

the life span of Americans both present other sets of challenges for the long-term solvency of Social Security.

The Social Security Trust Fund is currently solvent and is projected to remain solvent well into the next century. But the long-term changes in the workforce will place a major strain on its ability to pay full benefits for the baby boomers' retirement. Social Security will be able to pay all promised benefits including cost-of-living adjustments until the year 2032. After 2032, the trust fund will still be able to pay 75% of promised benefits. Thus if no adjustments are made between now and then, the trust fund will experience a shortfall, but will not be exhausted. Our current economic prosperity, and projected budget surpluses, though, offer a great opportunity to act now to avert the depletion of the trust fund.

#### REFORM PROPOSALS

The reform debate is focusing on three broad approaches to shore up Social Security.

**Incremental reform:** The first approach is to make modest adjustments to the existing program by reducing benefits and altering the taxation of benefits. For example, the working period over which a retiree's benefits are computed could be increased from 35 to 38 years. By taking into account the additional three years, a worker's earlier, and usually lower-paying, employment years would figure into her wage history, thereby lowering the level of benefits. Another proposal on the benefits side calls for adjusting the consumer price index so that it more accurately reflects the rate of inflation. On the tax side, the income threshold for taxation of Social Security benefits could be raised. Currently, only beneficiaries with incomes above certain annual thresholds, \$32,000 for married couples and \$25,000 for single people, owe taxes on their benefits.

**Means-testing:** A second basic approach to reform entails means-testing Social Security. This approach would involve reducing payments to beneficiaries who earn more than a specified income threshold. Advocates of means-testing argue that Social Security was designed to protect the elderly from financial adversity in old age, and that benefits could be reduced for those who are better off and have less of a need for benefits. Critics respond that means-testing might transform the public's perception of the program from one that benefits everyone to one that serves only low-income beneficiaries. This opens up the possibility of undermining the broad political base of support for the program.

**Privatization:** A third approach is to privatize the Social Security system. The main proposal would establish a system of Individual Retirement Accounts. These accounts would allow workers to invest their savings directly into higher yielding assets than government securities. Most proposals which include some type of private account would maintain a minimum level of benefits, lower than today's benefit level, while allowing an additional amount to be invested in the stock market. Both components would continue to be financed by payroll taxes. One major advantage of privatization would come from the potential higher returns that beneficiaries could obtain from the stock market. A down turn on the market, on the other hand, presents significant risks for any privatization plans.

#### CONCLUSION

Social Security has been a very successful program. The program provides nearly universal coverage of American workers and their dependents, as well as helping a significant number of the disabled and children. The program is progressive in offering larger

benefits relative to lifetime earnings for lower earners than for higher earners. It is an efficient program and is an important means to eliminating poverty. The program, however, clearly requires reform so that we can provide benefits to future generations of retirees. The challenge will be to enact reforms which build on the successes of the program, enjoy broad public support, and put the program on firm financial footing for generations to come.

#### J.J. "JAKE" PICKLE FEDERAL BUILDING

SPEECH OF

**HON. LAMAR S. SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 1998*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 3223, a bill designating the J.J. "Jake" Pickle Federal Building in Austin, Texas.

Though Jake has been out of office for 5 years, his former constituents and fellow Texans still call on him and respect him because they all know what everyone knows about Jake—he really cares.

Throughout his 30 years in Washington he never forgot who sent him or why he was there—to make the lives of his constituents and all Americans better.

Of course no building named after Jake would be complete without the words "Howdy, Howdy, Howdy" inscribed over the entryway! Surely he is the quintessential Texan.

All of us—Republicans and Democrats—continue to admire and appreciate Jake Pickle.

#### THANK YOU TO THE CREW OF "JOHN C. STENNIS"

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 15, 1998*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces stand guard in defense of our vital interests in the Persian Gulf. These dedicated men and women stand ready to respond to the latest crisis in the Middle East with the most advanced and capable weapons systems available. A few months ago as the United States prepared to strike Iraq, the news media flooded the airwaves with stories about our military personnel in the Gulf. After the crisis, the media left but thousands of our soldiers, sailors and airmen remained—on guard and at their posts.

One of the most difficult assignments in the Gulf is service at sea aboard the many naval vessels that ensure the U.S. retains a unilateral ability to defend our interests in a crisis. Much of the work is long, tedious and boring but let us make no mistake about it—the fate of the world's economy and our national security depend on these men and women in uniform.

I want to take this moment to thank the men and women of our armed services who are currently serving in the Gulf for their dedication to duty and their commitment to their

country. I also want to send a specific thank you to the crew of the U.S.S. *JOHN C. STENNIS* (CVN 74) who form the backbone of our commitment to Gulf security. Under the able leadership of the Battlegroup Commander, RADM Ralph Suggs, the ship's Commanding Officer, Captain Douglas Roulstone, and the Executive Officer, CDR Wade Tallman, our newest aircraft carrier and pride of the fleet is the reason why Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi leadership are kept at bay. These Navy leaders took a brand new ship and crew and welded them into a team that is now a cornerstone in our nation's security.

A member of my staff recently served with this crew as they prepared for the Gulf. He reminded me that long after CNN and the other networks left the Gulf, our people in the nation's sea service remained on duty in the Gulf. While I cannot read the names of the whole crew, I wanted to send a special thank you from the Congress to the ship's intelligence staff who are the eyes and ears of the Battlegroup, watching any threat which may intend harm for America and her allies. In specific, I want to thank the following sailors for their service.

CDR Paula L. Moore, LCDR William P. Hamblet, LCDR Cecil R. Johnson, LT Claudio C. Biltoc, LT Wayne S. Grazio, LT Constance M. Greene, LT Amy L. Halin, LT Michael C. McMahon, LT Michael S. Prather, LTJG Jason S. Alznauer, LTJG Kwame O. Cooke, LTJG Joe A. Earnst, LTJG Ben H. Eu, LTJG Neil A. Harmon, LTJG Kevin J. McHale, LTJG Alexander W. Miller, LTJG Eric C. Mostoller, LTJG Kevin E. Nelson, LTJG John M. Schmidt, ENS Curtis D. Dewitt, ENS Joseph M. Spahn, CWO2 Robert G. Stephens, ISCS(SW) Mary B. Buzuma, CTIC Andrea C. Elwyn, CTRC(SW/AW) Leroy Dowdy, ISC Nancy A. Heaney, PHC(AW) Troy D. Summers, CTO1 William L. Beitz, IS1 Janice E. Bevel, CTR1 Theresa L. Covert, CTR1 Charlene Duplanter, PH1 Lewis E. Everett, CTA1 Jennifer L. Fojtik, IS1 Matthew E. Hatcher, CTM1(SW) Susan C. Kehner, IS1(AW) Kevin E. King, CTT1 John E. Schappert, CTT1 Marx A. Warren, CTR1(SW/AW) Kevin R. Webb, PH1(AW) James M. Williams, CTR2 Francis E. Algers, IS2 Zachary C. Alyea, PH2 Clinton C. Beaird, IS2 Brandon G. Brooks, DM2 Chad A. Dulac, IS2 Sean M. Fitzgerald, PH2(AW) Brain D. Forsmo, CTR2 Sarah A. Fuselier, IS2 Brent L. George, IS2 Richard M. Gierbolini, IS2 Christopher S. Holloman, CTR2 Kevin J. Hubbard, PH2 Leah J. Kanak, CTI2(NAC) Paula C. Keefe, IS2 Angel Morales, IS2 Matthew W. Nace, CTI2(NAC) Eric S. Newton, CTO2 Milton T. Pritchett, IS2 Richard J. Quinn, IS2 Lee E. Redenbo, CTR2 Michael A. Santichi, IS2 Bryan S. Stanley, IS2 Mark A. Szypula, PH2(AW) Jade A. Theobald, CTI2 Sarah A. Vogel, PH3(SW) Robert M. Baker, IS3 Gere L. Beason, IS3 Michael J. Barrencea, PH3 Richard J. Brunson, CTO3 Michael H. Buxton, PH3 Jomo K. Coffea, IS3 Terry D. Cooper, IS3 Trinity A. Durrell, CTR3 Angel Garay-Guzman, CTR3 George W. Hall, PH3 Sandra Harrison, CTO3 Yacha C. Hodge, IS3 Mark T. Kenny, CTT3 David E. Kozacek, PH3 Michael L. Larson, PH3(SW) Stephen E. Massone, CTI3 Dennis M. Paquet, IS3 Christopher P. Petrofski, IS3 Christopher D. Ross, IS3 John C. Shirah, CTT3 Gus Smalls, PH3 Alicia C. Thompson, CTM3 Jonathan R. Thompson, PH3 Kevin R. Tidwell, CTR3 Malina N. Townsend, IS3 William T. Tyre, CTR3 Thomas J.

Wilgus, PH3 Robin R. Williams, ISSN Sa,uel J. Abernathy, PHAN Emily A. Baker, ISSN Kevin L. Bolden, CTRS N Stacey L. Bowman, ISSN Daniel F. Cady, ISSN Charles E. Fischer, ISSN Gene H. Gregory, ISSN Stephen W. Hedrick, AN Thomas E. Kossman, CTOS N Melissa A. Oliver, PHAN Jamie Snodgrass, ISSN Michael D. Spiller, ISSN Arther C. Twyman, ISSN Travis L. Veal, PHAR James A. Farraly, and PHAR Quinton D. Jackson.

In August, we plan to welcome these fine sailors and their crewmates back to the United States at their new home port in San Diego, California. Until then and on behalf of the whole Congress, I want to thank the crew of the *JOHN C. STENNIS* and their families for their pride, service and dedication to their country. God Speed and come home safely.

#### ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DENTAL RESEARCH

### HON. HENRY BONILLA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 15, 1998*

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the National Institute of Dental Research. NIDR was established in response to the deplorable oral health of our recruits during World War II. As the third oldest institute of the prestigious National Institutes of Health, NIDR was entrusted with a leadership role designed to improve and promote the oral health of the American people.

In this capacity, NIDR supports biomedical and behavioral research in its laboratories and in public, private and academic research centers throughout the nation. The far-reaching results of these efforts have greatly improved the oral health status of the nation and reduced America's dental expenditures by \$4 billion annually.

While NIDR continues to support research to further understand and prevent conditions that lead to tooth loss, its focus has broadened over the years to embrace studies of the entire craniofacial-oral-dental complex. Critical areas of investigation include infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS; inherited diseases; oral cancers; and autoimmune diseases. There is avid interest in studying tissue repair and regeneration and the interactive roles of various factors involved in the generation of craniofacial-oral-dental diseases.

I commend the National Institute of Dental Research on its accomplishments over the past 50 years. I am confident that over the next 50 years, NIDR will continue to greatly improve America's oral health through its outstanding oral health research.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOB  
HOULDING, SR.

### HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 15, 1998*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bob Houlding, Sr., for being recognized as the 1998 Senior Farmer

of the Year. Mr. Houlding has been dedicated to providing services to the agricultural community of Madera County since the 1920's and is very deserving of this honor.

Mr. Houlding's family connection to Madera goes back to the 1800s. Bob Houlding, Sr., is the son of William and Ludema Houlding. William Houlding came with his family from Nebraska to Madera in 1891. Bob Houlding, Sr.'s brothers are Frank, Bill and Vigil, and he has a sister, Ludema (Houlding) Weis.

Mr. Houlding started school in 1922 at Howard School, the year it was built, and graduated from Madera High School in 1934. In 1939, Bob Sr. joined the Army Air Corps to serve his country, staying in until 1946. He initially signed up for a three-year hitch, but just as his first tour was nearing its end, World War II broke out and he continued to serve. In the Air Corps (later the Air Force) he worked as an engineer, repairing B-24s and B-29s in the 21st Bomb Squadron and serving in places such as New Orleans, LA; Riverside, CA; Kansas; and the Aleutian Islands.

In 1942 he married Mildred Sonier. After marrying, the couple raised three sons, Bob Jr., Jerry, and Mike. Mr. Houlding continued to farm once he returned to Madera, growing cotton, alfalfa, wheat, and potatoes. As the years passed, Bob Houlding, Sr., involved his sons in the family business and now together they own 3,500 acres in Madera and on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley. His grandchildren and their spouses are also involved in farming. All of the grandchildren are graduates, current students, or have aspirations of attending Cal Poly—San Luis Obispo.

Mr. Houlding began by farming row crops, but since 1976, has moved into growing tomatoes, cotton, wheat, and almonds on the west side of Madera and Fresno counties. Mr. Houlding's action plan for farming has always been to diversify the kinds of crops he grows and to use modern farming techniques such as micro-sprinklers. Mr. Houlding has been a great proponent of reduced pesticide usage through the introduction of predator insects and of water conservation through the installation of drip and sprinkler irrigation systems.

Mr. Houlding has always been supportive to his community and of youth involvement in agriculture. He was a member of the board of directors of the Golden State Gin, a member of the Trade Club, and a charter member of the Reel and Gun Club.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Bob Houlding, Sr., for receiving the Senior Farmer 1998 Award for Madera County. I applaud Mr. Houlding's dedicated service to, and leadership of, the agricultural community. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Houlding many more years of success.

IN MEMORY OF SISTER ADELAIDE  
CANELAS

### HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 15, 1998*

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my condolences to the family of Sr. Adelaide Canelas, whose recent passing has meant a loss to her family, her friends, and the entire State of Rhode Island.

It is with the deepest respect for her life's work, and in her memory, that I offer this resolution for the RECORD.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION EXTENDING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF SISTER ADELAIDE CANELAS

Whereas, Sister Adelaide Canelas, S.S.D. of Our Lady of Fatima Convent in Warren, R.I., died unexpectedly on Saturday, July 11, 1998; and

Whereas, Born in Lisbon, Portugal, a daughter of the late Eusebio and Albertina (Vazco) Canelas, Sister Adelaide entered the congregation of the Sisters of St. Dorothy in Lisbon in 1937 and was missioned to the United States in 1948; and

Whereas, After receiving a Bachelor's degree in Education, she taught in New Bedford, East Providence, Newport, and Bristol, at St. Francis Xavier School, St. Elizabeth School, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel School. In 1973, she dedicated herself to helping immigrants, especially the poor and under privileged; and

Whereas, Among the many programs Sister Adelaide worked with were Citizens Concerned for Human Progress, Coalition for Consumer Justice, R.I. Azorean Relief Fund and the George Wiley Center. She was also a member of the St. Vincent De Paul Society of St. Francis Xavier Church and was employed by them as Social Action Coordinator and Senior Aide of Self Help Inc.; and

Whereas, A very unique and determined individual, Sister Adelaide didn't exactly fit into the Pre-Vatican mold religious women were supposed to fit. She had strong convictions and was very stubborn, way ahead of her times; and

Whereas, Her determination was never more evident than when she met family after family, desperately poor and in need. She began by researching groups involved with helping poor people and went from there. Between transporting, fighting, picketing, finding jobs, and spending time in jail, Sister Adelaide put common sense and logic before the bureaucracy which was stifling her efforts to put food on their tables and clothing on their backs; and

Whereas, This "Robin Hood of Rhode Island" brought color to our lives, along with laughter, love, and kindness and we know that she has found a place in God's heart. Godspeed, Sister, and may you hear God say to you, "Come my beloved into the heavenly court for you have found the gift I value most—compassion and love for all in need, enter into my Heavenly Kingdom" now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations hereby extends its sincerest condolences on the passing of Sister Adelaide Canelas and also extends condolences to her sister, Gloria; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of State be and he is hereby authorized and directed to transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Gloria Canelas.

#### CIVIC PARTICIPATION

### HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 15, 1998*

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, July 1, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

#### CIVIC PARTICIPATION

One of our country's most noteworthy characteristics has been the variety of organizations to which Americans belong, like