

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF DINA MATOS
MCGREEVEY, RECIPIENT OF THE
HISPANIC AMERICAN GOOD
SCOUT AWARD

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 2003

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding accomplishments of Mrs. Dina Matos McGreevey, who was honored on February 7th at the Hispanic American Good Scout Award Dinner at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, New Jersey.

The First Lady of New Jersey, Mrs. Matos McGreevey has been an exceptional member of her community and a true leader for New Jersey. Currently the executive director of the Columbus Hospital Foundation in Newark, Mrs. Matos McGreevey has worked to create programs such as the Senior Health Improvement Program, which provides free educational programs and screening for New Jersey seniors. As a member of the Portuguese American Congress of New Jersey and former president of the Portuguese American Congress—Continuing Political Committee, she organized voter registration drives and assisted thousands to become American citizens and registered voters.

Dina Matos McGreevey continues to demonstrate her compassion for improving New Jersey's communities. She is currently a trustee of the Ironbound Association, the Salvation Army Ironbound Boys' and Girls' Clubs and Senior Center Advisory Board, and the Women's Auxiliary of Columbus Hospital. Mrs. Matos McGreevey is also a participant in United Way's Celebrity Reading Program and is an honorary chair of the Special Olympics Complex Committee, the Drumthwacket Foundation, the Bernard W. Gimble Multiple Sclerosis Comprehensive Care Center Annual Fundraiser, and D.A.R.E.

Mrs. Matos McGreevey has served as commissioner of the Planning Board of the City of Elizabeth and treasurer of the Portuguese American Scholarship Foundation and the Northern New Jersey Maternal/Child Health Consortium's Planning Committee, and has been a member of the New Jersey Health Care Public Relations and Marketing Association. She is a fellow of the United Way of Essex and West Hudson Project Leadership Class of 1999.

Dina Matos McGreevey and Governor James E. McGreevey are the proud parents of Jacqueline Matos McGreevey.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Dina Matos McGreevey for her exemplary service and dedication to the people and state of New Jersey.

THE GOOD SAMARITAN TAX ACT

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 2003

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join my colleague from Georgia, JOHN LEWIS, in introducing the "Good Samaritan Tax Act", a bill that has been introduced in three previous Congresses. Former Congressman Tony Hall (OH), now our Ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture, who originally initiated this proposal, was a cosponsor of the prior bills and the leading advocate for feeding the less fortunate.

The purpose of the bill is to help meet the demand for food for the needy. The end of the economic boom has increased the need for additional resources to feed the hungry. In fact, as more and more citizens are removed from the welfare rolls, or lose their jobs, many turn to food banks for help.

The bill would increase the incentives for restaurants, farms and other businesses in the food industry to donate food to food banks, homeless shelters and other charitable organizations. The Internal Revenue Code actually discourages contributions because of the uncertainty regarding the tax treatment of donations of food as compared to donations of other inventory. The bill has been designed to correct that deficiency.

We believe this bill would remove the uncertainty and provide the necessary incentive for businesses to increase their food donations. This would be accomplished by adding a provision to Section 170(e) of the Code that would indicate that the fair market value of donated food is determined, (1) without regard to internal policies, lack of market, or similar circumstances, whether the food cannot or will not be sold, and (2) if applicable, by taking into account the price at which similar products are sold by the taxpayer at the time of contribution. These have been points of controversy with the Internal Revenue Service, causing uncertainty as well as disincentives to incur the administrative and other costs necessary for the proper handling and preservation of food being donated. In addition, Section 170(e) would be amended to include businesses in addition to C corporations, as the current law provides.

We hope our colleagues will join us in co-sponsoring this legislation.

CONDEMNING ANTI-SEMITISM

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 2003

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce, along with my colleague Representative CARDIN, Representative

WOLF, Representative HOYER, Representative LANTOS, Representative WAMP, Representative SLAUGHTER, Representative ADERHOLT and Representative HASTINGS, this resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the sharp escalation of anti-Semitism, including violence, throughout the region of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, OSCE, is of serious concern to the U.S. Congress and the American people. We should make a concerted effort in our respective countries to end this disturbing trend.

Anti-Semitism is a disease that has bedeviled previous generations of Jews throughout the centuries and formed a black spot on human history. As the 20th century witnessed the nadir of extreme violence against the Jewish community and their institutions, we must take extraordinary steps to ensure this plague does not infect the 21st century to contaminate future generations. Yet our work is cut out for us, as this past year Europe witnessed a profound increase in vandalism against Jewish cemeteries, synagogues and cultural property, as well as mob assaults, fire bombings and gunfire. This year already a Jewish rabbi was stabbed twice in his Paris synagogue by an assailant. Thankfully, he was released from the hospital the same day. Certainly our own country is not immune, as acts of vandalism and violence continue to sporadically occur. As these incidents made graphically clear, silence is not an option when we are witnesses to insensitivity and violence.

The Helsinki Commission, which I co-chair and on which Mr. CARDIN serves has taken the lead in voicing concern and working for real change. On May 22, 2002, the Commission held a hearing to raise specific attention to the growing problem of anti-Semitic violence in the OSCE region. From that hearing a number of initiatives emerged. At the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Annual Session in Berlin last July, I introduced and successfully secured unanimous approval of a resolution denouncing anti-Semitism and calling for all OSCE governments to do more. Mr. Speaker, for the RECORD, I submit the text of the OSCE PA resolution.

In addition, the U.S. delegation co-sponsored an unprecedented special session with the German delegation to further discuss the alarming trend with our fellow parliamentarians. In December, the Commission co-hosted here in Washington a parliamentary forum on anti-Semitism with German parliamentarians, also attended by a prominent member of the Senate of Canada, Jerry Grafstein. At the conclusion of this event, myself and the German co-chair, Gert Weisskirchen, signed a letter of intent highlighting specific areas for further work and pledging to enlist the support of other parliamentarians from OSCE participating States. I have submitted a copy of the letter of intent, for the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce this resolution, and I am eager for the House to go on record in support, making sure both the Congress and our government are doing everything possible to see an end to this

• 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.

scourge. I am especially pleased that the resolution calls for all OSCE participating States to ensure effective law enforcement and prosecution of individuals perpetrating anti-Semitic violence, as well as urging the parliaments of all participating States to take concrete legislative action at the national level. In sum, I look forward to working with my colleagues to continue our steadfast efforts to see an end to anti-Semitic violence.

RESOLUTION ON ANTI-SEMITIC VIOLENCE IN THE OSCE REGION

1. Recalling that the OSCE was among those organizations which publicly achieved international condemnation of anti-Semitism through the crafting of the 1990 Copenhagen Concluding Document;

2. Noting that all participating States, as stated in the Copenhagen Concluding Document, commit to "unequivocally condemn" anti-Semitism and take effective measures to protect individuals from anti-Semitic violence;

3. Remembering the 1996 Lisbon Concluding Document, which highlights the OSCE's "comprehensive approach" to security, calls for "improvement in the implementation of all commitments in the human dimension, in particular with respect to human rights and fundamental freedoms", and urges participating States to address "acute problems", such as anti-Semitism;

4. Reaffirming the 1999 Charter for European Security, committing participating States to "counter such threats to security as violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief and manifestations of intolerance, aggressive nationalism, racism, chauvinism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism";

5. Recognizing that the scourge of anti-Semitism is not unique to any one country, and calls for steadfast perseverance by all participating States;

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

6. Unequivocally condemns the alarming escalation of anti-Semitic violence throughout the OSCE region;

7. Voices deep concern over the recent escalation in anti-Semitic violence, as individuals of the Judaic faith and Jewish cultural properties have suffered attacks in many OSCE participating States;

8. Urges those States which undertake to return confiscated properties to rightful owners, or to provide alternative compensation to such owners, to ensure that their property restitution and compensation programmes are implemented in a nondiscriminatory manner and according to the rule of law;

9. Recognizes the commendable efforts of many post-communist States to redress injustices inflicted by previous regimes based on religious heritage, considering that the interests of justice dictate that more work remains to be done in this regard, particularly with regard to individual and community property restitution compensation;

10. Recognizes the danger of anti-Semitic violence to European security, especially in light of the trend of increasing violence and attacks region wide;

11. Declares that violence against Jews and other manifestations of intolerance will never be justified by international developments or political issues, and that it obstructs democracy, pluralism, and peace;

12. Urges all States to make public statements recognizing violence against Jews and Jewish cultural properties as anti-Semitic, as well as to issue strong, public declarations condemning the depredations;

13. Calls upon participating States to ensure aggressive law enforcement by local and

national authorities, including thorough investigation of anti-Semitic criminal acts, apprehension of perpetrators, initiation of appropriate criminal prosecutions and judicial proceedings;

14. Urges participating States to bolster the importance of combating anti-Semitism by holding a follow-up seminar or human dimension meeting that explores effective measures to prevent anti-Semitism, and to ensure that their laws, regulations, practices and policies conform with relevant OSCE commitments on anti-Semitism; and

15. Encourages all delegates to the Parliamentary Assembly to vocally and unconditionally condemn manifestations of anti-Semitic violence in their respective countries and at all regional and international forums.

LETTER OF INTENT

AN ACTION PROGRAM: CONFRONTING AND COMBATING ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE OSCE REGION

As members of the German Bundestag and U.S. Congress and participants in the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, we wish to express our deep concern regarding the significant increase in the number of anti-Semitic incidents in many countries of the OSCE. We condemn anti-Semitism in all its forms. Anti-Semitic bigotry must have no place in our democratic societies and needs to be actively opposed by all 55 participating States of the OSCE, including by members of Parliament. The sorry lessons of the past have demonstrated that the virus of anti-Semitism, when not successfully resisted, will lead to terrible tragedy for the Jewish people, and promote prejudice and intolerance towards other minority groups.

We affirm our commitment to work together closely to fight anti-Semitism and encourage colleagues in our respective legislatures, and in the legislative bodies of other OSCE participating States, to develop a series of specific measures to counter anti-Semitic actions and attitudes. In executing our action plan we will make full use of all appropriate OSCE institutions and instruments. Actions that we intend to pursue are the following:

A. Persuade other Parliaments in OSCE participating States to adopt resolutions condemning anti-Semitism as the U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag have already done.

B. Energize governments and other elected officials at all levels in OSCE participating States to condemn forcefully and publicly anti-Semitic acts, when they occur.

C. Encourage all OSCE countries to enact appropriate criminal legislation to punish anti-Semitic acts and ensure that such laws are vigorously enforced.

D. Call upon governments in OSCE participating States, if they have not already done so, to adhere to international instruments which, by addressing the problem of discrimination, may counter anti-Semitic attitudes and actions.

E. Promote educational efforts throughout the OSCE region to counter anti-Semitic stereotypes and attitudes among younger people and help identify the necessary resources to accomplish this goal. Encourage teachers, social workers and members of the clergy to focus on anti-Semitic attitudes and behavior of younger people and support the development of curricula for teacher training.

F. Consider what concrete actions may be possible within the OSCE to discourage the proliferation of anti-Semitic, neo-Nazi and other racist material over the Internet, while preserving the right to freedom of expression.

G. Encourage religious leaders in OSCE participating States to work more closely

together and consider the past experiences of certain religious institutions in dealing with the experience of the Holocaust.

H. Create an OSCE parliamentarian-based "Coalition of the Willing" to address anti-Semitic propaganda that appears to be increasing rapidly in a number of OSCE partner countries. Explore the possibility of using the OSCE's partnership with the southern and eastern Mediterranean countries for promoting this goal. We pledge to meet again in conjunction with the February 2003 Winter Session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Vienna to evaluate progress and seek the active support and cooperation of our parliamentary colleagues from other countries. On this occasion, we will also determine how we can best utilize the July 2003 Rotterdam Annual Session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to further our common goal of combating anti-Semitism throughout the OSCE region.

Signed in Washington, D.C. on December 10, 2002.

CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH,
Member of Congress.
GERT WEISSKIRCHEN,
Member, German Bundestag.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRIVACY PROTECTION CLARIFICATION ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation that I am reintroducing with my colleague, Representative JUDY BIGGERT of Illinois, the Privacy Protection Clarification Act. This legislation resolves the controversy as to whether attorneys at law, who are subject to strict codes of professional conduct, should be subject to the privacy section of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA). The Biggert-Maloney legislation recognizes that the practice of law and the business of financial services are wholly different and that GLBA should be clarified to recognize this distinction.

With passage of GLBA in 1999, Congress took an important step in ensuring that consumer privacy is protected as financial institutions continue to merge and as the economy grows increasingly digital. As a member of the then Banking Committee, I was proud to play a role in requiring that financial services companies supply their customers with privacy policies and allow customers the right to opt-out of information sharing with third-parties.

Unfortunately, GLBA has caused significant confusion for the legal community. On February 11, 2002, I joined 12 of my bipartisan colleagues on the Financial Services Committee in writing to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to ask that it grant attorneys an exemption to the GLBA privacy provisions. As we wrote at the time, "Attorneys are already bound by a duty of confidentiality, enforceable under the laws of all 50 states, that prevents misuse of client information and provides a higher degree of privacy protection than GLBA." After a thorough review the FTC determined that it does not presently have the authority to grant the exemption we requested.

The privacy protections in Title V of GLBA were a response to specific cases where consumers' private, personal financial information was mined without their consent in an effort to