFalce's bill "the most important piece of small business legislation yet enacted in our lifetime."

In 1992, Rep. LaFalce incorporated a new initiative into this policy called the Small Business Technology Transfer program, which connects small firms with government and university research laboratories. The result is a weather of new research and technology with practical applications for business and industry.

**Small Business Investment Companies**—As a member and Chairman of the Committee on Small Business, Rep. LaFalce led the way in increasing the availability of capital and loans to small businesses. He authored the Small Business Equity Enhancement Act, enacted in 1992, which brought important reforms to the Small Business Investment Company program to help small businesses obtain financing for starting, maintaining and expanding operations. SBICs provide funding to small businesses equity investments (purchasing their stock) and debt (issuing loans).

As Ranking Member of the Financial Services Committee, Rep. LaFalce successfully led congressional efforts to persuade the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to reconsider a regulatory proposal that would have imposed extremely burdensome capital requirements on bank-owned SBICs and that could have significantly decreased SBIC equity investments in small businesses.

**Women Business Owners**—As Chairman of the Small Business Committee, Rep. LaFalce took a special interest in the needs and concerns of the growing number of women small business entrepreneurs. He authored the Women's Business Ownership Act, which continues to successfully fulfill its purpose: to improve access to credit and provide other opportunities for women in today's marketplace. Rep. LaFalce subsequently authored the Women's Business Development Act which re-authorized and built upon the original landmark legislation. He also created the Interagency Committee on Women's Business Issues, to ensure that actions and policies of all federal agencies take women's business concerns into account. For his efforts, he was honored by the National Association of Women Business Owners as Congressional Advocate of the Year.

**Tax Code Section 89 Repeal**—Rep. LaFalce scored a major victory on behalf of small businesses in 1988 when he succeeded in his legislative effort to repeal the onerous provisions of Section 89 of the Tax Code relating to employee benefits. The newly enacted Section 89 required annual, complex data collection and record-keeping to ensure that employer-provided benefits meet certain criteria in order to retain their tax-exempt status. Its provisions were especially burdensome for small businesses and were causing many to drop all employee benefits to avoid Section 89's costly record-keeping requirements. For his successful efforts, Rep. LaFalce won nationwide acclaim from such diverse groups as the National Federation of Independent Business, the United States Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and a host of labor organizations.

**Franchising**—Rep. LaFalce is the leading authority in Congress on business franchising and the franchising industry. As Chairman of the House Committee on Small Business, he initiated what became a five-year Committee study of franchising practices, involving numerous hearings, staff studies and legislation. The Committee's activities constituted Congress's first comprehensive review of the economy's important franchising sector in more than 20 years.

Based on his initial hearings, Rep. LaFalce introduced the "Federal Franchise Disclosure and Consumer Protection Act" in 1992 to require public disclosure of all material facts about franchise business opportunities and provide investor protections against fraud and misrepresentation. Many provisions of the bill were later used by the Federal Trade Commission and the North American Securities Administrators Association to improve federal and state franchise disclosure forms. A second bill introduced in 1993, the "Federal Fair Franchise Practices Act," continues to be the primary legislation in Congress to prohibit unfair franchising practices and establish minimum standards of conduct in franchise relationships. Both bills have also served as models for many other legislative initiatives.

Rep. LaFalce's continuing efforts to identify and examine unfair franchising practices brought both immediate and long-term changes to franchising. It led to increased enforcement against fraudulent franchise schemes by the Federal Trade Commission.

It prompted the International Franchise Association to announce a series of industry reforms, including an expanded industry Code of Ethics and the introduction of franchisees into the Association's membership. In addition, Rep. LaFalce was instrumental in encouraging the formation of new organizations to represent the interests of individual franchise business owners, including the American Association of Franchisees and Dealers and the American Franchise Association.

**Small Business Loan Programs**—Rep. LaFalce has been a leader in the Congress in protecting government loan programs for small businesses. He consistently fought off attempts to scale back and scuttle the SBA's loan guarantee program which supports many billions of dollars annually in loans to small firms. He also sought innovative ways to increase lending to small businesses. In 1989, he proposed the establishment of a federally chartered private corporation to encourage long-term financing to small businesses ("Velda Sue"—HR 3179). This would create a secondary market for these loans—similar to the one created through Fannie Mae with housing loans—and would match investors with small businesses in need of long-term capital.

**Small Business Development Centers**—Rep. LaFalce has been a champion of the Small Business Development Center program, which is a cooperative effort of the private sector, the educational community and state, federal and local governments. The program enhances economic development by providing small businesses with management and technical assistance at no charge.

Rep. LaFalce authored legislation, enacted in 1990, that established the Central European Small Business Enterprise Development Commission, with the mandate to assist Poland, Hungary and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic (now the Czech Republic and Slovakia) in developing self-sustaining systems of SBDCs to provide management and technical assistance to small business owners in those countries. The Commission established several SBDCs under the joint sponsorship of the United States Government and the governments of the host countries, with the host countries eventually assuming responsibility for funding the centers.

**SBA Disaster Office in Niagara Falls**—As Chairman of the Small Business Committee, Rep. LaFalce worked with the George H.W. Bush Administration to bring one of four Small Business Administration Disaster Area offices to the City of Niagara Falls in 1989. That office administers the SBA's Disaster Loan program for 13 states in the northeast. It employs about 125 people full-time, rising to 300 or more during peak periods. After 9-11, for example, the Niagara Falls office processed and administered more than \$400 million in disaster assistance to business and individuals in New York City and metropolitan Washington, D.C. When the office sought to relocate out of Niagara County in 2002, Rep. LaFalce spearheaded a successful effort to keep the Disaster Office in downtown Niagara Falls.

**White House Conference on Small Business**—In order to establish a national, broad-based agenda and policy on behalf of small businesses that are so important to the nation's economy, Rep. LaFalce led the effort to convene a White House Conference on Small Business. Legislation he authored to mandate such a conference was enacted in October 1990, and the White House Conference was held in the spring of 1995. This gathering of more than 1,500 small businessmen and women gave them a unique opportunity to influence the course of government

policymaking. The delegates were addressed by President Clinton, Vice President Gore, and prominent Members of Congress, including Rep. LaFalce. His message was simple: it is important that the voice of small business, as the engine of job creation in the United States, be heard loudly and clearly, and he promised to take the conferees' recommendations to the Congress in order to address their concerns.

Minority Business Set-Aside—In the 100th Congress, Rep. LaFalce successfully reformed the scandal-plagued SBA Minority Business Development program (Section 8a) which was riddled with fraud and abuse. His bill, the Business Opportunity Development Program, enacted in October 1988 (P.L. 100-656), ensured that the Capital Ownership Development Program and the Section 8(a) authority would be used exclusively to help develop small businesses, owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, in order to enable them to compete on an equal basis in the mainstream of the American economy.

#### *Housing*

Rep. LaFalce used his position on the Financial Services Committee to fight for increased funding for key housing and community development programs, and to enact numerous housing initiatives designed to expand home-ownership, meet the challenges of providing affordable housing and services to a growing seniors population, and to address the problems of homelessness.

Elderly Housing—At the beginning of the 106th Congress, Rep. LaFalce introduced his comprehensive "Elderly Housing Quality Improvement Act" (HR 4817). The vast majority of these provisions were enacted into law by that Congress, including a \$50 million initiative to convert affordable seniors' housing projects to assisted living facilities; a doubling of federal funding for service coordinators, which help seniors access community services and maintain their independence; and expanded funding for capital repair of affordable seniors' rental housing. The 106th Congress also approved legislation authored by Rep. LaFalce to make it easier for elderly homeowners to use reverse mortgages to purchase long-term care insurance.

Federal Home Loan Banks—Rep. LaFalce contributed significantly to the modernization of the Federal Home Loan Bank System, a nationwide cooperative of twelve regional banks formed in 1932 to improve the flow of long-term funds and liquidity into housing. In 1989, as part of FIRREA, he supported broadening its mission to include rural housing, affordable housing, and economic and community development. He was actively involved in improving federal oversight of the system through the establishment of a stronger, more independent federal regulator—the Federal Housing Finance Board—and by toughening capital and safety and soundness regulation. Throughout his career, Rep. LaFalce worked closely with the various home loan banks, particularly the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York, and their executives, financial institution members, and state, local and community organizations, to maximize the contribution to both housing and economic development.

Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac—A major factor contributing to record national homeownership rates is the ready availability of affordable mortgage loans offered by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are private companies, but are federally chartered and federally regulated.

Rep. LaFalce has constructively supported the important role of these two lenders in our mortgage markets in the face of congressional attacks, while at the same time supporting strong federal safety and soundness

regulation and increased goals with respect to the percentage of mortgage loans made by Fannie and Freddie to low- and moderate-income families and under-served areas.

He successfully persuaded Fannie Mae to establish a partnership office in Buffalo and to commit \$5 billion for new housing investments in the region, a figure which the office has greatly exceeded.

HOUSE Act—In the 106th Congress, Rep. LaFalce introduced the HOUSE Act, innovative legislation that authorizes one percent down payment FHA loans for teachers, police, and firefighters buying a home in their local school district or employing jurisdiction. He shepherded this bill through the House in 2000 and, though the bill died in conference as a result of opposition from Senate Republicans, it continues to gain widespread support and stands a good chance of enactment in the near future.

Homelessness—In 2000, Rep. LaFalce spearheaded an emergency funding initiative that restored rental assistance for tens of thousands of families nationwide (including 178 in Erie County, NY) who faced eviction and homelessness as a result of HUD cutting off funding. He subsequently took the lead in Congress on an initiative that resulted in action by the Appropriations Committee to provide a separate funding source for renewal of homeless rental assistance in order to prevent a recurrence of the funding cutoff experienced in 2000.

#### *Environment*

Superfund—The infamous Love Canal toxic waste scandal in Niagara County was the impetus for federal legislation to hold corporations liable to pay for the clean-up of hazardous waste sites across the country. Rep. LaFalce first discovered the problems at the Love Canal neighborhood of Niagara Falls in the summer of 1977, and immediately wrote to Douglas Costle, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator, about the problem. He made the first of many personal inspections of Love Canal a few weeks later, and brought President Jimmy Carter, Governor Hugh Carey, Rep. Al Gore, and others to Western New York for on-site visits. Rep. LaFalce urged swift action on relocation of the residents and cleanup of the site. As a result, the following year President Carter declared a health emergency at Love Canal, paving the way for the relocation and cleanup.

In response to the events at Love Canal, Rep. LaFalce crafted and introduced the first Superfund legislation aimed at compensating victims and taxing polluters to pay for the cleanup of toxic wastes they generated. President Carter later submitted a scaled-down version of the LaFalce bill, and Congress subsequently approved it in December 1980.

In 1986, when the Superfund law was reauthorized, Rep. LaFalce drafted and successfully fought for an amendment that specifically targeted Love Canal, committing the Federal Government to purchase rental homes and commercial property in the Love Canal Emergency Declaration Area and to maintain property there, as well as to take the steps necessary to ensure that Love Canal was fully remediated and monitored for years to come.

In 1998, Rep. LaFalce was recognized for his efforts by the Center for Health, Environment and Justice, headed by former Love Canal activist Lois Gibbs, at an awards ceremony in Washington to mark the 20th anniversary of the emergency declaration at Love Canal.

Radioactive Waste Cleanups—Rep. LaFalce has been a national leader on the issue of cleaning up sites contaminated by Manhattan Project radioactive waste materials.

During his years of service in Congress, he has helped secure hundreds of millions of dollars for the remediation of many such sites in Erie and Niagara Counties: Linde, Ashland I and II, and Seaway (all in Tonawanda), and the Niagara Falls Storage Site in Lewiston. Most recently, Rep. LaFalce urged the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to investigate the possibility of including the former Simonds Saw and Steel plant in Lockport for remediation under the FUSRAP program.

#### *Health Care*

Rep. LaFalce has long been an outspoken leader in the ongoing debate on a variety of national health care issues, always insisting that adequate health care should be a basic right of citizenship, not a privilege of employment.

Expanding Health Care Coverage—Rep. LaFalce has long been an advocate for a universal coverage/single payer approach to solving America's health care crisis which leaves 40 million people uninsured. He has promoted legislation that would ensure access to affordable, high quality health care for everyone, regardless of employment, income, or health status. All Americans would be guaranteed health care coverage and would have complete freedom in their choice of providers. Rep. LaFalce proposed this plan not only to improve America's health care system, but to relieve businesses of the financial burden of paying for most of our health care coverage.

Diabetes—Rep. LaFalce has been a leading advocate for diabetes research and increased healthcare coverage for diabetes prevention and treatment programs. In 1997, he and his colleagues on the Congressional Diabetes Caucus convinced Congress to show their commitment to conquering diabetes with the creation of the Diabetes Research Working Group (DRWG), a panel of leading diabetes researchers appointed by the National Institutes of Health, to develop a comprehensive plan for the 21st Century for all NIH-funded diabetes research efforts, and to recommend future diabetes research initiatives. In 1999, Rep. LaFalce authored H. Res. 325, expressing the support of Congress for increased federal funding for diabetes research, awareness and early detection programs. The LaFalce resolution passed the House unanimously, 414-0.

Rep. LaFalce also worked closely with the National Office of the American Diabetes Association to protect coverage of Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) under Medicare for people with diabetes and to distinguish it from diabetes self-management training (DSMT), a separate, though complimentary, service integral to diabetes care. He was honored in 2000 and 2002 by the American Diabetes Association with its Valor Award in recognition of his continuing efforts to secure increased funding for diabetes research and "for his outstanding service to people with diabetes."

Multiple Sclerosis—Rep. LaFalce introduced the Multiple Sclerosis Treatment Act in 1997, and again in 2001, to provide for Medicare Part B (Supplementary Medical Insurance) coverage of certain self-administered beta interferons and other biologicals and drugs approved by the Federal Drug Administration for treatment of multiple sclerosis. In 1995, he was honored by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society as "Congressman of the Year" for his "deep personal appreciation and commitment to the needs of people with MS."

Sleep Disorders—Rep. LaFalce has been a leader in advocating increased public awareness of and research into sleep disorders, which affect nearly two-thirds of American adults. In 2001, he secured \$125,000 in federal

funds for a joint educational program coordinated between the University of Buffalo Medical School, Mount St. Mary's Hospital Sleep Disorder Center in Lewiston, and Millard Fillmore-Gates Hospital's Sleep Disorder Center in Buffalo. In 2001, Rep. LaFalce received the National Sleep Foundation's very first Public Policy Leadership Award as "Congressman of the Year" in recognition of his efforts to increase national attention to the problem of sleep disorders.

**Respiratory Studies**—Rep. LaFalce has long been concerned about the respiratory health of Western New Yorkers, and the effects of air pollution on respiratory disease and other illnesses. In 2001, he obtained \$213,000 from the Centers for Disease Control's National Center for Environmental Health for Buffalo General's Center for Asthma and Environmental Exposure to conduct a study of the respiratory health of residents in neighborhoods adjacent to four international bridges: the Peace Bridge, the Rainbow Bridge, the Whirlpool Bridge and the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge.

The study was conducted to help determine to what extent, and in what ways, the health of local residents is adversely affected by bridge traffic. It will also help bring health concerns to the forefront of discussions about reducing congestion and improving traffic flow at each of the four bridges and border-crossings.

#### *Gambling*

**National Gambling Study Commission**—Rep. LaFalce has been one of the House's leading activists on gambling issues. As Chairman of the Small Business Committee, he conducted a hearing in 1994 that documented the rise in business failures and other economic problems following the introduction of casino and river boat gambling in a number of U.S. communities. The hearing convinced him that local officials required more comprehensive information before considering high stakes gambling as an economic development strategy. He introduced the first legislation in Congress in 1994 calling for a special national commission to conduct a comprehensive study of all aspects of the gambling issue. His chief co-sponsor on the bill was Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA). With the shift in control of the House in 1995, he joined with Rep. Wolf in introducing a bipartisan commission proposal that was enacted by Congress in 1996. The National Gambling Impact Study Commission began work in 1997 and submitted its detailed report to Congress in June, 1999. The Commission succeeded in taking one of the most difficult and divisive issues in America and producing an extremely detailed and thoughtful study with more than 70 recommendations for federal, state and tribal policy.

**Gambling and Credit Cards**—The National Gambling Impact Study Commission reported that problems associated with compulsive or pathological gambling had increased dramatically with the spread of high stakes gambling to more U.S. cities. It attributed part of the problem to the growing availability of cash and credit in and around gambling establishments and called for legislation to remove ATM, credit card and other electronic funds transfer devices from gambling areas. Within months of receiving the Commission's report, Rep. LaFalce introduced legislation to implement these important recommendations. The "Gambling ATM and Credit/Debit Card Reform Act of 1999" prohibited gambling establishment from placing credit card terminals, debit card point of sale devices or ATM machines within the immediate area of gambling activity. Its purpose was to minimize the possibility of financial institutions becoming unwitting accomplices in encouraging compulsive behavior.

**Internet Gambling**—The National Commission strongly reaffirmed the principle of state regulation of gambling, but made an important exception for Internet gambling. One of the Commission's few unanimous recommendations was a call for congressional action to restrict illegal Internet gambling, and specifically legislation to block credit card and other electronic payments that make on-line betting possible. Rep. LaFalce introduced the "Internet Gambling Payments Prohibition Act" in 2000 to implement the Commission's recommendation to prohibit all forms of payment for gambling bets over the Internet. This bill was merged with a similar proposal by Rep. Jim Leach (R-Iowa) in 2001 and provided the basis for the bipartisan "Leach-LaFalce Internet Gambling Enforcement Act" (HR 556) that was approved by the House by voice vote in October, 2002.

#### *Trade and competitiveness*

**Can-Am Free Trade**—Rep. LaFalce became the principal leader in Congress on the subject of free trade with Canada, our largest trading partner. He conducted several hearings on the issue and spoke continuously on its behalf, both in the U.S. and Canada. His efforts reached fruition with implementation of the historic U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement. It was a step Rep. LaFalce had been advocating since 1986, when he began his series of seven hearings on trade with Canada. In recognition of his work, President Reagan gave Rep. LaFalce a pen at the signing ceremony and chose Niagara Falls as the site of the National Conference on the Can-Am Free Trade Agreement. The U.S. sent Trade Representative Carla Hills, and Canada sent its Ambassador to the U.S., Derek Burney to join LaFalce as keynoters.

**NAFTA**—As leader in Congress for free—but fair—trade pacts with other nations, Rep. LaFalce was a leading opponent in 1993 of the proposed North American Free Trade Agreement with Mexico and Canada. He chaired a series of hearings in the Congress which exposed the potential difficulties of NAFTA for all three nations and continued to raise concerns about the effects the agreement would have on environmental, labor, and political standards in North America.

Rep. LaFalce argued at the time that the economies and political institutions in the United States and Mexico were far too different to allow for open markets between the two countries. He pointed to important political and judicial reforms, as well as basic labor and environmental protections, that were needed in Mexico before both countries could reasonably benefit from a trade agreement. He also highlighted the environmental blight and desperate economic and health conditions evident in the trade zones along Mexico's border, commonly known as maquiladoras.

Rep. LaFalce also pointed to the dangers of macroeconomic instability in Mexico in the context of the trade agreement, accurately predicting a major devaluation of the Mexican peso. The peso devaluation necessitated a massive financial bailout provided by the United States and the International Monetary Fund.

**Industrial Policy Hearings**—As Chairman of the Banking Committee's Subcommittee on Economic Stabilization, Rep. LaFalce led an unprecedented effort to examine the need for an industrial policy to enhance U.S. industrial competitiveness vis-a-vis our major trading partners. He held over 30 days of hearings on the subject with over 150 witnesses testifying before the Subcommittee. The witnesses represented all walks of life, including: representatives from all levels of government; the business community, including small firms and large corporations;

labor leaders; the financial services industry; representatives from industries such as steel, autos, semiconductors, computers, and machine tools; academics; educator; scientists; economists; community and citizens groups; agricultural specialists; representatives of the military and the defense industry. The Buffalo News said these hearings, held over a four-year period "assembled this century's most complete record on the inter-workings of American manufacturing, monetary and trade policy."

In the course of these hearings in 1983, Rep. LaFalce first focused national attention on the economic growth strategies of many academics and other experts who would one day be household names: Laura D'Andrea Tyson, Ira Magaziner, Robert Reich, and a young governor from Arkansas arguing for innovative approaches to economic policy, Bill Clinton.

Rep. LaFalce introduced legislation to address these industrial competitiveness problems. His bill, H.R. 4360, created (1) a Council on Industrial Competitiveness to provide a forum for labor, business, government, academia, and public interest groups so that they could work cooperatively to develop a competitiveness strategy; (2) a Bank for Industrial Competitiveness to provide financial assistance for the restructuring of basic industries and for the capitalization of new and innovative products and/or technologies; and (3) a Federal Industrial Mortgage Association designed to improve the functioning of capital markets for small- and medium-sized businesses by increasing the availability of long-term capital. The bill was co-sponsored by 103 House Members.

**White House Conference on Productivity**—As Chairman of the House Banking Committee's Subcommittee on Economic Stabilization, Rep. LaFalce aggressively tackled realistic ways to rectify the nation's dismal performance in those years in the areas of productivity and competitiveness. He worked on the productivity issue for years to focus the attention of the President, leaders of American labor and industry, and all Americans on the importance of increasing U.S. productivity for the nation's economic well-being. In 1982, as Chairman of a Small Business Subcommittee, he won enactment of legislation mandating a White House Conference on Productivity, which was held in the fall of 1983 with over 1,000 participants. Keynote speakers included President Reagan, Vice President Bush, the Secretaries of State, Commerce, Treasury, and Labor, and Rep. LaFalce.

**Trade with China**—Rep. LaFalce's support was instrumental in passage of legislation extending Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) with China in 2000. He was one of handful of senior Democrats whose support ultimately swayed other Members and led to passage of the historic legislation; his May 2000 speech in support of PNTR was widely cited and reprinted at the time of the debate. Rep. LaFalce argued that engaging with China economically would provide a powerful boost to pro-democracy forces within the country, contrasting the failure of U.S. policy toward Cuba with the benefits of a more open policy toward China. Rep. LaFalce also worked with congressional leaders to ensure that passage of PNTR came with adequate attention and protections in the areas of human rights and import surges.

**Exchange Rates**—Rep. LaFalce's concern over the destructive economic impact of currency crises and misaligned exchange rates led to legislative provisions in The Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988, which requires the U.S. Treasury to focus more closely on exchange rates and report to Congress semiannually on the performance of exchange rates. Since then, the Treasury

Department has been writing and sending the "LaFalce Report" to Congress every six months on currency exchange rates and highlighting potential problems.

**Currency Devaluation**—Rep. LaFalce has been a leader in Congress on issues related to the performance of international currencies. He held hearings in 1993 on the probable devaluation of the Mexican peso, which occurred in 1994, and has been actively engaged in U.S. responses to currency crises globally over the past 20 years.

Regarding the Mexican peso devaluation, the late Washington Post columnist, Hobart Rowen, wrote in a February, 1995 column: "Rep. John J. LaFalce has a right to say, 'I told you so.' (LaFalce) predicted that peso devaluation was inevitable . . . and begged the Clinton administration to recognize that the North American Free Trade Agreement provided no method to coordinate the two countries' monetary policies. . . . If Clinton and his advisers had paid attention to LaFalce and his supporters, he might not now be engaged in an indefensible bailout of Wall Street investors, including major mutual fund managers who made greedy, high-yield gambles in Mexico after the passage of NAFTA."

**Debt Relief**—Rep. LaFalce authored the provision in the 1988 Trade Act that would have created an international mechanism to avoid sovereign debt defaults in the aftermath of the Latin American debt crises. Subsequent reluctance by the Reagan Administration ultimately blocked the implementation of the debt mechanism. Yet, nearly 15 years later, the International Monetary Fund introduced a similar proposal to address sovereign debt crises, this time in reaction to a string of debt crises during the 1990s and into 2001.

**Ex-Im Bank**—Rep. LaFalce was instrumental in the creation and passage of the Export-Import Bank Reauthorization Act of 2002. The Ex-Im Bank promotes U.S. exports to other countries and has been an engine of job creation in the nation's economy. His work on the 2002 legislation greatly expanded Ex-Im Bank's support for small business exporters, as well as women and minority-owned businesses. In July 2002, Rep. LaFalce was honored by the Coalition for Employment through Exports for his work on the Ex-Im Bank Reauthorization Act and was recognized as a leader in the Congress in promoting U.S. exports.

#### *Northern Border*

Throughout his career in Congress, Rep. LaFalce has worked tirelessly to strengthen the U.S.-Canada relationship. From meetings with Canadian Ambassadors to the United States and our nation's ambassadors to Canada, annual meetings of the Can-Am Inter-parliamentary conference, to frequent conversations with Canadian counterparts across the Niagara River and colleagues in the House and Senate, he has been a leader on every bilateral issue between our two countries that affect his congressional district:

**Northern Border Caucus**—Rep. LaFalce is the founding member and Chairman of the Congressional Northern Border Caucus, an officially recognized Congressional Member Organization consisting of Members representing the northern border states. The Caucus, which he founded in 1994 when the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was implemented, deals with policy concerns and issues that affect U.S.-Canadian relations and the two nations' economic partnership.

The Caucus has worked to obtain increased funding for the U.S. Customs Service, Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the Border Patrol for activities along the Northern Border.

The Caucus was also a major force behind successfully postponing implementation of Section 110 of the 1996 Immigration Reform Act, which would have hampered trade and tourist traffic by imposing a cumbersome entry-exit documentation system. In addition, the Caucus has provided Members with numerous forums to discuss their concerns about the border with U.S. and Canadian officials.

In recognition of his leadership on U.S.-Canadian Border Issues, Rep. LaFalce was honored in 2002 by the Canadian/American Border Trade Alliance for his "many meaningful contributions to the improvement of U.S.-Canadian Trade, Transportation and Border Management."

**Repeal of New Entry-Exit Implementation System, Section 110**—The 1996 Immigration Reform Act directed the INS to implement a new entry-exit documentation system at points of entry along the nation's borders. Because of concerns about the harmful impact on trade and tourism that this would have on Western New York, repeal of Section 110 was the top legislative priority of local chambers of commerce in the Buffalo-Niagara region. Rep. LaFalce authored the legislation in 1997 to repeal the implementation of Section 110 and later negotiated a 30-month implementation delay just days before the original start date of September 30, 1998. But it remained clear that a delay could not sufficiently satisfy his concerns that the INS might develop an entry-exit system at the border that would prove disastrous to the people of New York and other northern border states. Throughout the spring of 2000, Rep. LaFalce negotiated with a bipartisan group of Members the "Section 110 Reform Act," a de facto repeal of this injurious provision. In June, 2000, the President signed the act into law and ended the threat to our border.

**Commuter Students**—In August 2002, Rep. LaFalce successfully persuaded the Bush Administration to reverse the INS decision to prevent part-time students from Canada and Mexico from commuting to classes at U.S. colleges and universities along the border. When the INS announced its sudden change of policy in May 2002, he immediately introduced legislation in Congress to ensure that Mexican and Canadian part-time students could continue to enroll in educational institutions across the border. As Chairman of the Congressional Northern Border Caucus, he also mobilized 30 of his colleagues and New York's two Senators to join in demanding an immediate reversal of the INS decision. On August 24, the Bush Administration relented and announced that the INS would reverse its previous decision so that part-time students would again be able to enroll in U.S. academic institutions.

**NEXUS**—NEXUS is an inspection program that allows pre-screened, low-risk travelers to be processed with little or no delay by U.S. and Canadian border officials. On April 29, 2002, Rep. LaFalce urged the INS and the Customs Service to select Buffalo for the next implementation of NEXUS. The agencies agreed. NEXUS enrollment centers opened in Buffalo in October, 2002, and will be operational at the Peace Bridge beginning in January, 2003. It will be expanded to the Lewiston-Queenstown Bridge and the Rainbow Bridge (and potentially the Whirlpool Bridge) by spring of 2003.

**Niagara Bridges**—Rep. LaFalce authored special legislation permitting the Niagara Falls Bridge Commission (NFBC) to move forward with \$121 million in bridge improvements in 1991. Specifically, he worked to amend federal law to lift the interest rate cap on NFBC bonds and to make the interest on NFBC bonds tax-exempt. The changes allowed the NFBC to move forward with its

plans to modernize and renovate the Rainbow, Whirlpool and Lewiston-Queenston bridges at a cost of \$121 million.

In June, 2002, Rep. LaFalce helped bring \$5.1 million in federal transportation grants to Western New York for upgrading and strengthening U.S.-Canadian border crossings to help keep pace with the growing number of trucks and passenger vehicles using those bridges each day.

**Border Staffing Levels**—With respect to staffing and infrastructure concerns along the Northern Border and in Western New York specifically, Rep. LaFalce has been the most active and vociferous Member in Congress. During the 106th Congress alone, in order to highlight the needs of the Niagara River bridges, he met with Raymond Kelly, Commissioner, U.S. Customs Service; Bob Trotter, Northern Border Coordinator, U.S. Customs Service; Elisabeth Bresee, Assistant Secretary (Enforcement), Treasury Department; Doris Meissner, Commissioner, U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service; and Jack Lew, Director, Office of Management and Budget.

As a result of his efforts as co-chair of the Northern Border Caucus, the USA-PATRIOT Act, signed into law on October 26, 2001, included provisions to triple the authorization for staffing for the INS and the Customs Service for the Northern Border. As a result, the FY02 appropriations bill included funding for 348 new INS border ports-of-entry inspectors, an additional \$55.8 million for additional INS inspectors and support staff on the Northern Border, and least 142 Border Patrol agents at the Northern Border. In addition, the Customs Service received funding for more than 300 Customs officials at the Northern Border. Finally, \$2.3 million to support 100 National Guard troops for three months to enhance security and expedite U.S. Customs Service checks at U.S.-Canadian ports of entry was also appropriated for FY02.

#### *International financial issues*

Rep. LaFalce distinguished himself throughout his career for his leadership on international financial, trade, and development issues. His work in these areas reflects both his moral sense and mastery of complex financial and economic issues. His ability to hold the cause of social justice with an understanding of global markets has made him a uniquely effective advocate and policymaker in areas such as debt relief for poor countries and the resolution of international financial crises.

**The Multilateral Development Banks and the International Monetary Fund**—Rep. LaFalce has been a leader in crafting U.S. policy in the Multilateral Development Banks and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). As the Senior Democrat on the House Banking Committee, he helped craft landmark reforms in the IMF and the World Bank during the 1990s, bringing more transparency and accountability to the institutions and focusing their missions to bring greater effectiveness in achieving global economic development and poverty reduction.

Rep. LaFalce also co-authored the bill creating the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). This regional multilateral development bank was established in 1991 when communism was crumbling in central and eastern Europe and ex-soviet countries needed support to nurture a new private sector in a democratic environment. Through his travels in the region after the fall of communism, Rep. LaFalce recognized the need for a private sector development institutions and worked aggressively in the Congress to authorize creation of the EBRD. Today the EBRD is helping to build market economies and democracies in 27

countries from central Europe to central Asia.

**Third World Debt Relief**—During 2000, Rep. LaFalce fought hard and successfully to pass historic legislation on international debt relief. Although few believed that legislation could be enacted to cancel the oppressive debts of highly indebted poor countries, he joined with the Chairman of the House Banking Committee to introduce H.R. 1095, the Debt Relief for Poverty Reduction Act of 1999. In 2000, Rep. LaFalce's efforts were instrumental in securing \$435 million for debt relief in the FY 2001 Foreign Operations Appropriations Act.

In helping to make the debt relief initiative a reality, Rep. LaFalce worked closely with the Episcopal Church, the Catholic Church, and relief groups like Oxfam. For his leadership on debt relief and his humanitarian work in Congress, Rep. LaFalce was honored by both Bread for the World and Oxfam America, two major global anti-poverty organizations.

**Debt-for-Equity/Environment**—Rep. LaFalce was a leader in the Congress in addressing the Latin American debt crisis of the 1980s. He fought for language in the 1988 Trade Act that would have created an international mechanism to address debt problems. President Reagan vetoed an earlier version of the Trade Act, in part over opposition to the LaFalce debt plan. As signed into law, the debt language in the 1988 Trade Act was substantially weakened due to the Reagan Administration's influence.

Rep. LaFalce also promoted innovative debt relief strategies such as debt for equity and debt for environment "swaps," which provided debt relief for developing countries while also ensuring sound economic and environmental policies in these countries. After traveling to post-communist Central and Eastern Europe, Rep. LaFalce introduced legislation in 1990 directing the Secretary of the Treasury to negotiate for the establishment within the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development of: (1) an Environmental Trust Fund to make loans available at concessional interest rates for environmental protection projects; and (2) requirements for environmental impact assessments of all proposed operations with potential environmental impacts. The legislation also authorized the President to permit Central European countries (defined for purposes of this Act as Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, and Yugoslavia) with emerging market economies to pay debt owed to the United States into local currency trust accounts to be used for environmental protection and economic development projects.

**Brady Plan**—Rep. LaFalce long argued for a new regime for Third World debt restructuring, beginning during the time James Baker was Secretary of the Treasury. He was delighted when Nicholas Brady was appointed Treasury Secretary by President Reagan and called Rep. LaFalce to his office to discuss debt restructuring. Rep. LaFalce had authored an op-ed on the subject in the September/October 1988 issue of *The International Economy*, in which he urged the new Treasury Secretary to ignore the advice predecessor Baker on Third World Debt relief. The Administration subsequently adopted Rep. LaFalce's recommendations to devise and implement a new regime for debt restructuring, which came to be known as the "Brady Plan." In arguing for the importance of debt forgiveness tied to sound policy reform in poor countries, Rep. LaFalce would help lay the groundwork for the landmark Heavily Indebted Poor Country Initiative a decade later.

**AIDS Trust Fund**—Rep. LaFalce was instrumental in passage of legislation in 2000 to create an international trust fund in sup-

port of efforts to eradicate AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria globally. The fund will use public and private contributions to assist poor countries in implementing programs to address these devastating diseases. So far, financial commitments to the fund from donor countries and private institutions have exceeded \$1.5 billion.

**Human Rights and International Finance**—Rep. LaFalce has been a leading voice for the cause of human rights across the globe. As Chairman of the House Small Business Committee, Rep. LaFalce was actively engaged in promoting human rights in Mexico, meeting with key human rights activists such as Jorge Castaneda. He convened hearings to examine the mistreatment of activists by the Mexican government. Concern about human rights abuses in Mexico contributed to his decision to oppose the North American Free Trade Agreement.

As Ranking Democrat on the former House Banking Committee, Rep. LaFalce won enactment of landmark human rights provisions contained in authorizing legislation for the IMF, the World Bank, and the regional development banks, as well as in legislation to forgive debt in poor countries. As a result of these provisions, all government-sponsored international financial institutions are now required to incorporate human rights considerations into their operations, and debt relief is only provided countries with acceptable human rights records. Rep. LaFalce was also successful in creating a commission to monitor human rights in China as part of legislation authorizing permanent normal trade relations.

In 2000, Rep. LaFalce led congressional efforts to ratify a new International Labor Organization Convention on abusive child labor. Rep. LaFalce stood at President Clinton's side as he signed the ratification legislation into law in Seattle.

**Privatization**—In the midst of rapid economic change in the former communist countries during the 1990s, Rep. LaFalce became a leading proponent for the view that privatization of state-owned industries, while often necessary, needed to be implemented in the context of sound regulatory regimes. He believed that the architects and proponents of privatization schemes, both in the post-communist countries and in institutions like the IMF and World Bank, were exclusively focused on the efficiencies achieved through privatization, paying no attention to equity concerns. Without adequate anti-corruption measures, protections for workers, and small business owners and investors, Rep. LaFalce argued that rapid privatization could ultimately leave the countries in worse shape. He spoke out against "nomenklatura" privatization in Russia and "patron" privatization in Mexico, first as Chairman of the Small Business Committee in 1994 and later during hearings in the House Banking Committee.

Rep. LaFalce's concern that reckless privatization programs were being supported through U.S. foreign aid and through the international financial institutions (IFIs) led him to introduce privatization provisions in authorizing legislation for the IFIs in 2001. His concern was confirmed recently by analysis released by the International Monetary Fund, which indicated that failed privatization efforts during the 1990s were the result of inadequate regulatory oversight. Reflecting Rep. LaFalce's earlier statements, the IMF study suggested that the IFIs were too quick to support rapid privatization without adequate regulation.

#### *Terrorism response*

Rep. LaFalce authored several key bills to address the impacts of the September 11th terrorist attacks on our nation. He authored

key sections of the anti-terrorist "PATRIOT Act," primarily those dealing with money laundering. He played a leading role in House passage of legislation to provide for continued insurance coverage against terrorist attacks. And he worked with the Bush Administration to secure disaster assistance for small businesses.

**The USA PATRIOT Act**—In the wake of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, Rep. LaFalce called on President Bush to take bold steps in the international arena to support enactment of tougher anti-money laundering laws here at home. He called for the passage of an anti-money laundering bill he had worked closely with the Clinton Administration and Sen. John Kerry (D-MA) to introduce during the 106th Congress. Rep. LaFalce successfully shepherded his legislation into law in the 107th Congress. The legislation he authored was incorporated as a separate title in the landmark USA PATRIOT Act (PL 107-56), a comprehensive law intended to bolster the U.S. government's ability to fight terrorism. Rep. LaFalce's legislation represented the PATRIOT Act's "financial war on terrorism" component.

His legislation provided the United States with new tools to combat money laundering threats from overseas, and to prevent the use of the domestic financial system by money launderers, terrorists, and corrupt foreign officials. The bill specifically addressed the abuse of offshore secrecy havens by criminals and terrorists who seek to launder their illicit monetary gains. By strengthening the Treasury Secretary's ability to curb terrorists' abuse of offshore secret accounts, the legislation authored by Rep. LaFalce should help immensely to dismantle existing terrorists' financial networks—a key battle in the global war on terrorism.

The law provides the Treasury Secretary with the authority and discretion to address specific money laundering infractions, which U.S. law enforcement agencies could not do under the previous legal regime. That regime offered limited options for law enforcement: the Treasury Secretary could either issue informational advisories to U.S. financial institutions about specific offshore jurisdictions or take the more extreme approach of invoking sweeping and often disruptive economic sanctions. The new law allows the Secretary to identify specific overseas financial institutions as engaging in money laundering and to prevent U.S. institutions from doing business with such institutions.

Rep. LaFalce's legislation provided the Treasury Secretary new discretionary authority, which can be invoked under certain select circumstances. For example, the Secretary could use this authority if he or she were to identify an area of "primary money laundering concern" offshore. If invoked by the Treasury Secretary, this discretionary tool would only apply to the overseas activities of U.S. financial institutions, not domestic activities. The approach taken in the LaFalce legislation offers the kind of regulatory flexibility, which did not exist previously, needed to tackle a fast-moving and remarkably adaptable class of criminals, particularly terrorists. More recently, various provisions in the legislation have been successfully used by U.S. law enforcement officials in their efforts to track down the sources of funding for Al-Qaeda and other terrorist organizations.

**Small Business Relief**—In the immediate aftermath of September 11th, Rep. LaFalce introduced legislation to help small businesses impacted by the terrorist attacks. The "Terrorist Disaster Relief for Small Business Act" addresses the economic hardships of small businesses who are suffering ripple effects from the September 11th attacks. Just weeks after Rep. LaFalce's introduction of the bill, the Bush Administration

undertook regulatory changes to make more small businesses eligible for disaster assistance. The Administration's action expanded eligibility for loans to disaster-impacted businesses at interest rates as low as 4 percent, and for terms of up to 30 years. The Bush Administration has indicated that it plans to allocate funds in the FY 2002 budget to leverage approximately \$1 billion in new Small Business Administration disaster loans.

**Victory Bonds**—Following the September 11th terrorist attacks, Rep. LaFalce received numerous calls from his constituents about how they could help in the recovery efforts, and how they could show their support against international terrorists. Rep. LaFalce heeded these calls by immediately introducing legislation to authorize the issuance of special "Victory" savings bonds. The effort was modeled on a proud tradition in America that dates back to the Second World War, when government bond sales generated over \$200 billion to fund the war effort. Recently, the U.S. Treasury responded by re-designating its current series EE savings bonds as "Patriot Bonds." This move is intended to encourage Americans to contribute to the government's anti-terrorism campaign.

**Terrorism Reinsurance**—Rep. LaFalce played a leading role in the House's passage of legislation that would provide for the continuation of insurance coverage against terrorist attacks, which was in danger of disappearing, or being too costly, after September 11th. Agreement has been reached on the bill and the conference report should be approved in November.

**Islam Resolution/Imam Guest Chaplain**—Rep. LaFalce has always been a strong advocate for freedom of religious expression in America. In the aftermath of September 11, he grew increasingly concerned that this precious freedom might be compromised, particularly with respect to Muslims, out of fear and in the name of "defense against terrorism." In November 2001, Rep. LaFalce introduced H. Res. 280, a resolution recognizing Islam as one of the great religions of the world and commending Muslims on their faith, particularly during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan. At Rep. LaFalce's request, the U.S. House of Representatives marked the commencement of Ramadan for the very first time, when, with the concurrence of Speaker Dennis Hastert, he arranged an invitation to Muslim Chaplain at Georgetown University, Imam Yahya Hendi, to offer the opening prayer before the U.S. House of Representatives.

#### *Italian-American heritage*

Rep. LaFalce is one of our nation's leading Italian-Americans. Over the years, he has been showered with honors for his leadership, his integrity, and his dedication to those he serves.

**Italian-American Heritage Award**—Rep. LaFalce received the "Italian Heritage Award" from the Italian Heritage and Culture Club of Western New York. The club then renamed the award the "JOHN J. LaFALCE Italian Heritage Award" for future recipients.

**Delegation Dean**—As the most senior Italian-American serving in the U.S. Congress, Rep. LaFalce was the Dean of the Italian-American Congressional Delegation. In 2001, he led a fact-finding trip to Italy sponsored by the National Italian-American Foundation (NIAF), the leading advocacy group for Americans of Italian descent. The LaFalce/NIAF delegation traveled to Rome, the Vatican and the southern region of Calabria.

In the village of Marcedusa, in the Province of Catanzaro, in the Region of Calabria,

Rep. LaFalce was made an honorary citizen of both Marcedusa and Calabria. His paternal grandparents—Giovanni LaFalce and Concetta Mancuso—came from Calabria, were married and lived in Marcedusa (population 500), before emigrating to the United States. While he appreciated his honorary citizenship, he especially prized the gift of a bottle of olive oil made from the olives of the trees planted and nourished by his grandfather.

The pastor of St. Andrea the Apostle Church in Marcedusa, where Rep. LaFalce's grandparents were married, showed him a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary that was bought by his grandparents and donated to the Church in gratitude for the blessings they had received in America and in appreciation to the people of Marcedusa who had given them their roots.

**Order of Merit**—Rep. LaFalce received Italy's highest rank of decoration, the Order of Merit, from Italian Ambassador to the U.S. Boris Biancheri. The Ambassador journeyed to Western New York to make the presentation, awarded for Rep. LaFalce's accomplishments as a leading Italian-American. The award named him a Knight-Commander of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy, or "Commendatore," that country's highest civilian honor.

#### *Caucus/conference participation*

**U.S.—Canada Inter-Parliamentary Group**—Rep. LaFalce has been an active member of the United States—Canada Inter-Parliamentary Group. The group meets annually to create a network among Canadian and American legislators to discuss issues of mutual interest in the areas of Trade and Economic Issues, International Relations, and Transborder Issues.

**Congressional Study Group on Germany**—Rep. LaFalce has long been a member of the Congressional Study Group on Germany; in 1999 he served as vice chair, and in 2000 as chairman. The group meets once a year alternating between Germany and the U.S. In 2000, when Rep. LaFalce was chairman, the members of the German Bundestag came to the annual conference in Niagara Falls, New York.

**Argentina Task Force**—In 2002, Rep. LaFalce was asked by the Inter-American Dialogue to co-chair an elite group of policymakers charged with offering recommendations to resolve Argentina's economic crisis. Rep. LaFalce co-chairs the task force with Ambassador Carla Hills. In his appointment as co-chair, Rep. LaFalce was recognized for his leadership on international debt issues and his expertise in Latin America.

**Bilderberg Conference**—Rep. LaFalce was the only Member of the U.S. House of Representatives to participate as a member of the fiftieth meeting of the Bilderberg Conference, held in Virginia from May 30th—June 2nd 2002. The Bilderberg Meeting gathered 115 of the world's most influential leaders from 20 countries to discuss a variety of national and international issues. Participants included leaders of government, business, and academia, such as Henry Kissinger, David Rockefeller, Donald Rumsfeld, Larry Summers, Carla Hills, Alan Greenspan, Fannie Mae Chairman Franklin Raines, World Bank President James Wolfensohn, DaimlerChrysler Chairman Jurgen Schrempp, and Deutsche Bank Chairman Hilmar Kopper. The next meeting of the Bilderberg Conference will be in May, 2003 in Versailles.

**Diabetes Caucus**—Rep. LaFalce is Co-Vice Chair and a founding member of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus, one of the largest and most influential congressional organizations. Founded in 1995, the Diabetes Caucus strives to increase the awareness of diabetes

in Congress and to promote greater research into diabetes and diabetes-related complications. Due to Rep. LaFalce and the influence of the Caucus, Congress established the Diabetes Working Group to advise the NIH on research needs and priorities. Most recently, in October, 2002, Rep. LaFalce and his colleagues in the Caucus introduced the Pancreatic Islet Cell Transplantation Act to help advance islet cell transplantation, the most exciting advance in diabetes research since the discovery of insulin in 1921. Rep. LaFalce and the Caucus have secured millions in federal funding for Medicare coverage of diabetes education and supplies, research and treatment initiatives through the National Institutes of Health, the Departments of Health and Human Services, Veterans Administration, Indian Health Service and the Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service.

#### *Sampling of honors and awards*

**Honorary Doctorates**—Rep. LaFalce has received four honorary degrees from universities that awarded him for his public service, his integrity, and his leadership.

In 1991, the Villanova University School of Law recognized him with an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree. In 1990, Canisius College awarded Rep. LaFalce on honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree for his "Extraordinary leadership as a Member of Congress and champion of the citizens of Western New York."

St. John's University awarded him an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1989, emphasizing in their commendation that Rep. LaFalce proves that "public service in a democracy can be the most noble of professions."

Niagara University also awarded him an honorary Doctor of Laws in 1979. The Niagara University citation read in part: "...Three qualities emerge as best describing the man: honesty, energy and conviction. His honesty is attested by the estimation that he knows who he is, whom he represents, and what he is doing in Congress. His energy is realized in the extent and diversity of his involvement and legislative efforts...as well as his thoroughness, his dogged determination to see a matter through to its completion. His conviction is demonstrated by a creed which avows: regardless of which side of the aisle it originated, 'Truth is truth, Justice will out, and the Law must be upheld.'"

**Homeownership Alliance**—the "Homeownership Hero" award was presented to Rep. LaFalce by the Homeownership Alliance to recognize his "outstanding contribution to the expansion of homeownership opportunities for all Americans." 2002

**Financial Services Roundtable**—Rep. LaFalce was honored by the Financial Services roundtable with its "American Financial Leadership Award" for "his superb leadership...in reforming the financial services industry which is so vital to the economy of our state and nation." 2000

**National Association of Federal Credit Unions**—A special career recognition award was given to Rep. LaFalce by the National Association of Federal Credit Unions "for being a champion for federal credit unions and their members for more than twenty-five years." 2002

**Oxfam International & Bread for the World**—For his successful humanitarian work in Congress on behalf of debt relief for the world's poor, Rep. LaFalce was honored by Oxfam International and Bread for the World, two global anti-poverty organizations, "for helping break the cycle of poverty." 1999

**National Association of Realtors**—Rep. LaFalce was awarded the National Association of Realtors' "Legislative Leadership Award" in the 106th Congress "In appreciation for his

outstanding leadership in supporting legislation to help families achieve the American dream of homeownership.”

Center for Health, Environment and Justice—On the 20th anniversary of the Love Canal crisis in his district, Rep. LaFalce was honored “for his significant role in assisting residents to obtain justice” and for his “tireless efforts to move various agencies at all levels of government that was above and beyond the call of duty.” 1998

New York Credit Union—Rep. LaFalce was awarded the “Freedom of Consumer Choice Award” by the New York Credit Union Campaign for Consumer Choice “for actively defending the rights of consumers to choose their financial institutions and for protecting the future of America’s credit unions.” 1998

Small Business Council of America—In recognition of his work as Chairman of the Small Business Committee, where he wrote laws creating hundreds of thousands of jobs in the small business sector, Rep. LaFalce received the “Congressional Award” from the Small Business Council of America, which read in part: “when others trample asunder the rights and best interests of small business, he steps forward and moves mountains.”

Associated General Contractors (NY State Chapter)—In 1975, Rep. LaFalce had the distinction of being the first of the newly-elected Members to have a bill he authored signed into law. That bill preserved and created more than one-million construction jobs—300,000 in New York State alone. For his work, the New York State Chapter of the Associated General Contractors honored Rep. LaFalce with its annual “Man of the Year” award.

American Diabetes Association—As Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the House Diabetes Caucus, Rep. LaFalce was honored twice by the American Diabetes Association with its Valor Award in recognition of his continuing efforts to secure increased funding for diabetes research and “for his outstanding service to people with diabetes.” 2000, 2002

National Multiple Sclerosis Society—Rep. LaFalce was honored as “Congressman of the Year” by the National MS Society for his “deep personal appreciation and commitment to the needs of people with MS who have lost access to breakthrough treatments because they are dependent on Medicare reimbursements.” 1995

National Sleep Foundation—The National Sleep Foundation awarded Rep. LaFalce its very first Public Policy Leadership Award in 2001 for his efforts in bringing the problem of sleep disorders to the nation’s attention. He secured \$125,000 in federal funds for a sleep disorder educational program to be conducted jointly by the University at Buffalo Medical School, Mount St. Mary’s Hospital Sleep Disorder Center in Lewiston, and Millard Fillmore-Gates Hospital’s Sleep Disorder Center in Buffalo.

National Association of Women Business Owners—Rep. LaFalce received the “Congressional Advocate of the Year” award from the National Association of Women Business Owners for his work in enacting the Women’s Business Ownership Act, which expanded federal assistance programs to businesses owned by women.

New York State Association of Renewal and Housing Officials, Inc.—Rep. LaFalce was recognized by the NYSARHO “for his outstanding contributions to national housing and community development programs while serving as a member of the House Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development and in appreciation for his cooperation with the committees, officers, and members of this Association.”

New York State Realtors—Rep. LaFalce was honored by the New York Realtors for his “consistent contributions to the development of the community by participation in civic affairs and by leadership and dedication to making America better.”

Housing Agencies of New York State—Rep. LaFalce received the New York state Housing Agencies’ Housing award “in recognition of and appreciation of your continued support of those programs which provide housing opportunities for low and moderate income people in the United States.”

H.R. 4664

SPEECH OF

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2002*

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act, H.R. 4664, which provides a 5-year reauthorization for the National Science Foundation’s research and education programs.

The bill represents a bipartisan effort to provide the level of resources necessary to sustain the important work of the National Science Foundation in science and engineering research and education.

I want to congratulate Research Subcommittee Chairman SMITH and Ranking Democratic Member EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON for their efforts to craft the bill. I also want to thank Science Committee Chairman BOEHLERT for his leadership and for working closely with this side of the aisle in developing the bill.

NSF is our premier agency for support of basic research at academic institutions in the physical sciences and the non-medical biological sciences, in mathematics, and in engineering. Basic research discoveries launch new industries that bring returns to the economy far exceeding the original public investment.

In fact, over the past 50 years, half of U.S. economic productivity can be attributed to technological innovation and the science that has supported it. Unfortunately, the simple truth is that during the 1990s we underinvested in the fields of science that NSF supports.

A recent report from the National Academy of Sciences provides specific examples that make this case. The report shows that between 1993 and 1999 federal research support at academic institutions fell by 14 percent in mathematics, by 7 percent in physics, by 2 percent in chemistry, and by 12 percent in electrical engineering.

Inadequate funding for basic research in such important fields imposes a price on society, because new ideas are lost that would otherwise underpin future technological advances.

Of even more importance, anemic funding of academic science and engineering research reduces the numbers of new young scientists and engineers, who constitute the essential element necessary to ensure the nation’s future economic strength and security.

H.R. 4664 authorizes funding growth for NSF of 15 percent per year for 5 years, bringing the total authorization level to \$9.8 billion by the final year. This follows the funding path to double NSF’s budget over 5 years, as was

proposed by Rep. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON in the NSF authorization bill she introduced, and I cosponsored, last year.

The funding growth proposed by H.R. 4664 will enable the Foundation to expand its investments in cutting-edge research initiatives and shore up its core research programs.

In particular, this new funding will enable NSF to increase average grant size and duration, as well as increase the number of new awards. Due to budget constraints, NSF now declines more than \$1 billion dollars worth of research applications each year that receive merit review scores as high or higher than the average score for funded applications.

The funding authorized by H.R. 4664 will also begin to address the growing imbalance in federal support for fundamental research in the physical sciences and engineering relative to the biomedical fields. This is a serious matter because, for any field of science, progress is dependent on advances made in other fields. As pointed out by the past director of the National Institutes of Health, Nobel Laureate Harold Varmus, most of the revolutionary changes that have occurred in biology and medicine are rooted in new methods that, in turn, are usually rooted in fundamental discoveries in many different fields.

For the past half-decade, we have been very free in our support of biomedical research. I consider that to be a very good thing for all of our people. However, investing too narrowly in medical fields without investing in all the other sciences—sciences that contribute to the base of knowledge necessary for medical breakthroughs—will lead to a slowdown in medical progress in the long run.

H.R. 4664 will provide the resources needed by NSF to support multidisciplinary research initiatives in such areas as nanotechnology, information technology, and the mathematical sciences. It will allow construction of new national user facilities for astronomers, computational scientists, earth and atmospheric scientists, and life scientists.

And equally important, the bill institutes new programs to strengthen science and math education in the schools and to train the scientists and engineers the nation needs for the future. Without a constant infusion of well-trained, talented young people into technically challenging fields, our country would lose its edge on the rest of the world.

H.R. 4664 incorporates many provisions from the National Mathematics and Science Partnerships Act that passed the House earlier this year. These important provisions are designed to bring more support to our K–12 science and math teachers, their students, and their schools. The overall goal is to help our children become much more proficient in science and math, and I am confident that the programs authorized by this bill will do just that.

I would particularly like to highlight some programs incorporated in H.R. 4664 that originated in H.R. 1693, a science education bill I introduced with many of my Democratic colleagues from the Science Committee. These include research to explore ways to effectively use educational technologies in the classroom and programs to encourage and support women and minorities in pursuing careers in science and engineering.

H.R. 4664 also includes substantial provisions from the Undergraduate Science, Mathematics, Engineering and Technology Education Improvement Act, H.R. 3130, that authorize several programs at the National Science Foundation to strengthen undergraduate education in these fields of study. Basically, these programs will help increase the numbers of students graduating in science, math and engineering and will help improve the quality of undergraduate science education.

The undergraduate educational programs build on existing NSF programs that have proven their effectiveness, such as Research Experiences for Undergraduates. Similarly, the bill will provide support for the expansion of successful, small-scale undergraduate education reform activities that some colleges and universities have been engaged in.

H.R. 4664 is an important bill that will help ensure the nation maintains a vigorous basic research enterprise, which is an essential component for a strong economy and for national security. And equally important, it will help educate the next generation of scientists and engineers, the essential ingredient in ensuring the nation's technological strength.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this measure to my colleagues and ask for their support for its passage by the House.

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H.R. 4664

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2002*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman BOEHLERT, Ranking Member HALL, and Chairman SMITH for working with me in a bipartisan manner on this important piece of legislation that makes a strong statement about our commitment to invest in America's future. I would also like to extend my appreciation to Senator KENNEDY, Senator HOLLINGS, Senator GREGG, and Senator BOND in the other body.

As Ranking Member of the House Science Research Subcommittee, I am pleased to say that this is truly an historic piece of legislation for science policy in the United States. The conference report of H.R. 4664 begins the process of doubling NSF's budget, which was the goal of H.R. 1472, the NSF authorization bill I introduced in April of 2001. I introduced H.R. 1472 because I strongly believe that investing in basic science, math, and engineering research is essential to the future economic prosperity and global competitiveness of our country. Many of today's scientific breakthroughs in medicine, consumer electronics, homeland security and other technical fields are the direct result of investments made in basic research decades ago.

To appreciate the importance of NSF to scientists in America, consider some facts. NSF provides 23 percent of basic research funding at academic institutions and as much as 72 percent and 78 percent of the research in critical areas such as mathematics and science. Yet despite its importance to key sectors of our nation's economy, NSF previously had to decline more than \$1 billion worth of high quality research proposals each year due to

insufficient funds. With the passage of today's conference report, that situation has begun to change. The increase is applied equally to research and education programs, and specific funding authorizations are made for the focused research initiatives in some of the most promising frontiers of science, such as information technology and nanoscale science and engineering. The bill also makes a number of improvements in the way major research projects are funded, the transparency of the agency, and the coordination with other federal research agencies.

NSF also plays a leading role in educating our youth in the math and sciences and training the scientists and engineers of tomorrow, and the agency is working to ensure that tomorrow's high-tech workers reflect the diversity of America. This legislation includes a number of important initiatives that will improve upon science education in the United States. With Senator KENNEDY's help, H.R. 4664 includes portions of H.R. 1660, the Mathematics and Science Proficiency Partnership Act I introduced in May of 2001 to help secondary schools leverage private sector funds for math, science, and engineering scholarships. The Technology Talent Act of 2002, H.R. 3130, is also included in the NSF reauthorization. This initiative will increase the number of students studying and receiving associate's or bachelor's degrees in established or emerging fields within science, mathematics, engineering, and technology. It also establishes specific grant programs in these fields at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and enables eligible nonprofit organizations to work with NSF and public-private consortia to improve science and math education. My home state of Texas has an excellent track record of these innovative partnerships.

I am also pleased that the conference report of H.R. 4664 includes the text of H.R. 2051, the Regional Plant Genome and Gene Research Expression Act Chairman SMITH and I developed together and that passed the House in May of 2002. The legislation establishes competitive, merit based grants to eligible entities to conduct basic research on crops that can be grown in the developing world. The research supported by these grants will help scientists discover innovative solutions to some of the developing world's most intractable problems, such as hunger, malnutrition, and disease. An important feature of this authorization is that U.S. scientists are required to partner with their colleagues in developing nations, which will help develop the scientific capacity of developing nations and stimulate the free flow of ideas, which is so essential to the progress of science.

If we want future Americans to enjoy the pace of progress that we are blessed with today, it is imperative that we bolster funding for our nation's premier basic research agency, the National Science Foundation. H.R. 4664 is a step in the direction of making that dream possible. The legislation that passed last week provides our nation's premier science research agency with the resources it needs to continue and improve upon its excellent track record and authorizes a number of important science policy initiatives. I urge the President to sign H.R. 4664 into law, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle in both chambers to ensure that NSF is fully funded under these new authorization levels.

H.R. 3609

SPEECH OF

**HON. DON YOUNG**

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2002*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, with the passage of H.R. 3609 pipeline safety legislation, Congress has completed a critical step in improving the safety and reliability of the nation's interstate natural gas pipeline system. The Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS), within the Department of Transportation has principal responsibility for developing, applying, and enforcing the pipeline safety rules that enhances the safety of the nation's pipelines and protects the public.

OPS is required to enforce these rules without regard to market conditions or commercial considerations. It must diligently seek to promote safety above any competing objectives. Among the most important of existing pipeline safety rules is the requirement that natural gas pipelines not exceed maximum allowable operating pressure, or MAOP. A pipeline's MAOP is established on the basis of engineering principles, testing, historical operations, and experience. Pipeline operators who exceed MAOP violate the Department of Transportation's pipeline safety regulations and may be fined for such violations.

No agency other than OPS should be allowed to re-interpret or water down pipeline safety regulations based on its view of market or commercial concerns. Allowing any other agency to usurp OPS's function will undermine the hard work the Congress has completed to enhance pipeline safety and minimize the risks of pipeline ruptures that may cause serious injury and death.

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H.R. 4664

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2002*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act, H.R. 4664, passed by the House on November 14, 2002, a bill which doubles funding for one of the most efficient and essential agencies of the Federal government, the National Science Foundation. In particular, I am proud to support this bill because it contains two provisions I authored, both of which will address growing needs in our educational system, our workforce and the economy.

The first provision will have a positive impact on our educational system's ability to integrate cutting edge technology into the classroom instruction of advanced disciplines at the primary and secondary education levels and which will, therefore, improve the educational opportunities of America's students. The second provision will address a growing problem in our nation's workforce: fewer and fewer Americans are seeking degrees in the scientific and technical fields as demand grows and more jobs go unfilled. Both provisions will improve the nation's capacity to maintain an innovative edge in technical fields, which is

the backbone of America's prosperous economic system.

The first provision is simple: it tasks the National Science Foundation to identify the best educational practices to provide educators and policy makers with tools for using existing and evolving Internet technology more effectively as a part of the nation's educational strategy. It does this by tasking NSF to study:

(1) The current status of high-speed, large bandwidth capacity access to all public elementary and secondary schools and libraries in the United States;

(2) How high-speed, large bandwidth capacity access to the Internet to such schools and libraries can be effectively utilized within each school and library;

(3) The effect that specific or regional circumstances may have on the ability of such institutions to acquire high-speed, large bandwidth capacity access to achieve universal connectivity as an effective tool in the education process; and

(4) Present various options and recommendations for the entities responsible for elementary and secondary education to address the challenges and issues identified in the report.

In essence, in order to prepare our public schools for the 21st century, we must reexamine how our children's education is delivered into the classrooms. The provision would provide our schools with the best data available from some of the nation's top researchers to help schools enter the 21st century by assisting them to establish effective educational pipelines—broadband pipelines—through which we can supply the energy necessary to fuel the new digital economy.

The second provision is, essentially, a bill I co-authored and introduced with Science Committee Chairman, Sherwood Boehlert, the Tech Talent Act, H.R. 3130. That bill's main provision, which made it into the NSF Authorization bill, consists of a new effort to address the tech worker shortage by establishing a competitive grant program at the National Science Foundation that rewards universities and community colleges that pledge to increase the number of U.S. citizens or permanent residents obtaining degrees in science, math, engineering and technology (SMET) fields.

It is no secret that America has long recognized that its long-term strength and security, and its ability to recover and sustain high levels of economic growth, depends on maintaining its edge in scientific achievement and technological innovation. Biomedical advances have permitted us to live longer, healthier, and more productively. Advances in agricultural technology have permitted us to be able to feed more and healthier people at a cheaper cost. The information revolution can be seen today in the advanced instruments schools are using to instruct our children and in the vast information resources that are opened up as a result of the linkages created by a networked global society. Our children today can grow up to know, see, and read more, be more diverse, and have more options in their lives for learning and growing. Other emerging technologies—such as nanotechnology—have untold potential to make our lives more exciting, secure, prosperous, and challenging.

Many countries also recognize this and they, therefore, focus their industrial, economic, and security policies on the nurturing

and diffusion of technological advancement through all levels of society in a deliberate fashion. Countries that follow this path of nurturing innovation focus a lot of their efforts into recruiting and training the very best engineers and scientists, ensuring that a pipeline which pumps talented and imaginative minds and skills is connected to the needs of the country's socio-economic and security enterprise.

Yet here in this country, this pipeline is broken, threatening the competitive edge we enjoy in the business of technological innovation. Fewer and fewer Americans are getting degrees in scientific and technical fields—even as the demand grows. For example, the number of bachelors degrees awarded in math, computer science, and electrical engineering has fallen 35 percent and 39 percent respectively from their peaks in 1987, at a time when total BA degrees have increased. The number of graduate degrees in those fields has either fallen noticeably or stayed flat. And only about half of all engineering doctoral degrees granted in the U.S. are earned by Americans.

The nation has dealt with this crisis in the recent past by expanding the H1B Visa program to let more foreign residents with science and engineering degrees enter the country. But the H1B program was never intended to be more than an interim solution. The long-term solution has to be ensuring that more Americans get into these fields. The Tech Talent provision included in this bill represents a new effort aimed at producing just such people.

It always pays to be mindful of the fact—especially in the wake of the September 11 events—that there is a strong and tight linkage between our national security and the level of science and technology proficiency in America. Our strength and leadership in the world is based on the might of our defense, strength of our economy, and the quality of our education system. Without any one of these three components the global preeminence of the nation suffers.

In the House Science Committee room there is an inscription: Where there is no vision, the people perish. To remain a strong nation, we must ensure that the single most important element that keeps us dynamic, innovative, prosperous, and secure—and therefore might—is there for us: our students, teachers, researchers, engineers, scientists, and technologists. In short, we need more people with vision. The provisions I authored and the underlying legislation will address the deficiencies in our ability to replenish our workforce with visionary individuals and I urge President Bush to sign this legislation.

#### TRIBUTE TO JERRY ENOMOTO

#### HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a friend with a remarkable career in law enforcement and criminal justice. To say that Jerry Enomoto has been a trailblazer in American law enforcement would only begin to skim the surface of the extraordinary contributions that he has made to our communities over the years. After 45 remarkable years of outstanding public service, Jerry recently retired

from the post of United States Marshal for the Eastern District of California. As his friends, family, and colleagues gather to celebrate Jerry's illustrious career, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting this outstanding citizen of Sacramento.

Jerry Enomoto, a second generation Japanese American, was born in San Francisco. His education at the prestigious Lowell High School in San Francisco was abruptly interrupted by the wartime hysteria against Japanese Americans in the 1940s. Undeterred by the experience, Jerry remained dedicated to his studies and graduated as a valedictorian of his high school class while interned at the Tule Lake War Recreation Center. After his release, Jerry started his career in public service by serving a successful stint in the United States Army. Upon completion of his military commitment, Jerry returned to California to pursue a college education. Using his trademark dedication and determination, Jerry would ultimately receive his Bachelors and Masters degrees from the University of California in Berkeley.

Jerry has earned a number of "firsts" in his distinguished career. In recognition of his outstanding service to the California Department of Corrections, Jerry was tapped by Governor Reagan to become the first Asian Pacific American to serve as a state prison warden. A few years later, as Director of Corrections, Jerry would become the first Asian Pacific American to manage a state department in California history. Seven years ago, Jerry secured the greatest honor of his unparalleled career when he became the first Asian Pacific American appointed as a United States Marshal.

As United States Marshal for the Eastern District of California, Jerry worked tirelessly to bring together local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and improve the communities that cover the thirty-four inland county district that stretches from Bakersfield to the Oregon border. Under Jerry's leadership, the Eastern District of California received the Volunteer and Community Services Award from the Attorney General in 2000. Jerry's commitment to improve the lives of his fellow citizens is not exclusive to strictly law enforcement. Jerry remains one of the preeminent civil rights activists in the region. Jerry was twice elected to the distinguished post of National President of the Japanese American Citizen League (JACL). As the National Chair of the Legislative Education Committee of the JACL, Jerry played an instrumental role in the spearheading the successful lobby for the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1987, an act which authorized redress for the internment of Japanese American during World War II. For his efforts, Jerry was the recipient of the JACL's highest award, "Japanese American of the Bicenium" in 1992.

Until today, Jerry and his wife, Dorothy, remain active in community affairs. Whether it is through their participation in the Greater Sacramento Area Hate Crimes Task Force, or their intimate involvement in organizing the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. dinner, Jerry and Dorothy are still steadfastly committed to make Sacramento a better place for people from all different walks of life.

Mr. Speaker, as Jerry's friends, family, and colleagues gather to celebrate his great career, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most honorable citizens. Jerry's

continuous leadership is a true testament to public service. If a template for leadership could be made, it would surely bear the resemblance of my dear friend, Jerry Enomoto. Although his career in law enforcement may be over, his involvement in community service is, fortunate for us, far from over. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing Jerry Enomoto continued success in all his future endeavors.

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## HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2002*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose H.R. 5005, legislation to create a Department of Homeland Security.

Like all Americans, I stand with the President and my colleagues in Congress determined to win the war against terrorism and to make our country more secure. Regrettably, I do not believe this bill will significantly enhance the safety of the American people, but I believe it will disrupt the balance of power between the executive and legislative branches of the federal government as defined by the Constitution.

Never has a member of the executive branch, in times of peace or war, ever had the vast authority granted in this legislation to unilaterally authorize the expenditure of federal resources without consultation with the Congress. This is the excessive power granted to the new Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. I am concerned this excessive power will obstruct the legitimate role of Congress to provide the appropriate level of oversight and accountability in the war on terrorism.

I also remain absolutely opposed to terms in this bill that allow airline pilots to carry guns in the cockpit without proper testing to address safety concerns, indefinitely postpones the deadline for deployment of explosive detection devices at our nation's airports, and limits the legal liability for certain anti-terrorism products certified by the new department. I am disappointed these provisions were included in the final legislation.

I remain committed to a strong and effective defense of America's interests. The American people must have confidence that terrorism will be defeated through vigilant cooperation between our nation's defense and intelligence apparatus, as well as all essential federal, state and local agencies.

If done properly, a Department of Homeland Security could increase efficiency and coordination between key agencies needed to protect us against future terrorist attacks. Unfortunately, the legislation falls short of this important goal.

We must do all we can to ensure the safety of the American people from the threat of terrorism. I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress and the Administration on this important challenge.

H.R. 5738

SPEECH OF

**HON. DIANA DeGETTE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2002*

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5738. Passage of this bill will continue to fund important Type 1 diabetes research programs and additional treatment and prevention programs for American Indians and Alaska Natives through the Indian Health Service.

Mr. Speaker, passage of this bill could not have come at a more critical time. Juvenile diabetes has a dramatic impact on the lives and families of those affected. Diabetes also places a significant strain on our health care system, costing the nation more than \$100 billion annually and accounting for one in four Medicare dollars. Individuals with juvenile diabetes and their families are full of hope, however, due to recent scientific advances that show real promise for curing this disease. But federal support for such research must be increased to continue this progress.

The Special Diabetes Program for Type 1 funding provided in this bill will be used to continue progress in this area. The additional funding will help develop and clinically test methods that will render the need for insulin obsolete. Clinical trials are underway involving the transplantation of insulin producing cells into individuals with juvenile diabetes. The procedure, known as the Edmonton Protocol, has provided success for the approximately 80 percent of the patients who have received these transplants as they have been cured of juvenile diabetes and no longer require insulin injections. As of January 2002, there were 68 islet transplantation centers around the world. The increased dollars provided in this measure would help researchers replicate and expand upon this success.

With regard to American Indians and Alaska Natives, this population has a much heavier disease burden than the general population. This includes a higher death rate from a variety of diseases, including diabetes, than other Americans. Type 2 adult-onset diabetes is a particular problem, with 12.2% of American Indians those over 19 years old suffering from the disease.

Special Diabetes Program funding for American Indians and Alaska Natives has given tribes the ability to focus diabetes prevention and treatment activities where they can make the biggest difference—at the local level. There are approximately 318 diabetes prevention and treatment programs serving American Indians and Alaska Natives as a result of program.

This funding will make a big difference in reducing the incidence of diabetes in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the National Indian Health Board and the National Congress of American Indians and their member tribes, and the entire staffs of these organizations for their tireless efforts in working to get this bill passed.

Mr. Speaker, we have won several victories in improving health care for people with diabetes. Passage of H.R. 5738 ensures another victory for people with diabetes. It also moves

us one step closer to our goal of finding a cure.

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IN HONOR OF LEWIS GOLDSTEIN

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lew Goldstein, who I have known for more years than I can count. Lew has been a dedicated public servant for more than 30 years, whether serving as a local Democratic party committee member of working the New York City School system.

Lew was born and raised in the Bronx. Born to Leo and Gertrude Goldstein on April 1, 1943, his first twelve years were spent in the Highbridge section of the Bronx. After that he lived on the Grand Concourse and then moved to the Pelham Parkway section of the Bronx. He now resides in the Pelham Bay section of the Bronx.

Lew's first year as a teacher was spent at PS 100 in Harlem. After that he served as a teacher and an administrator in the Bronx. He has dedicated his professional life to ensuring that the children of New York have a better life. For more than ten years, he has focused his efforts on placing children with special needs in the best and most appropriate learning environment. Even after retiring in August he continued to serve the educational needs of the young by going to work part time for Supreme Evaluations and Starting Point Services for Children.

Lew has been involved politically since the mid 1960s. His first elected position was as a delegate to the 1968 National Convention in Chicago. He was originally committed to Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Lew has been an active member of the NYS Democratic Committee to which he was first elected to that position in 1970.

Lew has been active in fighting for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender community. He is the only openly gay elected official from the Bronx. Lew is an active member of congregation Beth Simchat Torah, the largest Gay and Lesbian synagogue in the country.

Mr. Speaker, Lew Goldstein has made the Bronx proud. However, I am quite certain that he will continue to use his energy and determination to continue to make the Bronx an even greater place to live. Lew ski certainly one of a kind, and it has been a privilege and pleasure to call him a good friend for so many years.

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H.R. 5005—CREATION OF A DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2002*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5005, the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

As a New Yorker, I know all too well the importance of a secure homeland. On September 11th, my constituents and I witnessed

firsthand the devastation caused by terrorist attacks and we understand the urgent need to find new ways to improve the nation's safety. Because of this, in July, I felt it was my duty to vote for H.R. 5005, the House version of the Homeland Security legislation and I will do so again today.

H.R. 5005, the bill currently before us, creates a permanent, cabinet-level Department of Homeland Security, headed by a Secretary of Homeland Security who shall be appointed by the President, with the consent of the Senate. As stated by my colleagues, the legislation consolidates 22 federal agencies into one new Department responsible for intelligence analysis and dissemination, science and technology, border and transportation security, and emergency preparedness and response.

I had hoped that the conference committee would have corrected a number of flaws in the House bill. I appreciate that H.R. 5005 is slightly better on worker protections, however, I am still very concerned that the final product includes troubling provisions that weaken civil service protections for the new Department's employees, undermines Freedom of Information Act compliance, and disregards the need for accountability for corporation by giving blanket immunity to companies that produce anti-terrorist devices.

Yet, we have to do everything we can to prevent a tragedy like 9/11. We have to make sure we can respond as quickly as possible to future attacks. The Homeland Security Act will help us reduce our vulnerability to terrorism and ensure that the nation becomes better prepared.

Securing our homeland must be made a priority. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5005.

RECOGNIZING THE HARVEY A. JONES ENGINEERING COMPANY'S 150 YEARS OF BUSINESS EXCELLENCE

**HON. KAREN MCCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Mr. Robert H. Jones and his ascendants. Mr. Robert Jones is the fourth generation family member to lead the Harvey A. Jones Engineering Company as president in the historic region of Independence, Missouri.

The company celebrates its 150th anniversary this year serving our community through the surveying and engineering services it offers to our local businesses and city infrastructure. I salute the remarkable longevity of the company in creating jobs and providing robust economic development throughout our local counties and communities in Missouri and Kansas. The Harvey A. Jones Engineering Company is an outstanding example of the significant contributions that small business makes to our economy.

In 1849, Martin O. Jones came from New York to found his company. The patriarch of the Jones family was appointed Jackson County Surveyor by Missouri Governor Sterling Price and was hired by the United States government in 1874 to survey the Santa Fe Trail from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas to Fort Union, New Mexico.

Martin's son, Robert H. Jones, later directed the family business and in 1919 was appointed City Engineer for the City of Independence. His son, Harvey A. Jones took over the position of City Engineer when his father retired in 1943. Harvey A. Jones, a prestigious civic leader was also appointed as City Engineer for the cities of Sugar Creek, Buckner, Lee's Summit, Raytown, Grandview, and Blue Springs. He was also the first Chairman of the Missouri Water Pollution Board.

Throughout its illustrious development, the Harvey A. Jones Engineering Company was instrumental in building the Little Blue Valley Sewer District covering 225 square miles, widening the Noland Road, as well as constructing the Harry S. Truman Sports Complex.

Robert H. Jones now directs the company and continues the tradition his great grandfather began. Under his leadership, the company is now a leader in using advanced computerized instruments in hazardous waste remediation projects, subdivision planning, and commercial developments.

I wish to congratulate the Harvey A. Jones Engineering Company, its fourth generation president, Mr. Robert H. Jones, and all of its employees, on this meaningful anniversary. Our community is grateful and looks forward to the company's continued growth and success.

PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR EXCHANGE WITH NORTH KOREA

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my grave concern regarding Pakistan's transfer of equipment to support North Korea's covert nuclear weapons program.

Mr. Speaker, I am outraged that North Korea has violated its commitment to the United States, established in a 1994 accord, to freeze its nuclear program. According to reports by your administration, North Korea has in fact been secretly building a program to enrich uranium since the late 1990's.

What I find appalling is that this nuclear program that the United States worked tirelessly to halt, was in fact sustained through the assistance of Pakistan. Not only did the transfer of critical equipment from Pakistan to North Korea take place around 1997, in addition, this relationship has continued even after President Musharraf seized power by force in 1999. Lastly, Pakistan is thought to have provided technology up to even three months ago—I find this particularly outrageous.

The Bush administration has declined to openly discuss Pakistan's involvement in this crucial situation with North Korea. Although the administration seems to have evidence pointing to Pakistan's direct involvement, I see no punitive measures taking place because Pakistan is a U.S. ally in the war on terrorism. In fact, Pakistan has received over one billion dollars' worth of direct and indirect assistance from the U.S. since September 11, 2001. I find it incredible that the U.S. has provided virtually all the assistance President Musharraf has requested, yet at the same time, Pakistan still continues to consort with North Korea by exchanging nuclear equipment for missiles.

Mr. Speaker, I sent a letter to President Bush last month urging the administration to conduct a full investigation of Pakistan's role in providing North Korea with nuclear information and equipment. We must fully investigate President Musharraf's relationship with North Korea since his military coup in 1999, and even more important, to what extent this relationship between the two nations continued after September 11, 2001. To this day, I have not received a response to my request.

In addition, I requested that the administration take immediate steps to ban all military sales to Pakistan and to reimpose Symington sanctions on Pakistan for assisting a foreign nuclear weapons program. Lastly, I urged the administration to also take similar steps and ban any future arms sales they have with Pakistan. I have not received a response to these requests either, however, it seems clear that the administration is opposed to imposing any corrective measures on Pakistan.

Mr. Speaker, I am reiterating these requests that I had previously made to the administration because I think it is important for us to understand that Pakistan should not be exempted of its responsibility in colluding with North Korea over a nuclear weapons program. This situation poses a direct threat to our allies in Asia and to our safety in the United States.

Since the administration is not inclined to recognize the severity of Pakistan's relationship with North Korea, an "axis of evil", and since the administration is not willing to use its authority to reimpose the Symington Sanctions, I will introduce legislation early in the 108th Congress to sanction Pakistan for delivering nuclear enrichment equipment without international safeguards as determined by the Symington Amendment of 1976.

Mr. Speaker, we must show Pakistan that their promise to help us in our war on terrorism cannot be an empty promise. They cannot have it both ways and until President Musharraf learns this lesson we must reinstate the Symington Sanctions to protect our allies in Asia and our own nation.

TRIBUTE TO NORMAN T. SCHINDLER

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Norman T. Schindler who will celebrate his 100th birthday tomorrow—November 20. It is an extremely noteworthy event to mark the centennial of Norman's birth, but it is more important—and deserving of attention at any age—to acknowledge his remarkable record of public service.

Norman Schindler was the son of a successful Austrian father and a regal Romanian mother, who left Europe to find a new life in the United States. Although he faced great challenges in his new country, his timely departure for America may have saved his life because he avoided the horrors of the Holocaust which took the lives of 6 million of his fellow Jews in Austria and elsewhere in Europe, including many of his own family.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Schindler's life in many ways was the America dream—he began as

an industrious eight-year-old selling fresh eggs and delivering packages on the streets of New York City during the era of horse-drawn carriages. His ambition and hard work led him to found the Nortex and Schindler companies, which were headquartered on the 43rd floor of the Empire State Building. He married his wonderful wife Fran, and they have enjoyed a happy 45 years together.

His family and business success is matched by an enviable record of public service. Just two years after the end of the Second World War, his family received notification from the Government of Austria that they were heirs to property in the city of Vienna. In memory of the members of his family who were victims of the Holocaust, the family directed that the property be turned over the city for use as a park.

In 1962 he established the first corporate day care and nursery facility in the United States for the children of working mothers at his manufacturing plant in Fall River, Massachusetts. Norman Schindler has been a leader in a number of areas, particularly since he and Fran established their home in Florida. He served as president of the South Florida Humane Society for fifteen years, was treasurer of the Papanicolaou Cancer Research Center (now the Sylvester Cancer Center) for seven years, was a founder of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation of Miami Beach, on the board of the Hebrew Academy of Miami Beach, and became a "Grand Donor" to the Miami Beach Alzheimers Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Norman T. Schindler for his exemplary public service on the occasion of the centennial of his birth.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
SONNY CALLAHAN

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in tribute and express my appreciation and affection for my colleague and friend from Alabama, SONNY CALLAHAN.

SONNY has traveled a career path from the ranks of the small businessman to serving in the Alabama legislature to ultimately representing Alabama's First District for the past 18 years in the United States Congress.

From his work first as Chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee on foreign operations, and then more recently as Chairman of the subcommittee on energy and water development, SONNY has been unfailingly equitable in his consideration of members' appropriations requests.

Now, in stepping down from the lofty positions he has served with such distinction, he will have more time for his family, his grandchildren, and his friends back home.

We will miss SONNY's friendly manner, his thoughtfulness, and his affability.

But our loss in SONNY's retirement is certainly a clear gain for SONNY's family and the folks of southwest Alabama to whom he now returns.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF  
THE RING LARDNER AWARD FOR  
EXCELLENCE IN SPORTS JOURNALISM

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the Chicago Athletic Association (CAA) was one of the nation's first sports clubs to be created when it was formed in 1890. It was ready for business—and sports—when it opened its doors to athletes and sports fans, just in time for the World's Fair Columbia Exposition in 1893. Amos Alonzo Stagg, Avery Brundage, William Wrigley and Ring Lardner were among the scores of sports celebrities who have called the CAA their second home. William Wrigley even took the club's logo for the use of his new baseball team. Today, that team is known as the Chicago Cubs.

While dozens of awards programs exist for athletes, there are few programs that recognize excellence in sports journalism. The leadership of CAA has decided to create a special award for excellence in sports journalism, in honor of Ring Lardner, premier sports reporter and writer. The inaugural recipients of the new Ring Lardner Award were chosen by a distinguished panel, including: Mike Houlihan, Lardner Award creator, Chicago Sun-Times; Mike Conklin, Chicago Tribune; Rick Kogan, Chicago Tribune; Mike Mulligan, Chicago Sun-Times; Don Pierson, Chicago Tribune; Norman Potash, WBBM-TV (CBS); Jennifer Weigel, WLS-RADIO; Susan Prather, founder of the Chicago Sports Hall of Fame; and William T. Darnton, immediate past president of the CAA.

The recipients of the inaugural Ring Lardner Award are:

In the broadcast category, NFL Host and play-by-play Announcer Greg Gumbel, CBS Sports;

In the print category, former Chicago Sun-Times Columnist and Sports Editor Ray Sons; and

In the posthumous award for both print and broadcast, former Chicago Daily News Sports Reporter, Chicago Sun-Times Columnist and WBBM-TV Sports Director Tim Weigel.

The award ceremony is being held Thursday evening, November 21, 2002, at the Chicago Athletic Association, and is benefiting Maryville Academy for abused children. The profession of sports journalism lost a gifted reported in Tim Weigel last year. His award is especially poignant, because his daughter, Jennifer Weigel, is serving as Master of Ceremonies for the award ceremony, and his widow, Vicki Truax, will accept the posthumous award.

Congratulations to the leadership and members of the Chicago Athletic Association for creating and establishing this award, to Ring Lardner's great-nephew, Rex, for his support and cooperation, and to the recipients.

RECOGNITION OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF  
LYNDA VAN  
DEVANTER BUCKLEY

**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Lynda Van DeVanter Buckley, the author of "Home Before Morning: Story of an Army Nurse in Vietnam", who passed away after a long-time illness last week. Lynda served in Vietnam 1969-70 at 71st Evacuation Hospital in Pleiku. I had the good fortune to know Lynda from her testimony to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs and from her longstanding advocacy as a very early member of the Vietnam Veterans as America. Like so many in the veterans' community, I felt a tremendous loss upon hearing that Lynda had left us after her long and courageous struggle.

As a friend, a Vietnam era veteran and lifetime member of Vietnam Veterans of America, I remember Lynda's perseverance, her indomitable spirit and her humanity. As a then-junior Member of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs she helped shape my views on policy for Vietnam veterans—particularly on women veterans' issues, and the health effects of Agent Orange on veterans and their children. Even in her illness, Lynda continued to fight for her daughter, Molly, whose conditions Lynda suspected were related to her own exposure to Agent Orange.

"Home Before Morning: Story of an Army Nurse in Vietnam" became a clarion call to women Vietnam veterans. It reminded them that they were not alone in their struggles and gave voice to the problems and concerns of both this particular group of Vietnam veterans and the entire generation. So many of the pre-eminent leaders in this community have been affected by her character and her courage. I know her fight lives on in them.

My good friend, Dr. Linda Spoonster Schwartz, a Vietnam nurse who is also a Vietnam Veterans of America member, had this to say about Lynda's life which speaks volumes of the loss we all sense in her passing:

"She was our first Sister. I say that because she took her own Odyssey and put it in print. Her struggle was very much like our own. We began to see we were not alone . . . Her words came like thunderbolts to part the curtain of anonymity, demoralization and released the years of quiet turmoil suffered by many women who served in Vietnam and during the Vietnam era . . . She became the Elder Statesman, supporting, advising, and nurturing a new team to continue her work. She taught us how to share, how to disagree without demeaning each other. Mostly she understood with a deep sense of reckoning which never wavered from her vision . . . She created a voice for women veterans and all past, present and to come are the beneficiary of her legacy."

Lynda will be missed by many, but her commitment and contributions will endure. Yes, Lynda will be missed, but never forgotten.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE CAPITAL  
AREA MICHIGAN WORKS!

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Capital Area Michigan Works! for their receipt of an exemplary service provider award from the U.S. Department of Labor. This award was presented at the U.S. Department of Labor's annual Salute to Veterans on November 13, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, the Capital Area Michigan Works! is part of a regional consortium of local governments that provide workforce development services. The exemplary service provider award was presented to only nine organizations and individuals for their outstanding efforts in providing employment and training services to veterans.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Capital Area Michigan Works! for their distinguished service to America's veterans. Furthermore, I would also ask my colleagues to join me in extending our thanks to the Capital Area Michigan Works! for their service to our community.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR.  
ALICIA BROADOUS-DUNCAN

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to my good friend and one of the most active, passionate and hard-working advocates for older Americans I have ever known, Reverend Dr. Alicia Broadous-Duncan. This year Reverend Alicia will be 65 years old and the Northeast Valley Multipurpose Senior Center will recognize her dedicated service as their Director by having a birthday celebration in her honor.

I have known Reverend Alicia for many years and I have watched with great admiration the tireless and energetic work that she has given to the North Valley Multipurpose Senior Center. Her energy is astounding. The depth of her concern for the center and her genuine love for humanity has made the center into a warm and welcoming environment. No matter how busy, Rev. Alicia's first priority is to provide help and guidance to those in need.

Rev. Alicia has done outstanding work during her years of dedicated service to the community. For example, she served on the Chaplaincy Services Advisory Board of Holy Cross Hospital and was a member of the City of Los Angeles Human Relations Commission.

Reverend Broadous-Duncan has made significant contributions to education and children's causes. Recently, she served on the Board of Directors for Calvary Christian School and played an integral part in Hathaway Children's Village Outreach Services. She has displayed exemplary leadership in Christian service. For example, she was the Founder and Executive Minister of Adonai Covenant Ministries and also an Associate Minister for Calvary Baptist Church in Pacoima. She is extremely devoted to her community.

Among the greatest achievements in Rev. Alicia's life are her seven outstanding children she has raised during her 43-year marriage to Lonnie T. Duncan, and among the great pleasures in her life now are her 17 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

Reverend Alicia Broadous-Duncan has positively affected the lives of so many, and I join the Northeast Valley Multipurpose Senior Center in wishing her a very happy birthday. It is my distinct pleasure to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Reverend Alicia Broadous-Duncan.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSWOMAN  
PATSY TAKEMOTO MINK

**HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, we gather today to highlight the legacy of one of the most distinguished and honorable Members of this august body, my colleague and friend—Congresswoman Patsy Takemoto Mink.

Though Patsy made it to one of the highest elected offices in the land, she never lost the common touch. Patsy was a champion of the dispossessed; the downtrodden; the disenfranchised; the forgotten; she was the people's representative. She was a mentor to many of us in Congress. As the co-chair to the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, she helped me many times to redirect my course if barriers were placed in front of me! But that was vintage Patsy. She was always able to redirect her course if barriers were placed before her. Having been denied entrance to medical school, she chose the legal profession; and was the first Japanese woman to pass the bar in Hawaii. As I received the call of Patsy passing by my daughter Valerie, I was saddened only for a short time, because I began to recall all the fond memories we had together as a source of strength.

We must all draw on those memories. We must celebrate the life of our dear friend Patsy and remember how her 24 years of distinguished services shaped the lives of those who had social impediments, economic inequality and educational restrictions. The passage of the landmark Title IX legislation, which opened doors that had been closed to girls in the athletic programs at schools around this Nation, will be a lasting memory of how tenaciously she fought to improve the lives of girls for generations to come.

In a career that began before territorial Hawaii became a state in 1959, Patsy Mink, with authority, wit and clear perspective, became one of the best-known women politicians in the United States, and the first woman of color elected to Congress. Patsy challenged us all! She challenged us with the question, "Does it matter whether women are involved in politics?" Her career speaks volumes to that question and her accomplishments exemplify the answer. Decisions are being made at the national level that will determine the quality of our lives into the next generation.

Patsy Takemoto Mink—by crossing our paths—has given us the leadership tools to advance the agenda for the common good. Thank you Patsy! Mr. Speaker, on behalf of

many women and Asian American organizations, I would like to submit to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the following statements that highlight the life and legacy of Congresswoman Patsy Takemoto Mink.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSWOMAN PATSY MINK  
REMARKS OF KAREN K. NARASAKI, PRESIDENT  
AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL ASIAN  
PACIFIC AMERICAN LEGAL CONSORTIUM

I believe that Patsy is looking down on us today and smiling at the beautiful mosaic of faces. It is fitting that this memorial has brought together so many strands of her work—organizations and congressional leaders who advocate on behalf of women, civil rights, immigrants, workers, children and the poor have all come together to celebrate her life.

The Asian American and Pacific Islander community misses her greatly. She served as a role model and an inspiration for so many of us. She forged a path that made it possible for Japanese American women like me and other women of color to pursue our dreams and aspirations. She taught us that it was possible to obtain great stature without having to be physically tall, by defying the stereotypes that too often become barriers for Asian American women who come from cultures where women were expected to be seen and not heard. She was a feminist before being a feminist was cool and she remained one her whole life.

The other day, my niece in third grade ran for student body secretary. I asked my sister to tell her that when she was ready to run for Congress, I would work on her campaign. Julia asked my sister to tell me that she intended to be the first woman president and didn't see any reason to start with Congress. This is one of Patsy's greatest legacies—because of her life and work it is possible today for a young Japanese American girl to believe she can be president.

Like many others in this room, I can still hear her voice gently and not-so-gently pushing us to challenge authority and popular opinion and fight fiercely for those most vulnerable in our communities. She was a tough task master who was never one to suffer fools gladly and she asked a lot of her talented and loyal staff, but never more than she asked of herself.

I remember her call for fairness for immigrants and families in poverty when she voted against the tide on harsh welfare reform legislation. I hear the echoes of her passionate speeches on the floor of the House about the need to invest in quality education for all and job training that would allow working families a living wage and access to health care. Because she was never one to toot her own horn, people visiting Washington would be surprised when I told them to try to catch one of her speeches because she was one of the last of the great orators. She was always about the work—always focused on the people she served.

Robert F. Kennedy once said, "each time a man stands up for an ideal or acts to improve the lot of others or strikes out against injustice he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope. . . ." When Patsy stood up, she sent out tidal waves of hope and the lives of all Americans are the better because of her.

REMARKS OF DR. JANE SMITH

Thank you. I am Jane Smith, the Chief Executive Officer of Business and Professional Women/USA.

I join the many Members of Congress and other representatives from the women's community here today because Congresswoman Mink and BPW share a very long history. The Congresswoman was a member of BPW for at least four decades. But Congresswoman Mink was not simply an affiliate

member. She truly epitomized what BPW considers its greatest strength—the grassroots member.

Congresswoman Mink attended the meetings of her local BPW organization regularly and even cast votes in BPW's leadership elections. She spoke at our annual policy conference many times, sharing her insight on the ins and outs of what was happening here on Capitol Hill. In fact, each year before BPW's policy conference she would call her BPW contacts in Hawaii to find out who would be attending the conference and when the BPW members arrived in Washington she took them all out to lunch.

One of my favorite stories about the Congresswoman took place about six years ago when BPW's leadership was asked to testify in front of the House Education and Workforce Committee about increasing the minimum wage. A number of BPW members, who were also small business owners, presented testimony and at the conclusion of the hearing Congresswoman Mink said that the hearing was her proudest day as a BPW member.

In 1998, the BPW Foundation awarded Congresswoman Mink a Women Mean Business Award and BPW's political arm—BPW/PAC—has endorsed her for Congress every time she ran. BPW has honored Congresswoman Mink because she was a grassroots member who exhibited incredible leadership and vision. In the words of BPW's past National President and BPW/Hawaii member—Leslie Wilkins, "We have lost one of our greatest mentors. My only solace is the legacy she has left behind. She has inspired countless women—and men—to go forward with her work."

REMARKS OF BERNICE R. SANDLER, SENIOR SCHOLAR, WOMEN'S RESEARCH AND EDUCATION INSTITUTE

Title IX was easily passed because hardly anyone recognized the enormous changes it would require, and because it was hidden away in the Education Amendments of 1972. It passed easily because two women laid the groundwork for it in the House Committee on Education and Labor, one, Rep. Edith Green who introduced the bill and shepherded it through the Congress, and Rep. Patsy Mink. They were the only two women on the committee with 32 men. But together, they forged a revolution.

Of course after Title IX was passed, people found out what it would do. Between 1974 and 1977 there were at least 10 bills introduced to weaken Title IX, and Patsy Mink was in the forefront defending Title IX. If supporting Title IX and other women's issues were all she had done, it would have been enough. But she didn't stop there.

Let me start by telling you about Arlene Horowitz, then a secretary on the Hill who came to me about an idea for a Congressional bill in 1971, before Title IX was even passed. She asked: Why not have a bill so that the government will fund materials for teachers and others about women and girls to counter the effects of sex role stereotyping? I thought Arlene was crazy and—no one in their right mind in Congress would ever support such a bill. Arlene, fortunately did not listen to me. She went to other women who were also skeptical, and then to Patsy Mink. Patsy Mink did not think Arlene was crazy. She gave us the go ahead and so the Women's Educational Equity Act, affectionately known as WEEA, was born.

Even while we worked on the drafting of the bill, many of us still thought it wouldn't pass but that if hearings were held, maybe it would send a message to publishers to begin publishing such materials on their own. In 1973, Patsy Mink held hearings and convinced Senator Mondale to do the same in the Senate, and in 1974 the bill passed.

Just like Title IX WEEA was hidden away in another bill, the Elementary and Sec-

ondary Education Act. Patsy Mink knew her politics.

As the mother of the Women's Educational Equity Act, she started a program that has developed hundreds of all kinds of resources for educators and other concerned about the education of women and girls. Yesterday I looked through the catalogue of the Educational Development Center which publishes and disseminates WEEA materials. In addition to materials such as 600 Strategies That Really Work to Increase Girls Participation in Sciences, Mathematics and Computers, there were materials about working with immigrant girls, Native American women and girls, Latina women and girls, materials about women of the South, about Cuban American Women, single sex education, a resource manual for single mothers, materials for working with disabled girls and yes, even materials for providing equity for boys. All of these materials have had an enormous impact on not only on teachers but on so many the children and women in our educational institutions. Patsy Mink leaves us a legacy—not only the legacy of defending Title IX but one which enriched Title IX. She gave us the educational tools to deal with the effects of sex discrimination and indeed to prevent sex discrimination from occurring in the first place. Thank you, thank you, Patsy. You have made a lasting difference.

REMARKS FROM THE EVERY MOTHER IS A WORKING MOTHER NETWORK

Grassroots women suffered a great loss with the passing of Congresswoman Patsy Mink. Herself a woman of color, she stood for us, she stood with us, and she stood as one of us and we wonder now who will be our voice on the Hill. We are proud to have known Congresswoman Mink, to have worked with her and to have her encourage us. The last time we saw her was at a Congressional briefing we held in June of this year on valuing the work of caregivers in welfare policy. We invited her to the briefing because we wanted to honor her for her unswerving insistence that the work of mothers and other caregivers be valued. She told us that we should not be honoring her, that instead she should be thanking us for our work in the face of all odds.

You must understand we were not a typical beltway crowd. We were a rather rag tag multiracial group of mothers and grandmothers on welfare, some of us with disabilities, some with our grandchildren in tow, who along with other caregivers had gathered our pennies and traveled to DC to press our case from cities on the West and East Coasts, as well as the Mid-West. We are women who are studied but not listened to, spoken about but not given an opportunity to speak for ourselves. But her tone to us was one of respect. She spoke to us as a sister, as a friend, as people to whom she was accountable. Many of us who heard her at our briefing speak with such truth, conviction and clarity were moved to tears.

From South Central LA to inner city Philadelphia, grassroots women in our network were devastated by the news of Congresswoman Mink's passing and devastated further by her passing being treated in much of the mainstream media as merely a passing event. She touched the lives of those living daily the impact of welfare "reform": those of us on the bottom taking care of children and other loved ones. To her colleagues on the Hill, we hope she will always be a shining example of principle, commitment, integrity and compassion from which you can draw courage. To advocates we hope you will not forget her message. EMWM honors Representative Patsy Mink, her spirit; her courage in the face of sexism, racism and ageism

is one that will continue to inspire us, and lives on in us in our daily work for justice. Congresswoman Mink, you honored us, and we now in return are honoring you. Our deepest condolences to Wendy and other loved ones you have left behind.

REMARKS BY KIM GANDY, PRESIDENT AND THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN.

The world lost one of its greatest citizens on September 28 with the death of Hawaii Congresswoman Patsy Mink. Girls and women also lost one of the most valiant and steadfast champions. Every woman today who is enjoying the fruits of her education and job opportunities, and every girl who has a chance to play sports in school, owes a nod of thanks to Mink who unremittably and dauntlessly challenged old stereotypes about "women's place" and helped engineer the steady progress for women over the last four decades—parallel to Mink's career in politics.

Patsy Mink stood up and showed up for girls and women, often outnumbered and sometimes outmaneuvered. But she persisted, cajoled, humored and demanded of her colleagues that Congress attend to the business of over half its constituents. Among many accomplishments, she was a leader in shepherding the passage of Title IX in 1972 to promote educational equity. One of only two women ever to receive this honor, Patsy Mink was named a NOW Woman of Vision in June, 2002, in a ceremony honoring the 30th anniversary of Title IX. In celebrating her life we must rededicate ourselves to protecting her legacy by preventing the current efforts to dismantle this landmark legislation.

In the last decade of her political leadership, Patsy Mink was a vigorous advocate on behalf of poor families. Faced with the bipartisan tidal wave that pounded poor women, insisting that they "get to work", Mink worked tirelessly to promote policies that truly addressed the realities of poverty and last year garnered substantial support in the House of Representatives for her legislation to provide additional education and skills that would support true self-sufficiency.

Patsy Mink will always be remembered with love and respect and gratitude. She was our champion—a tireless advocate and a hero to women and girls everywhere.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSWOMAN  
PATSY TAKEMOTO MINK

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2002

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit to the appropriate CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the following statements on Congresswoman Patsy Takemoto Mink.

ON THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE PATSY  
TAKEMOTO MINK

(Statement of Jacqueline Woods, Executive Director, American Association of University Women, October 1, 2002)

On behalf of the 150,000 members of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), we express our profound sadness at the loss of Congresswoman Patsy Takemoto Mink. Congresswoman Mink was a true pioneer in breaking down barriers in education and the workplace for women and girls, and ensuring that the rights of all Americans are

advanced and protected. Mrs. Mink often said that her greatest accomplishments was passage of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. AAUW will continue to ensure that Title IX is protected in order to carry on Congresswoman Mink's legacy so that future generations can enjoy full access to all aspects of education. AAUW's mission is to promote equity for all women and girls, life-long education, and positive societal change. Congresswoman Mink's lifetime commitment to these issues has made it possible for AAUW's mission to be realized in so many areas that have touched the lives of countless numbers of women and families. AAUW's long-term relationship with Congresswoman Mink included her membership with the Hilo Branch of AAUW of Hawaii and that partnership was maintained throughout her stellar career and lifetime. It was an honor and pleasure to work with Congresswoman Mink to promote educational equity for all women and girls, and we will continue in these efforts in her honor and in her memory and in her memory.

IRENE NATIVIDAD OF WOMEN VOTE PATSY MINK TRIBUTE

For anyone who still asks "What difference does a woman make in public office?" just tell them about Patsy Mink. She was the force behind that one bill that created an earthquake in women's and girls' lives. Whenever I see a little girls soccer team playing on the weekend, or hear about a great woman basketball player, or about another women's team winning Olympic Gold, or the predominance of women students at all levels of higher education, I think of how much we owed to her. She changed American Women and Girls' lives forever.

I have been to many women sports events, when women athletes invoke with knowing familiarity Title IX (They even know the number) and I came away impressed that they knew their debt to this piece of legislation that the average person does not know. Yet, I regretted that they did not know their debt to an Asian American Women Legislator who crafted the language that made their athletic or educational lives possible. There are women leaders who did not know of Patsy's role in this piece of legislation. There are Asian American who don't know of Patsy's great gift to all Americans, whether female or male.

But that is not their fault. Patsy Mink was an original. She was extremely effective but not self-promoting. She seemed slight and small, but she possessed a spine of steel, as anyone who ever worked with her on a bill would know. She seemed so polite and self-effacing, but she was full of determination and passion. I told her one time how I loved to watch people's reactions when she speaks. They see this tiny woman and out springs from her mouth this great big voice and this electric presentation. She said "There's value in being underestimated. We surprise them each time."

I was proud to have had Patsy Mink as one of my political mothers, along with Bella Abzug and Shirley Chisholm. When I first came to Washington many years ago, Bella gave me a piece of advice: "Honey, just watch Patsy. She'll show you how to get things done." And indeed she has. Bella loved Patsy and she thought the world of her and her work.

In this town full of statutes and buildings to commemorate men's achievements, it is important for us here in the room to remember not to let our heroines leave us without acknowledging their great work while they're still with us.

[Dialogue on Diversity, October 16, 2002]

REPRESENTATIVE PATSY MINK—A TRIBUTE  
(Ma. Cristina Caballero, President, Dialogue on Diversity)

Dialogue on Diversity counted Patsy Mink a friend, supporter, and inspirer. With our organizational goal of advancing a creative dialogue among women of America's and the world's many diverse ethnic and cultural communities, we found a natural ally and kindred spirit in Rep. Mink, and an energizing source of encouragement and counsel in her ideas and passions as they had evolved over a long and illustrious career in public service.

It was our great honor to present to Patsy Mink the Diversity Award as part of Dialogue on Diversity's Public Policy/Legislative Forum of 1997. Rep. Xavier Becerra, who presented the award, recalled his own first days in the Congress. He had been brought under heavy pressure to vote against a measure that his good conscience told him was proper public policy. Rep. Mink came to him and asked: Are you going to cave on your first day in Congress? No more needed to be said. Conscience won on that occasion, and it was the powerful moral and political presence of Patsy Mink that ensured it did. We were delighted to welcome Rep. Mink to our conferences and forums on several occasions. She generously give her precious time and attentive counsel, and brought her ever persuasive and heartening message to her hearers.

Patsy Mink was a person of passionate energies and of great vitality of intellect as she busied herself with the wide range of issues concerning women, minorities, and others among the often forgotten and disadvantaged in every corner of the Republic. To reflect on her career and her friendship is to call forth a great many memories of the battles and achievements in the civic life of America in the last quarter of the twentieth century, and to focus on her figure, the untiring champion of those in American society who most needed her aid. It is therefore hard to realize that she is gone from our arena of action. Her example has its own vitality, of course, which persists in her many colleagues and admirers, and in a nation of friends.

TRIBUTE BY MARCIA GREENBERGER AND NANCY DUFF CAMPBELL, NATIONAL WOMEN'S LAW CENTER, TO CONGRESSWOMEN PATSY T. MINK

The National Women's Law Center is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, along with Title IX.

So, from the Center's very beginning, we have known of and been grateful for the work of Congresswoman Patsy Mink. Title IX has been one of the most important laws ever enacted to expand young women's horizons and transform their lives. In the Center's efforts since its founding to ensure that Title IX is enforced, we have relied on Patsy Mink's ringing words in the floor debates on Title IX's sweeping purposes and its broad reach. Her words have been especially powerful in court cases we have brought to secure strong interpretations of Title IX's reach and effectiveness. The Center has called on her wisdom and leadership to keep Title IX strong in Congress and in the court of public opinion as well—to the very time she became ill this summer.

Make no mistake—Title IX is under attack, and her willingness to speak up and speak out was essential. On the occasion of the National Women's Law Center's 30th Anniversary Dinner this November 13, 2002, we will honor Congresswoman Mink for all she did to make and keep Title IX strong, as well as for the battles she waged, in which the Center has joined, to fight poverty and to

create real support systems for women and families most in need.

Of course, her legislative accomplishments and leadership are remarkable, and have enriched our nation and the world. But, she also gave of herself for the National Women's Law Center. She served on the Board of the National Women's Law Center at a key juncture in its history, and even gave the Center its name. She exhorted us as advocates to always persevere, but never set for us a higher standard than the one she followed for herself. She taught us to never give up, and never give in to the status quo of unfairness and inequity. And she supported us and was always there to fight with us and lend us her expertise.

She has made such a difference, and will into the future. She will live on, we hope, in the work that we do and the work of so many others with whom we join. We are proud to count among our colleagues her daughter Gwendolyn Mink, a professor of Women's Studies at Smith College, whose scholarship and activism—like her mother's public service—have focused on ways to improve the lives of the least fortunate women and children in our society. As Patsy Mink well knew, and often said, our children are our future. May we not only hold that thought, but continue to act on it.

[Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies, October 16, 2002]

REMEMBERING PATSY MINK

(Daphne Kwok, Executive Director)

Thank you so much Congresswoman Millender-McDonald for the invitation to participate today. I would like to begin by saying to Patsy Mink's former and current staff members a very big thank you for all of their work that they did for the national Asian Pacific American community all of these years. We greatly appreciated the commitment you had to all of our needs and for helping to advance the Asian Pacific American agenda.

How will the Asian Pacific American community remember Congresswoman Patsy Mink? We will remember her as:

The tireless advocate who always voted her conscience—from fighting for justice for 2000 Asian Pacific American cannery workers of the Wards Cove Packing Co. left out of the Civil Rights Act of 1991 to voting against campaign finance reform because of a provision that would deny legal permanent residents the right to contribute to political campaigns.

The fighter who was always ready to make a verbal statement or a symbolic statement on the issues that she was so passionate about. How can we ever forget the image a few years ago of the Reverend Jesse Jackson and a mass group of Members and advocates flooding a House Committee mark-up session on an anti-affirmative action bill. The overwhelming support against the bill caused the chairman to cancel the mark-up. The group then marched over to the Senate side. And guess who was standing next to Rev. Jackson and standing just as tall as him? Patsy!

Or the time that we were at the Lincoln Memorial on a blistery cold winter day for a press conference demanding that Bill Lann Lee receive a Senate vote for his nomination as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights. Who was there all bundled up in big wool coat, scarf, hat, gloves with her fiery oratory keeping us warm as she ignited the flames within us of this unfairness? Patsy!

But most especially, we will remember Patsy for the generous time she carved out from her jam packed schedule to always graciously meet with and inspire Asian Pacific American elected officials, Asian Pacific American student interns, Asian Pacific American community leaders, and the Asian

Pacific American grassroots community sending them home with pearls of wisdom and a charge to do good for others and to serve this nation.

This is how the Asian Pacific American community will forever remember the incredibly vibrant Congresswoman from Hawaii—Patsy T. Mink.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER GLEN  
KIRKLAND

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Officer Glen Kirkland for his significant contributions in making his community and society a better and safer place to live. Officer Kirkland has always been a beacon in the community with his ability to serve as a conscientious and honorable role model for many youth in the community.

Officer Kirkland was born on March 27, 1955 in Brooklyn, New York to Ruthel and David Fredrick and has five siblings, two sisters and three brothers. During his formative years, he attended Brooklyn public schools. Officer Kirkland began serving his community at an early age; during his teen years he was involved with the Faith, Hope and Charity Community Center. At this community center, Officer Kirkland was involved in projects that kept him off the streets and helped him secure summer employment.

Glen Kirkland became a New York City Police Officer in 1980. During his career as a police officer he has had various assignments dealing with the youth of the community. At the 75th Precinct, Officer Kirkland became the Youth Officer and Union Delegate for the Guardians organization. He has received numerous certificates, awards and plaques from the local community, state and federal entities for his efforts in working with youth.

Officer Kirkland is known not only as a trendsetter on his parole beat but also as a neighbor and family man. On more than one occasion, during the winter snows, he would shovel his sidewalk as well as his neighbors. He is a loving son, brother, devoted husband and father. He is the type of man you can call on at any hour of the day or night for assistance and he will be there.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Officer Glen Kirkland for his leadership specifically with youth and the many other contributions to his community. His endeavors and accomplishments deserve our praise and appreciation.

TRIBUTE TO GARRY BROWN

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to bestow a special recognition to Garry Brown, chief Boston Red Sox writer and standout sportswriter for the past 52 years. Let me just say, there is no finer baseball writer in America. Gary Brown was recently awarded the top honors in sports

writing during the annual New England Associated Press News Executives Association award presentations which were held in Ogunquit, Maine.

In commenting on Brown's first place award, the judges noted that "his columns had good starts and even stronger endings. This is column writing the way it should be." Garry has successfully tackled various topics in his columns from the New York City terror attacks to racism. There is no doubt that he is a talented and gifted writer and the people of New England have enjoyed his writing over the last half century.

I am personally a fan of his columns and have read them for many years. So today, I wish to personally congratulate Garry Brown on his first place award and for his outstanding achievement in sports writing. Surely, he has created a dynamic legacy in New England.

LABOR VIOLATIONS UNDERMINE  
U.S.-ECUADOR TRADE RELATION-  
SHIP

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, on October 29, the United States Trade Representative (USTR) recommended to the White House that Ecuador be designated a beneficiary country under the Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act (ATPDEA). The White House issued a proclamation adopting the recommendation on October 31, one day before trade ministers met for a summit in Quito, Ecuador.

The United States has once again chosen to extend special trading benefits to Ecuador despite blatant and rampant violations of worker rights in that country's banana industry.

Our Administration had a golden opportunity to promote democratic ideals abroad by placing universal labor rights above economic self-interest. It should have withheld trade benefits until Ecuador proved it was serious about eradicating child labor on its plantations, improving the hostile climate toward the right to organize, and bringing to justice those who attacked striking workers in February and May.

In February 2002, hoodlums attacked striking workers on a banana plantation in the middle of the night. Soon thereafter, Human Rights Watch released a damning report which documented a long litany of labor abuses on Ecuadorian banana plantations. As concerned members of the International Worker Rights Caucus, we sent down staffers to investigate the situation. They were given few helpful answers.

On September 23, we wrote to USTR Ambassador Zoellick and made the case that Ecuador did not deserve renewed trading benefits. Throughout the summer, the Ecuadorian government and much of the banana industry had continued to dismiss conclusions reached in the Human Rights Watch Report. It had become clear that the case of the attacked workers was nowhere near resolution. In short, the Ecuadorian government had shown little enthusiasm for instituting necessary labor reforms to keep trade beneficiary status.

USTR took our letter and its recommendations seriously by conferring renewed trading

benefits on Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia but withholding Ecuador's cause for further review. The recent decision to go ahead and renew Ecuador's status is dependent upon Ecuador fulfilling certain medium-term conditions at a later date.

We believe those conditions would be satisfied earlier if our country held Ecuador to the labor standards that U.S. trading agreements demand. The truth is that Ecuador sells more bananas to the U.S. than it does to any other country. It enjoys a beneficial trading arrangement that is contingent upon a respect for basic human rights. It should be held accountable.

We have included the September 23 letter we sent to the USTR. Under each of our recommendations, we have included an update of what the Ecuadorian government has done on this concern. We hope these measures will have been fully adopted by Ecuador when USTR revisits the issue in the future. Until then, we will continue to support rights for workers in Ecuador and elsewhere.

Robert B. Zoellick,  
*Ambassador, United States Trade Representative, Washington, DC.*

DEAR AMBASSADOR ZOELICK: As you know, in order for countries to be eligible under the Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act (ATPDEA), they must provide for internationally recognized worker rights. We are writing to express our concern that Ecuador has not met this criteria. We are particularly concerned about abuses in the banana sector.

Ecuador does not effectively enforce its laws governing the worst forms of child labor in its banana sector nor do the minimal penalties for violating those laws effectively deter employers from employing children in hazardous conditions. In Ecuador's banana sector, harmful child labor is widespread, children work long hours, are exposed to toxic pesticides, use sharp tools, haul heavy loads of bananas, lack sanitary water and access to restroom facilities, and, in a few cases, experience sexual harassment. Although the government of Ecuador and the Ecuadorian banana industry have recently pledged to take steps to address the problem, the promised steps are insufficient, as they fail to address adequately the problem of ineffective enforcement of child labor laws and inadequate sanctions for their violation.

Ecuadorian laws intended to protect freedom of association are seriously deficient. Employers who fire workers for organizing are not required to reinstate the workers and, if caught, usually pay only a minimal fine. Employers are not prohibited from interfering with unionization efforts or attempting to control workers' organizations. And legal loopholes allow employers to string together short-term contracts to create a vulnerable "permanent temporary" workforce. Subcontracted workers, also used widely in the sector, lack job stability and can only bargain collectively with their subcontractors, not with the companies that actually control their employment terms. These factors create a climate of fear among banana workers in Ecuador and have largely prevented them from organizing, resulting in a banana worker union affiliation rate of roughly 1 percent, far lower than that of Colombia or any Central American banana-exporting country.

Despite all the impediments to organizing, in February 2002, workers on the Los Alamos banana plantations, owned by the Noboa Corporation, began the first serious banana worker organizing drive in Ecuador in over five years. The Los Alamos workers, whose

three unions were recognized by the Ministry of Labor in April and who began a legal strike on May 6 in an effort to get their employers to engage in good-faith negotiations, have been the victims of alleged anti-union dismissals; anti-union violence, including shootings on May 16; government failure to investigate the violence and prosecute the perpetrators; employer interference with Special Committees representing the workers before government-convened arbitration panels; and the unlawful use of strike-breakers. If the Los Alamos workers' right to organize is not fully protected, other banana workers will likely be deterred from organizing for fear of suffering similar consequences, creating a chilling effect on the exercising of fundamental worker rights. labor abuses in Ecuador's banana sector were extensively documented earlier this year in Human Rights Watch's report, *Tainted Harvest: Child Labor and Obstacles to Organizing on Ecuador's Banana Plantations*, and have also been widely reported in U.S. and foreign media, including the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Financial Times*, and *Economist*.

Because Ecuador has failed to fulfill its commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor and to protect workers' right to organize, the country should be denied ATPDEA designation until benchmarks addressing the enforcement of child labor laws and the abuses suffered by Los Alamos workers are met. We urge the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to send a delegation to Ecuador to verify compliance with the benchmarks. If the benchmarks are met, ATPDEA designation should be granted on a provisional basis for six months, on the condition that reforms to bring labor laws into compliance with international standards be made within that time frame.

We also recommend that Ecuador be asked to take the following measures to address urgent labor rights problems prior to ATPDEA designation:

#### THE LOS ALAMOS CASE

Undertake a comprehensive investigation of the violence against the striking banana workers and effectively prosecute those responsible, including any parties who may have hired the perpetrators.

Not only was this condition not fulfilled prior to granting Ecuador ATPDEA beneficiary status, but Ecuador committed to the United States only, generally, that it would continue to investigate and take further action in the Los Alamos case, failing to address specifically any of the very serious concerns, detailed below, with regards to the investigation undertaken.

At approximately 2:00 a.m. on May 16, 2002, some two hundred armed individuals attacked striking workers on Los Alamos, looting their homes, beating many of them, and shooting at least one. Around 6:00 p.m. that same day, the armed men allegedly shot eight more workers and a policeman. In October 2002, Ecuador concluded a sorely inadequate investigation of this case. According to a report by the prosecutor handling the case, only sixteen of the assailants were charged with any crime. The events of 2:00 a.m. were never investigated. No attempt was made to identify who hired the armed individuals, nor were any workers interviewed. The investigation examined only the case of the injured policeman, mentioning only that a local newspaper had reported that one worker was also shot. The Los Alamos case is now before a criminal judge. Even if the case proceeds to trial, as the prosecutor has requested, and further investigation is undertaken at that stage, the

trial will focus solely on the incidents and charges set forth in the prosecutor's report, which forms the basis for the case. Thus, unless another case is opened and a new investigation undertaken, those who may have contracted the roughly two hundred perpetrators of the violence and all but sixteen of the perpetrators will enjoy impunity, and the sixteen accused will face charges for only a fraction of the illegal activities of May 16, also enjoying impunity with respect to the others.

Investigate whether replacement workers were hired illegally and whether employers attempted to place workers' Special Committees under employer control, violating the right of workers' associations to function free of employer interference. If so determined, these violations should cease and the employers should face appropriate penalties, adequate to deter future abuses. This condition was also not fulfilled prior to granting Ecuador ATPDEA beneficiary status, and, instead, Ecuador committed to the United States, generally that it would establish a "high level commission" to investigate this and other issues related to the Los Alamos case and report back to the United States with findings and recommendations for improvements. Ecuador did not, however, commit that this "high level commission" nor any other government body would punish the employers if guilty of violating Ecuadorian law governing the use of replacement workers or if guilty of violating workers' right to freedom of association by interfering with workers' organizations.

#### CHILD LABOR

Designate, as required by Ecuadorian law, at least one labor inspector for children in each province—a total of twenty-two inspectors—and provide them with sufficient resources to effectively implement child labor laws. These inspectors should be in addition to, not in lieu of, existing labor inspectors.

Ecuador's Minister of Labor issued a decree addressing enforcement of child labor laws that blatantly fails to meet this condition. On October 4, 2002, Ecuador's Minister of Labor decreed a new "System for the Inspection and Monitoring of Child Labor." However, this initiative is insufficient to address the country's egregious failure to enforce its child labor laws. The new system does not provide for new labor inspectors, but explicitly states that existing inspectors charged with enforcing other labor laws shall be shifted to this new bureaucracy. Furthermore, although the decree states that the Ministry of Labor will ensure that the system is provided with sufficient financial and human resources to complete its functions, there is no guarantee that additional funding will be provided to the Ministry of labor for these purposes.

Ecuador has committed to the United States, generally, to improve enforcement of child labor laws and comply with International Labor Organization (ILO) convention 182 concerning the prohibition and immediate Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor. Ecuador did not specifically commit, however, to fully fund the system created to uphold these commitments nor to address that system's significant inadequacies.

Ecuador should be required to commit, prior to ATPDEA designation, to make the following labor law reforms within six months, as a condition for continued designation:

Increase the penalty for violating child labor laws and require a portion of punitive fine to be dedicated to the rehabilitation of displaced child workers.

Explicitly prohibit employers from interfering in the establishment or functioning of workers' organizations and attempting to dominate or control workers' organizations.

Require reinstatement of workers fired for engaging in union activity and payment of lost wages during the period when they were wrongfully dismissed.

Prohibit explicitly employer failure to hire workers due to organizing activity and establish adequate penalties to deter employers from engaging in this or other anti-union discrimination.

Allow subcontracted workers to organize and bargain collectively with the person or company for whose benefit work is realized if that person or company has the power to dictate workers' terms and conditions of employment.

Reduce the minimum number of workers required to form a union.

Ecuador has not explicitly made any of these commitments. Instead, Ecuador committed to look seriously at the consistency of its labor laws with ILO obligations. This falls significantly short of promising to submit labor law reforms to congress to address specifically the areas, highlighted above, in which Ecuadorian labor laws fail to meet international standards on freedom of association and child labor.

Ecuador also agreed to send seven labor rights-related international law instruments to its congress for future ratification. Of these seven, however, two—the U.N. Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and ILO Convention 138, the Minimum Age Convention—were already ratified by Ecuador. One—the Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination for Reasons of Gender and Age—does not even exist. Therefore, only four of the instruments could, in practice, be submitted for ratification, none of which address the concerns highlighted above.

After these essential measures have been taken and reforms adopted, Ecuador should be required to commit to continuing to reform labor legislation and improve labor law enforcement until internationally recognized worker rights are fully respected throughout the country.

We thank you for your consideration of this very important matter and would be happy to discuss it with you further. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

GEORGE MILLER,

*Member of Congress.*

JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY,

*Member of Congress.*

#### ABORTION AND BREAST CANCER

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise to submit a letter from 28 Members of Congress, and an enclosure from the National Physicians Center for Family Resources, requesting that the National Cancer Institute correct scientific inaccuracies in their Fact Sheet on the link between abortion and breast cancer. I commend the National Cancer Institute for the steps they have already taken to revisit their fact sheet and I look forward to a scientifically accurate fact sheet in the near future.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Washington, DC, June 7, 2002.

Hon. TOMMY THOMPSON,  
Secretary of Health and Human Services, De-  
partment of Health and Human Services,  
Hubert Humphrey Building, Washington,  
DC

DEAR SECRETARY THOMPSON: We write to request a review of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) fact sheet FS #35.3, labeled "Abortion and Breast Cancer." As we work together to make sure the American public has the most accurate and up to date information on health risks, especially related to the serious disease of breast cancer, we wanted to specifically ask for a review of the official NCI information on the link between abortion and breast cancer. Even though this fact sheet was updated March 6th of this year, we believe it is scientifically inaccurate and misleading to the public.

Even though, to date, 28 out of 37 scientific studies worldwide, and 13 out of 15 in the United States show a positive association between abortion and breast cancer risk, the NCI fact sheet on this topic emphatically states "The current body of scientific evidence suggests that women who have had either induced or spontaneous abortions have the same risk as other women for developing breast cancer." This glossing over of the weight of published scientific evidence does not provide the public with the information they deserve.

Furthermore, it seems inappropriate for the NCI to rely so heavily on one study to support its claims regarding abortion and breast cancer. The NCI fact sheet relies on Melbye et al., 1997, although that study contains many significant flaws. In particular the Melbye study: misclassified 60,000 women as not having abortions when, in fact, the women did undergo an abortion; included medical records that did not consistently record a history of abortion; and, included over 350,000 women who were generally too young to be diagnosed with breast cancer because their ages were twenty five years of age and younger. We believe NCI has given this flawed study too much weight and that the entire body of evidence needs to be revisited as soon as possible.

We respectfully request that the fact sheet be reevaluated for accuracy and bias and that it be removed from the Department website until that review is completed. We thank you for your attention to this important health issue and to our concerns about the NCI fact sheet on the link between abortion and breast cancer.

Sincerely,

Christopher Smith; Joseph R. Pitts; John Shadegg; W. Todd Akin; Joe Wilson; Robert B. Aderholt; Walter B. Jones; Sue Myrick; Milissa A. Hart; Sam Johnson; Roscoe G. Bartlett; Todd Tiahrt; Pete Hoekstra; Bob Schaffer; Mike Pence; Gil Gutknecht; Van Hilleary; Henry E. Brown, Jr.; Jim Ryun; Barbara Cubin; Dave Weldon; Jim DeMint; John Sullivan; Mark Souder; John N. Hostettler; JoAnn Davis; Ernest Istook; Cliff Stearns.

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE FACT SHEET ANALYSIS, THE ABORTION—BREAST CANCER CONNECTION (ABC LINK), NATIONAL PHYSICIANS CENTER FOR FAMILY RESOURCES (NPC), APRIL, 2002

Overall tone of denial of abc link: ". . . it appears that there is no overall association between spontaneous or induced abortion and breast cancer risk, . . ." even though, to date, 28 out of 37 studies worldwide and 13 out of 15 in the U.S. report a positive association.

Confusion of induced and spontaneous abortion: These two terms appear together

repeatedly, as if they are equivalent. Never is the proper equation of spontaneous abortion and miscarriage made; in fact, the word miscarriage never appears. Yet paradoxically, the "inability to separate induced from spontaneous abortions" is offered as a criticism of earlier studies on the abc link.

Misrepresentation of the published medical literature on the abc link:

(a) A key study on American women which relied on prospective medical records (Howe et al., 1989), and which found a significant abc link (overall RR = 1.9), is not cited at all, even though much more weight is given to data "from studies that collected data on abortion history before the breast cancers occurred", and even though it is presented as a weakness that "Most of the early studies relied on self-reports of induced abortion".

(b) The study specifically funded by the NCI to examine the abc link (Daling et al., 1994), which study reported a significant overall link (RR = 1.5) and much higher risks for teenagers (RR = 2.5) and actually reported "RR = □" for teenagers with any family history of breast cancer, is not cited at all.

(c) The only comprehensive review and meta-analysis on the abc link (Brind et al., 1996), which reported a positive association in 18 out of 23 studies worldwide (9 out of 10 in the US), is not cited at all.

Reliance on flawed studies which do not show an abc link, merely because they are based on prospective data, namely:

(a) the study by Melbye et al., 1997, even though it misclassified 60,000 abortion-positive women as abortion negative, used breast cancer records which antedated abortion records, and included over 350,000 women under age 25, among other flaws;

(b) the study by Goldacre et al., 2001, even though it misclassified over 90 percent of the abortion-positive women in the study as abortion-negative;

(c) the null studies by Newcomb and Mandelson (2000) and Lazovich (2000), even though both are so small (23 and 26 patients with induced abortion, respectively) and of such low statistical power that neither could even detect a RR as low as 1.5 with statistical significance.

Inclusion of inaccurate statements, i.e.:

(a) "In three of the (four) studies, information was based on medical records than on the woman's self-report;". In fact, this is true of only two (i.e., Goldacre and Newcomb & Mandelson) of the four studies referred to.

(b) "The strength of this study (Melbye 1997) include . . . the ability to account for breast cancer risk factors that may differ between those women who have had abortions and those who have not;". In fact, the lack of such data on potential confounders was a weakness of the Melbye study, which only adjusted for age and age at first term pregnancy. Most studies also adjust for age at menarche, age at menopause, etc.

(c) "Most of the early studies necessarily relied on self-reports of induced abortion, which have been shown to differ between breast cancer patients and other women." In fact, the opposite is true. Even the only study cited on the fact sheet which examined this question reported: "The authors' data do not suggest that controls are more reluctant to report a history of induced abortion than are women with breast cancer."

Disguising the established breast cancer risk factor that is directly affected by abortion in a substantial proportion of abortion patients, i.e.: "Well established breast cancer risk factors include . . . a late age at the time of the first birth of a full-term baby". Abortion, which, in childless girls and women, necessarily delays the first full-term pregnancy, is not mentioned at all in this context.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 1214,  
MARITIME TRANSPORTATION SE-  
CURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2001

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 1214, the Port and Maritime Security Act of 2002 Conference Report. As many of you know, I have been privileged to represent the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach for the past 10 years. Each day these ports receive cargo from points around the globe. The San Pedro Bay port complex is the third largest seaport in the world. These ports are responsible for over 30 percent of all U.S. waterborne trade with an estimated value of \$162 billion a year. The bulk of these imports arrive in 20- or 40-foot containers aboard some of the world's largest cargo ships. Additionally, our ports handle millions of cruise passengers annually. Insuring the safety of containers and passengers entering and exiting the ports of this country is a daunting task. Currently, only about 2 percent of the shipping containers entering the country are inspected. This simply will not do. Passing this comprehensive port security legislation will insure that more containers are inspected and that our ports are properly protected.

I am particularly pleased that Section 203 of this legislation incorporates a bill that I introduced in the 106th Congress. This section authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to the American Merchant Marine Veterans Memorial Committee to construct an addition to the American Merchant Marine Memorial Wall of Honor in San Pedro, California. Thus far, the Committee has already raised well over \$500,000 to begin construction on the second phase of this memorial. Plans for the addition to the memorial call for panels to list the names of those who died while serving in the U.S. Merchant Marine.

Since 1775, the maritime community has played a critical role in gaining and preserving American freedom. The Merchant Marine served as our first Navy and defeated the British Navy in our fight for independence. We owe much to the brave mariners past and present who have served in the Merchant Marine. The American Merchant Marine Memorial Wall of Honor located in San Pedro, California, is a symbol of the debt we owe those who have served so bravely.

Many of my colleagues will remember how the Merchant Marine secured its place in American history during the Second World War. During that conflict, the 250,000 men and women in the U.S. merchant fleet made enormous contributions to the eventual winning of the war, keeping the lifeline of freedom open to our troops overseas and to our allies. This fleet was truly the "Fourth Arm of Defense" as it was called by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and other military leaders.

The members of the U.S. Merchant Marine faced danger from submarines, mines, armed raiders, destroyers, aircraft, "kamikaze," and the elements. At least 6,800 mariners were killed at sea and more than 11,000 were wounded at sea. Of those injured, at least 1,100 later died from their wounds. More than 600 men and women were taken prisoner by

our enemies. In fact, one in 32 mariners serving aboard merchant ships in the Second World War died in the line of duty, suffering a greater percentage of war-related deaths than all other U.S. services.

Since that time, the U.S. Merchant Marine has continued to serve our nation, promoting freedom and meeting the high ideals of its past members. It is fitting to honor the past and present members of the U.S. Merchant Marine. This is why I introduced legislation in the previous Congress that would provide additional federal funding for the memorial wall in San Pedro. Twice the House has approved legislation authorizing funds for this worthy memorial, today I am pleased that the House and Senate are moving to approve this authorization in the port security conference report.

Throughout the development of the conference report, I have sought to provide the greater protection for ports and the communities that surround them against terrorist attacks. I am pleased that the conferees have included port security grants and research and development grants that will encourage the development and use of state-of-the-art technology. Like the conferees, I believe it is important to encourage the private sector to continually advance the state of the art as a means of enhancing detection capabilities and thus enhancing deterrence over time.

When he is reviewing project proposals and awarding grants, I encourage the Secretary of Transportation to give preference to those projects that incorporate technologies that are capable of automatically detecting shielded nuclear weapons, liquid and other explosives, and chemical and biological agents weapons in fully loaded cargo containers without the need for humans to open the containers to manually inspect them. Based on testimony received by the Congress, it would appear that pulsed fast neutron technology is capable today of meeting this need. As a result, I hope that this technology and other technologies will be identified, developed, and installed in our ports as part of the ongoing process of enhancing port security through this legislation.

Long Beach State's Center for the Commercial Deployment of Transportation Technologies (CCDoTT) has been developing maritime technology for many years, and has recently turned their attention to port security technology as well. In the FY03 Defense Appropriations bill CCDoTT was granted \$4.3 million for continuation of their important work to develop more efficient cargo handling in ports, high-speed ship designs, and port security research. This funding will allow the center to continue assessing cargo inspection technologies that can help meet the needs of agencies such as the U.S. Customs Service and the Coast Guard.

Section 70107 of the accompanying report authorizes an additional \$15 million for fiscal years 2003 through 2008 for research and development grants for port security. I am pleased that report language for the Port and Maritime Security Act of 2002 particularly notes the importance of the research being done at Long Beach State's Center for the Commercial Deployment of Transportation Technologies. This language encourages the Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of Defense to obligate any current and prior year appropriations under the continuing cooperative agreement. The Center is sponsored by the U.S. Maritime Administration and U.S.

Department of Defense and I am certain it will continue to provide invaluable research for America's maritime interests. Again, I am pleased with, and strongly support, this timely port security legislation.

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PROJECT 19

**HON. MARY BONO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the brave American civilians who volunteered to assist our allies in the fight against an enemy that was threatening democracy for the entire world. These patriotic Americans chose to enter World War II to participate in a mission referred to as Project 19.

In the fall of 1941, prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor, President Franklin D. Roosevelt met with British Prime Minister Winston Churchill to discuss the United States assisting Britain in its battle with Hitler's Reich.

President Roosevelt responded by authorizing a secret Air Depot to be established and operated by American civilian volunteers in Eritrea, East Africa under the direction of Douglas Aircraft Company. Due to the fact that the U.S. had not yet entered the war and for obvious diplomatic reasons, Project 19 was classified as "secret."

The goal of the volunteers, also referred to as "Tech Reps" and "Feather Merchants," was to assemble P-40's and repair hundreds of worn out and damaged allied aircraft, first for the Royal Air Force (RAF), and after America entered the conflict, B-24's and B-17's for the United States Army Air Corps. When this group of freedom loving Americans first began their volunteer mission, they helped the RAF repair planes that had been damaged during horrific battles. When the secret mission was terminated, many volunteers joined the military to fight alongside our allies and some of them gave the ultimate sacrifice, their lives.

Many lives have been affected by the sacrifice these valiant men made and I believe the time has come to recognize these heroes who volunteered their services and their lives to their country and its allies.

Mr. Speaker, as long as our Nation is served by men and women who place the defense of freedom above their personal safety and well being our Nation will endure. The men of Project 19 served with pride and distinction, and deserve the recognition of our Nation and this Congress.

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THANKING MY CONGRESSIONAL STAFF

**HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, the end of a congressional career brings about many emotions. Over the last twenty years I have happily spent representing the fine people of the 17th Congressional District of Pennsylvania I have had the pleasure of working with thousands of constituents, local, state and federal officials, and many former and current distin-

guished members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. To all of them I say, thanks for working with me towards a better America.

And, of course, every Member of Congress works with many, many competent staff, from the staff in their own personal offices to the Committee and Subcommittee staff and the leadership and floor staff. It has often been said that without staff where would this institution be? And I concur with that statement, for without the many fine staff with whom I have had good fortune to work, I and other Members of Congress of the United States would be far worse off. While I cannot mention all the fine staff who have worked with me over the years, let me at least mention the current personal and subcommittee staffers who have endeavored to achieve our common goals and to whom I give my hearty thanks and wish them well in their future careers.

In my Harrisburg district office, Arlene Eckels, my long-time personal secretary who has worked for me since the early days in the Pennsylvania State Senate and to whom I wish a happy and much deserved retirement; Tom Templeton, my hardworking district director, who so ably kept my entire district staff working smoothly; Suzanne Stoll, an old friend and superb caseworker; Paul Giannaris, whose ability to handle INS problems has made him invaluable; and Tim Vollrath, a recently returned former employee whose military and veterans help has been superb. In our Lebanon Office, Reg Nyman has been the voice of Lebanon for these many years, and his excellent knowledge and service will be missed. And in our Elizabethtown office, Susan Melendez has kept our Lancaster County constituents well served by her kind and efficient manner. Over the last twenty years my district office staff has handled hundreds of thousands of phone calls and constituent casework requests. A superb record by a superb staff.

My Washington office staff have proven themselves time and time again, regularly going beyond the call of duty. (The tally of my hundreds of legislative measures, nearly 30 Public Laws, thousands of office meetings and countless committee and other initiatives over the years speaks truth to that assertion.) First, on my personal staff, Patrick Sheehan, my Counsel and Legislative Director, has been a dynamic and intelligent thinker and leader, who offered sage advice on immigration, military and veterans affairs; Greg Herman, my Senior Legislative Counsel kept pace with my many Judiciary and legislative demands especially bankruptcy reform and appropriations (as I would expect from a Palmyra, PA native); Becky Smith, my office manager and health legislative assistant, kept my schedule and personal affairs humming along smoothly and ably managed my most favorite of projects, the Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus of which I was founder and Co-Chairman; David Greineder, who did a multitude of duties as my talented systems manager, legislative correspondent and Legislative Assistant covering education and labor issues; Bill Tighe, another LC and Legislative Assistant whose insights into the Agriculture and Natural Resources needs of Pennsylvania and the district were more than invaluable, they were accurate; Mike Shields, my recent press secretary extraordinaire, who did an excellent job under difficult situations; and, of course, Alan

Cagnoli, my long time Chief of Staff from Hershey, PA, a superb leader of the office and jack-of-all-trades who kept the office running and productive no matter what the crisis.

My Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Claims, of which I was Chairman, was ably staffed by George Fishman, Lora Ries, Art Arthur, Cynthia Blackston and Emily Sanders, as well as Brian Zimmer of the Full Committee staff. They handled the extremely important legislation necessitated by the new domestic and international threats we now face. Their assistance to me during the challenges of this year is impossible to measure. The House of Representatives has much to look forward to with their continued work.

And last but not least, is the Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, of which I was a member this last Congress but on which I served as Chairman from 1994–2000. On this subcommittee we dealt with the hundreds of regulatory reform issues developed by the Republican Majority through the Contract With America and following initiatives. My major Bankruptcy Reform measure began with me in this subcommittee; Administrative Law Judges; Legal Services Reform; the Federal Agency Compliance Act; The Regulatory Fair Warning Act; Executive Orders; Internet Tax reform; the Federal Arbitration Act; Interstate Compacts; the Independent Counsel Act; and many, many other topics. While bankruptcy reform took center stage, there was no end to the amount of topics and work my staff and I pursued. For this I thank them, the current and former staffers of the subcommittee, for all their exceptional work: Chief Counsel Ray Smietanka, who has worked with me as a chief committee counsel since I came to the 98th Congress in 1983; Susan-Jensen Conklin, whose superb work on bankruptcy reform got us where we are today; Rob Tracci, formerly of the Subcommittee, was an invaluable source of assistance; and all the other members of the CAL staff who have helped this Member of Congress over the many productive years. I thank them all for their work to the Nation and me.

To all I have mentioned, and those who I have regrettably not, please accept my sincere thanks for making my tenure in the United States House of Representatives a productive and pleasant one. Any current Member of Congress or Committee would be well served by the high-quality staff with whom it has been my pleasure to work over these many years.

THE HONORABLE TIM ROEMER

**HON. STEVE BUYER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to show my appreciation for the distinguished member from Indiana's Third District. For the past twelve years, Congressman TIM ROEMER has served the people of Northcentral Indiana with a steadfast commitment and dedication to their needs.

A Hoosier, born and bred, TIM ROEMER came to Washington, D.C. to represent the fundamental Indiana values of strong faith in God and an unwavering duty to country and to family. As a member of Congress and a father

of four, he has been a strong advocate for trying to make the House of Representatives more family-friendly.

As a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, he has worked tirelessly to improve our children's education from Head Start all the way to the college-level, supporting public school choice and making college education more affordable for all Americans.

I want to thank Congressman TIM ROEMER for his hard work on behalf of the Third District, the State of Indiana and the country. I wish him, his wife Sally and their four children—Patrick Hunter, Matthew Bennett, Sarah Kathryn and Grace Elizabeth, all the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall votes 483 and 484. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 483, and "no" on rollcall vote 484.

TRIBUTE TO THE L.A. FREE CLINIC

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Los Angeles Free Clinic, L.A. Free Clinic, a tremendous and vital health care resource which is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year. The L.A. Free Clinic has become a true beacon of light in our ever uncertain health care system in Los Angeles. It is synonymous with quality and accessible health care for the homeless, the uninsured and under-insured, the working poor and run-away and high-risk youth.

The L.A. Free Clinic came into being during the summer of 1967 when a small group of volunteers opened a storefront clinic on Fairfax Avenue to serve the thousands of "flower children" who were living in the streets and parks that summer. They crowded the clinic with an array of health issues, and the crowds have been coming ever since. Today, the clinic is a sophisticated but accessible string of three separate sites serving 100,000 patients annually. As the longest continuously running free clinic in our Nation, the L.A. Free Clinic serves as a remarkable model.

Its mission is to serve as a community-based clinic which identifies the health care and social service needs of under-served populations. It develops comprehensive resources and quality programs to meet those needs and provides the services free of charge and free of judgement in a caring environment.

The clinic's most important mission is to provide health care to those who can not or will not receive care elsewhere. The L.A. Free Clinic believes that health and human services are a right and not a privilege.

The clinic offers a wide range of primary care and specialty care for the entire family. In

addition, the clinic houses broad and important social services to treat the whole patient. It has a domestic violence advocate available to recognize and work with patients who are victims of domestic violence. There is also a legal clinic on site to assist with a variety of issues such as immigration and child custody. There are case managers and mental health professionals at the ready to treat any number of concerns that patients may present when they come to the clinic.

Part of what makes the L.A. Free Clinic so successful is its more than 500 volunteers who eagerly answer phones, translate diagnoses, speak at health fairs and organize fundraisers. The clinic's board is equally dedicated and impressive, still represented by some original founders. The L.A. Free Clinic is also lucky to have a number of support organizations without which it could not function. They include Friends of the L.A. Free Clinic, New Friends of the L.A. Free Clinic and L.A. Free Clinic Auxiliary.

It has been my distinct privilege to represent and support the L.A. Free Clinic for much of its existence. The residents of Los Angeles and our health care system owe the L.A. Free Clinic a great debt of gratitude and we will continue to rely on its superb service and caring. We are looking forward to the next 35 years to come.

I ask all of my colleagues to join me in wishing the L.A. Free Clinic a very heartfelt and happy 35th anniversary.

A TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE TODD SALIMAN

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor State Representative Todd Saliman for his exemplary public service in the Colorado General Assembly from 1995 through 2003. I would like to thank him in this forum, not only for his service to my state, but also for the example he has shown to young people all across America, that public service is not contingent on one's seniority.

A native of Littleton, Colorado, Todd studied at the Unversite de Savoie in Chambéry, France and graduated in 1989 from the University of Colorado in Boulder. He worked on the U.S. Senate campaign for Josie Heath and the Boulder County Field organization in 1990, the Local Open Space Sales Tax in 1993, the Executive Committees of the State and County Democratic parties for many years, and the Rocky Flats Local Impacts Initiative from 1991 to 1994.

In 1994, Todd was elected to represent House District 11 in north Boulder and was one of the youngest members in the history of the Colorado General Assembly. His constituents overwhelmingly approved of his service and returned him to office by over 70% of the vote in every subsequent election. In the Legislature, he quickly earned the affection and respect of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle for his intelligence, good judgment, and keen analysis on a wide range of issues. Todd was a member of the Joint Budget and Appropriations Committees overseeing the state's \$13 billion budget. He provided thoughtful and

skilled bipartisan leadership in the areas of budget policy, taxes, health care, higher education, children's issues and the environment. He served successfully on such diverse committees as Finance, State Affairs, Local Government and Transportation, and he co-chaired the Kid's Caucus. He was valued as an experienced voice on substantive policy issues when working on the Governor's 1996 Health Care Task Force and the 1997 Old Age Pension Plan Committee.

From 1997 to 1999, I had the good fortune to be Todd's junior colleague in the State House of Representatives. I appreciated Todd's generosity and loyalty, his professionalism and his code of ethics. He has been unswerving in his commitment to policies that serve the environment, the education and the health of people, and principles of integrity and fairness. An important part of his legislative focus has been responsible growth management and environmental preservation.

He has been especially effective in his support for early intervention and prevention for children at risk of abuse and neglect and for improving our public education by reducing class size and fully funding public education. He has been honored as Legislator of the Year by the Colorado Association of Nonprofit Organizations, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Colorado Behavioral Health Care Council, the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, the Community Health Network, the University of Colorado at Boulder, the Colorado Social Legislation Committee, the Colorado Community Center Boards, and the Sierra Club. Last year, he was honored for his distinguished service by the Colorado Children's Campaign. During his tenure as an elected official, Todd was also the Development Director for the People's Clinic and a policy consultant with the Bell Policy Center.

I ask my colleagues to join with me in expressing our gratitude to Representative Saliman for his example of idealistic public service and the many contributions he has made to the people of Colorado. My family and I wish him, his wife, Michelle, and their son, Max, good health and happiness in their future together.

#### HONORING DR. TOMÁS ARCINIEGA

#### HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Tomás Arciniega, who has served my community for 20 years as the President of California State University, Bakersfield. During his tenure, Dr. Arciniega has played an important role in developing CSU Bakersfield into an institution that offers outstanding educational, professional and athletic programs in the Central Valley.

Dr. Tomás Arciniega has served as the President of CSU Bakersfield since 1983. During his first year, 3,383 students were enrolled and Arciniega oversaw a \$16.7 million budget. Since then, the budget has increased to more than \$60 million and the school annually enrolls more than 7,700 students. During his tenure, 13,568 students have earned baccalaureate degrees and 3,692 have earned master's degrees from CSU Bakersfield.

Dr. Arciniega's commitment to improving the educational opportunities at CSU Bakersfield was vital to the University being accepted into the prestigious California State University system in 1987. In 1998 he was successful in creating a Master's of Social Work program, meeting a long-time community need. Dr. Arciniega has become a recognized leader among Kern County educators for his involvement as the chairman of a local teacher education committee, which aims to develop better teachers for the future.

In addition, Dr. Arciniega has provided a boost to the professional development of CSU Bakersfield. In 1990, the University hosted its first annual Bakersfield Business Conference, which was attended by over 10,000 participants. A year later, the Bakersfield Business Conference drew 12,500 participants. In 2000, CSU Bakersfield celebrated its 30th anniversary and concluded the year long Cornerstone Campaign that raised more than \$12 million, making it the most successful fundraising efforts in Kern County history.

Under Dr. Arciniega's leadership, CSU Bakersfield also developed an athletics program that has been successful competing on the national level while promoting gender equity. In 1993, CSU Bakersfield pledged to achieve gender equity in athletics and in 1998 they reached their goal of providing greater opportunities for women student-athletes. The athletic program was so successful in the 1997-1998 school year that they were presented with the Sears Cup for the best NCAA Division II athletic program in the nation. In addition, the Men's Basketball team won the NCAA Division II National championship in 1993 and 1994.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Dr. Tomás Arciniega for his contributions to the Bakersfield community as the President of California State University, Bakersfield for the past 20 years.

#### TRIBUTE TO THOMAS J. KELLY

#### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of my friend and brother in the labor movement, Mr. Thomas J. Kelly. Mr. Kelly has been honored by our fellow Philadelphians for his unyielding role as a driving force within Philadelphia's powerful labor movement for over a quarter of a century.

As a prime example of successful labor leadership that exemplifies this "Union Town", he has served as President and Business Manager of Sheet Metal Workers' Local Union 19 from 1979 to 2002. He recently accepted an appointment to serve as the General Secretary-Treasurer of the Sheet Metal Workers' International Association in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Kelly began his apprenticeship with Local 19 in 1965 at the age of 19. He went on to become a business agent and finally was elected to Local 19's top position which he has held for eight consecutive terms. Under his stewardship, union membership has grown to over 4,000, development has increased with the construction of the multi-million dollar Administrative Building, the adjacent state-of-the-

art Training Center, and the highly successful Penn's Landing Caterers, and Mr. Kelly was instrumental in negotiations for a historic gambling casino enterprise.

He has been recognized for many achievements and held numerous union leadership roles; however, he cherishes most the plaque received from Local 19's rank and file membership, which cites him ". . . for leading the Union with Courage, Wisdom, and Tenacity."

Married to Linda, Tom's family includes his three children, Susan Tynpel, Thomas Jr., and Kathleen and one grandchild, Lauren Tynpel. I am quite sure Tom's entire family is very proud of his numerous accomplishments.

It is a privilege to recognize a person whose leadership and commitment to community has enriched the lives of countless individuals. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Kelly for his lifetime of service and dedication to Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

ELIZABETH BELL LAYTON PEEK,  
MOTHER OF REVEREND V. LONNIE  
PEEK, JR., MEMORIALIZED  
IN DETROIT, MICHIGAN

#### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2002*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on November 19, 2002, the mother of Reverend V. Lonnie Peek was memorialized at Greater Christ Baptist Church, whose renowned pastor is Reverend James Perkins.

Mrs. Peek was an activist, writer and deeply religious person greatly admired in her community and throughout metropolitan Detroit. She raised and had a strong influence on her son, Reverend Peek.

The following excerpts from her writings capture the style, wit and philosophy of this amazing 20th century African American woman. We are proud of her contributions and she will be sorely missed.

Elizabeth Bell Layton Peek is my name and I was born on March 27, 1921 in Northport, Alabama as the 7th child of Willie Cunningham Layton and Vonnie Layton. Back then life was simple and strong family values were the keys that bind us together. I was the "twinkle in my father's eye" so I didn't have to work the cotton fields, and besides I was kind of skinny. So I became mother's helper—not in the kitchen . . . my job was ironing the clothes for the family.

Education was a vital part of our life, and we worked hard to be good students. A very good speller, I won the "Spelling B" and father showed his pride by telling everyone I could pick a bale of cotton faster than anyone he knew. Daddy died when I was 15. This event forcefully made us not only endure but excel at what my father taught us about survival and family. The older children quickly took on the responsibility of the younger ones—my brother Mack was my provider. Mack always bought me the best of clothes and because of his generosity I out-dressed everyone in the family.

I had a special bond with my brother Vonnie, who would sneak me out of the house to go dancing; I loved to dance, we could really "cut a rug" together. Vonnie had a friend that I met named Vassie who played on the football team. Boy, was he something!! Vonnie would help us to see each

other, because I was not allowed to date. Vassie later became my husband . . . the love of my life. On January 8, 1939 we eloped, and were married by Vassie's pastor Rev. Harvey. On our wedding night I went back home to sleep without Vassie. The word got out the next day and my younger sister Jessie Ray came home and told mother "Lizzie B (that's what they called me) had married that gray haired Vassie Peek." He was really something!!

Soon Vassie decided that the only way to make a good life for us was to move to Detroit. Vassie started out for Detroit, but stopped in Asbury Park, New Jersey to work temporarily. He immediately joined Mt. Pisgal Baptist Church and became the surrogate son to two families, the Sims and the Griffins. He decided to stay and sent for me soon after.

I was a homemaker, who was accused by her friends of always staying home "shaking the pots and pans." My kitchen was the gathering place for all my friends. Everyday I had a hot meal ready for Vassie—a meat, starch, and "fresh" vegetables, along with hot homemade bread . . . everyday!!

To this Alabama girl Asbury Park was the "big city." Two of my brothers later joined us in New Jersey, Vonnie and Mack, and you know what, I was the only female in my family to ever leave home. One weekend we decided to really do it up big since we were only 45 miles from New York City, we decided to go to this club called Smalls Paradise in Harlem. We stayed at the ritzy St. Theresa Hotel, and woke up with bed bugs all over our bodies.

After moving to Detroit and applying for social security I found out that I was a whole year younger than I thought! Throughout my married life, Vassie liked to brag about being 10 years older than me, but little did he know he was 11 years older.

I now reside with Lonnie and my "other daughter" Eunice, his wife, who helps me to get ready and takes me to church with them.

I am blessed to have had two wonderful sons-in-law, the late Chuck Russell, who could always make me laugh and Freddy Haynes who I love to cheat while playing Chinese checkers.

Lonnie has given me my two oldest grandchildren: Monique, who resides in Los Ange-

les and Lonnie III, of Detroit. Patty has given me three grandchildren: Chalaze, Charles III and Chavin all of Detroit. Debbie has given me my youngest grandchild Abeni, who lives in Dallas. I am a great grandmother of 4: Choree, Chambel, Charli and Chad-Elizabeth.

I am blessed. My family and friends truly loves me and I love them. I am loved and pampered in two states. I spend part of the year in Detroit under the watchful eye of Lonnie and Patty, and the other part in Dallas with the boss of the family, Debbie.

I hope you have enjoyed these little stories of my life. It's always good to remember our unique link to the past . . . I treasure mine. The world is moving so rapidly, and I know we must move with it. I am bringing my "values" with me as I go forward from day-to-day.

Today I am blessed to have all of you celebrate my 80th birthday before I leave for Dallas on tomorrow. Make sure you all give me a big hug and at least 80 kisses and prayers!!!