

THE NATIONAL UNDERGROUND
RAILROAD NETWORK TO FREE-
DOM ACT

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 1998

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend a group of students in my district for their support of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act, which passed the House earlier this week. One hundred and eighteen students of the Law and Public Policy Program of Largo High School in Prince George's County, Maryland, fifty three students of the Law and Public Policy Program and African American History Classes at Potomac High School in Prince George's County, Maryland, and one hundred and twenty-six students of the Saturday Academy of the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self-Development signed onto petitions to show their support for S. 887, which is the Senate version of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act.

All three of these petitions advocate an affirmative vote for this legislation and express the following sentiment in support of this legislation:

This legislation would establish the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, a way to preserve and link Underground Railroad sites nationwide for the first time, under the auspices of the National Park Service. It will also allow the Park Service to enter into innovative public-private partnership's with local and privately held sites and interpretive centers. The purpose of the underground railroad is twofold: Our challenge is to first, educate all people concerning this important episode in American History; and second, to bring our country together by facing the lingering vestiges of our nation's dehumanizing past, so that we can find common ground and move forward as one people. More than ever these two endeavors are inseparable.

THE SOUTHSIDE SAVANNAH
RAIDERS

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 1998

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I am submitting the following congratulatory resolutions for the Southside Savannah Raiders baseball team and I add my own congratulations.

A PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE
STATE OF GEORGIA

THE SOUTHSIDE SAVANNAH RAIDERS

Whereas: The Southside Savannah Raiders stand above the rest as the 1996 State Baseball Georgia Recreation and Parks State Champions; and

Whereas: The Southside Savannah Raiders had an overwhelming record of 53-3 in 1996, clinching the League, City, District 2 and Georgia Games titles; and

Whereas: The Southside Savannah Raiders claimed their impressive title by defeating Sandy Plains of Atlanta on August 4, 1996, in Valdosta, Georgia; and

Whereas: During the victorious season, each player and coach of the Southside Sa-

vannah Raiders devoted boundless energy and unlimited time to ensuring the success of the team; now

Therefore: I, Zell Miller, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby commend the "SOUTHSIDE SAVANNAH RAIDERS" and express congratulations to this great ball club for a job well done.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed. This 31st day of March 1997.

A RESOLUTION

Congratulating the Southside Savannah Raiders; and for other purposes.

Whereas, the Southside Savannah Raiders, a 12 and under youth baseball team, won the 1996 State Baseball Georgia Recreation and Parks State Championship, A division; and

Whereas, the victorious Raiders are sponsored by the Jenkins Boys Club, but all of Savannah shared in their victory over Sandy Plains of Atlanta on August 4, 1996, in Valdosta; and

Whereas, the Southside Savannah Raiders had an overall record of 53 wins and 3 losses during the 1996 season while clinching the League, City, District 2, and Georgia Games titles; and

Whereas, if not the first Georgia Recreation and Parks Association title to be brought to Savannah, it is the first in a long time and a truly wonderful and special victory to be savored by all who supported the team and all who support youth sports in Georgia; and

Whereas, the members of the 1996 raiders are Joey Boan, Christopher Burnsed, Brian Crider, Bryan Donahue, Matthew Dotson, Kevin Finnegan, Kevin Edge, Mark Hamilton, Garrett Harvey, Bobby Keel, Adam Kitchen, and Daniel Willard. The coaches are Linn Burnsed, Danny Boan, and Dana Edge.

Now therefore be it resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this body congratulate the Southside Savannah Raiders on their state championship and wish each member of the team all the success in the future.

Be it further resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to each member and coach of the team.

A RESOLUTION

Commending the Southside Savannah Raiders Baseball Team; and for other purposes.

Whereas, the Southside Savannah Raiders finished their season triumphantly as the 1996 Division A Georgia Recreation and Parks State Champions, 12 and under youth division; and

Whereas, the Raiders compiled a record of 53 wins and 3 losses for the year, and took the League, City, District 2, and Georgia Games titles, as well as second place in the AAU State Tourney, on the way to their championship; and

Whereas, this championship was the result of extraordinary teamwork, hard work, determination, talent, and exuberance from the following members of the All Stars: Joey, Boan, Christopher Burnsed, Brian Crider, Bryan Donahue, Matthew Dotson, Kevin Finnegan, Kevin Edge, Mark Hamilton, Garrett Harvey, Bobby Keel, Adam Kitchen, and Daniel Willard; and

Whereas, these champions were ably coached by Linn Burnsed, Danny Boan and Dana Edge, who instilled a winning attitude and a sense of sportsmanship in these young athletes; and

Whereas, the team's accomplishments required the dedication and support of all the

members as well as that of countless numbers of parents and friends; and

Whereas, it is only fitting and proper that this body acknowledge this most remarkable accomplishment.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Senate, That its members congratulate and commend the 1996 Southside Savannah Raiders Baseball Team, the Georgia Recreation and Parks A Division Champions.

Be it further resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to each member and the coaches of the 1996 Southside Savannah Raiders.

POVERTY EQUALS DEATH: NOT
THE HEALTH POLICY OF A
MORAL NATION

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 1998

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, as we seek to improve our health care system, it is important to include the concerns of all of our citizens—especially those in less fortunate financial circumstances. A recent study in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* found that low-income citizens "have a death rate as much as three times higher than that of other groups."

The study found that, "Americans with income below \$10,000 a year had a death rate of 3.22 times that of people making \$30,000 or more." Even after taking into account the riskier health behavior that is often attributed to the poor, "the death rate among the poor was still 2.77 times higher." This clearly shows that many Americans are dying early simply because they are poor. A policy that results in the less fortunate dying for no other reason than their financial status cannot possibly be one that is working to the best interest of the American people.

One thing we can do to improve this unfortunate situations is to provide better access to health care for the underprivileged. Tom Burke, a specialist in risk sciences at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, said: "A big part of being poor is lack of access to medical care or perhaps not feeling culturally comfortable with the medical care providers, so things that are little health problems become bigger health problems, and you have people presenting themselves at a much more advanced state of disease."

We can prevent many early deaths simply by treating health problems in the early stages. To do this we need to ensure that our health care system is accessible to all Americans irrespective of financial status.

It is also important to remember that this situation carries far-reaching psychological implications. Children learn from their parents. And what will low-income children learn from their parents? They will learn, "that the world is frightening and hostile place." Attitudes like these contribute to stress, poor choices, and early death. We cannot allow our health system to be ignorant of the needs of the economically disadvantaged.