

quality education as defined in Sec. 101 and to provide states and local school boards with the resources to address each school's unique challenges in meeting the requirement for a quality education through a flexible and equitable distribution of dollars so each school has an equal opportunity to shore up its curricular weaknesses as they define it in their local communities once the basic national, state and local requirements and standards have been met, a standard by which individual state education programs will be measured.

Title II.—Funding. A special fund will be established to fully implement all aspects of the EEOA. Additionally a special committee will be created to develop a formula for per student expenditures that will result in equal spending for all students.

Sec. 201. Establishing a Special Fund to Fully Support the EEOA—A fund will be created that will be used solely for the purpose of providing support of the EEOA. The fund is to be developed and established by appropriate legislation.

Sec. 202. Increase in Per Student Expenditures—A commission will be created to determine per student expenditure required to support the provisions included in Title I of this act. Several factors will be taken into consideration when making this determination, including: 1) economic and social conditions that exist in a student's school district 2) the academic and social circumstances of the student 3) the ability of the student's school and community to raise funds independently. Taking these factors into consideration will insure that the schools and students who have the greatest need will receive the greatest amount of funding and support. School districts that have adequate spending for each student will not be required to reduce their expenditures. When developing the per student spending formula, the commission shall also consider external factors such as the cost of living in each school district, property values in the district and additional community resources. This will allow the amount distributed to each school district to be prorated according to these factors. (Building a school in Georgia does not cost as much as building a similar facility in New York City, therefore the actual dollar amount spent on a student in Georgia may be less, but the value received from the expenditure is equivalent).

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DONNA  
FERGANCHICK

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Donna Ferganchick for her tireless service to her Delta, Colorado community. Donna is a dedicated volunteer for numerous community organizations and it is my privilege to recognize her efforts before this body of Congress and this nation.

Donna is a western Colorado native. Her family moved to Delta in 1956, and then to Cedaredge where she graduated from high school. Soon after Donna met and married her husband Les in 1959. She purchased the family ranch on the Gunnison River near Delta where she and her family have lived for the last thirty-two years, raising three children.

After receiving her real estate license and attending some classes at Mesa State, she

was persuaded to run for Delta County Assessor. Donna faithfully served her county for two terms and was urged to run for county commissioner. Months later she was elected and became Delta County's first woman county commissioner, again serving her community for two terms.

In 2001, Donna retired from civil service so that she and her husband could travel. In September, Les became ill and tragically passed away. When Donna was at the hospital she was overcome by how friendly the staff was to her, so she decided to return the favor by being an emergency room volunteer and also serves on the hospital foundation board. She also helped with the Delta County 4-H foundation, sits on the hospice advisory board, and is a part time executive director for Grand Mesa Scenic Byways.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Donna Ferganchick has been an invaluable resource to Delta County and the city of Delta. Her hard work and humble service to her community is extraordinary and worthy of acknowledgment before this body of Congress and this nation. Thanks, Donna, for all your hard work, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

SUPPORTING THE UMWA ON COAL  
MINE MEMORIAL

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2004*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the United Mineworkers of America (UMWA) who over the last two days have been participating in a coal mine memorial.

The UMWA has called for a nationwide two-day memorial, shutting down all the union mines in the U.S. to symbolize the importance of a federal court decision expected sometime this week. This decision has the potential to impact the fate of health care benefits for 250 working miners at the Zeigler 11 mine near Coulterville, Illinois and hundreds of retired coal miners in my congressional district.

These people have worked hard to earn benefits and a pension to sustain them and their families through retirement. Yet, the way our laws are structured, we allow companies to get out of their responsibilities to these hardworking Americans and their families. This is unfortunately happening more and more across our country and it needs to stop.

Health care has gone from a matter of concern to a crisis of major proportion. Seniors are splitting their pills to make their medications last. People will not go to a doctor because they cannot afford it. We have more than 40 million people who are uninsured. Health care has become a crisis in America.

There is a historical commitment to providing health care for retired coal miners and we must continue that commitment. Mr. Speaker, the people that are in jeopardy of losing their health care spent their careers producing the energy which powers this nation. We must not turn our backs on them now. We must not allow them to be robbed of the health care they so desperately deserve and need.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION  
TO HONOR THE CHILDREN OF  
AMERICA

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2004*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today my fellow colleague from Colorado, Representative BEAUPREZ, and I are introducing a resolution to honor this nation's children and express the desire to mark the first Wednesday in March as National Children's Day.

The resolution expresses the sense of the House of Representatives urging the President to proclaim that the first Wednesday of March each year should be named National Children's Day in honor of the future generations of our country.

The Great Sioux Nation can be used as a role model to lawmakers in America as we debate any bill here on the floor of the House of Representatives. They place a high value on the children of the tribe, as they represent the future of the tribe. When important decisions are being made, the Sioux always discussed what the impact of the decision would be, not on the current generation, or the next generation, but the seventh generation on.

The Sioux Nation placed a priority on the future of the tribe, through its children. I believe that it is important that we, as lawmakers, keep the importance of our future in mind as we make decisions everyday here in Congress.

In that spirit, I believe this legislation is fitting as it honors the importance of our nation's children and the role that we as adults have in the upbringing of a child. Through special attention from the adults in a child's life, that child is more likely to experience success throughout their life. This resolution urges American adults to set aside time throughout the day to support a child in their life or community.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and spend some time with a child in their lives.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RONALD  
PETTIGREW

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Ronald Pettigrew and thank him for the remarkable civic contributions he has made to his Durango community and the State of Colorado. Ron is an active and well respected leader in his community, and I believe it appropriate to acknowledge his many accomplishments to the Durango community before this body of congress and nation.

A second generation native to Southwest Colorado, Ron graduated from Fort Lewis College in western Colorado, and has been a business owner in Durango ever since. Due to his many civic and business contributions, he was recognized by the Durango Area Chamber Resort Association as their Citizen of the Year in 1992.