

COMMENDING PRESIDENT LEE
TENG-HUI OF TAIWAN

HON. ROBERT SMITH

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I hereby submit the attached statement for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui's leadership in seeking a peaceful solution to the Taiwan/China reunification issue.

PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI SEEKS DIALOGUE
WITH MAINLAND CHINA

As The Republic of China on Taiwan gets ready to celebrate their forthcoming National Day, President Lee Teng-hui has urged his mainland China counterparts to consider seriously proposals for a meeting between top leaders, cooperation on assistance to Southeast Asian countries, cooperation in agriculture, an offshore transshipment center, assistance on the reform of state enterprises, and cultural exchanges.

So far, the Chinese communists have been lukewarm towards President Lee's many gestures of goodwill. The Chinese communists insist on the undemocratic "one country, two systems" arrangement as the way to solve the reunification issue.

President Lee has made it very clear that the people on Taiwan cannot accept such an arrangement. The Republic of China has 87 years of history as a constitutional sovereign country and it can't turn itself into a local government.

We hope that both Taiwan and the Chinese mainland will find a peaceful solution to the reunification issue. In the meantime as we better our relations with the Chinese mainland, we should further strengthen our ties to Taiwan. After all, Taiwan has been our ally since its founding 87 years ago.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ASA HUTCHINSON

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for the vote on the Mink Amendment to H.R. 3248 (Roll No. 450). Had I been present, I would have voted against this amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN R.
BRIGGS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to a loving family man and dedicated civic servant, Mr. "Big" John R. Briggs, Jr., who passed away in Terrell, Texas, on June 10, 1998.

Big John was born in Rockwall, Texas, on June 14, 1918. At an early age, John began to work with his father at Briggs Oil Company and established Briggs Wrecker Service in 1933, a business he continued until his retirement. In 1953, Big John married the former

Marion Howie, with whom he raised a son and two daughters.

Big John became a lifelong resident of Terrell when he began work for the Texas Highway Department surveying new roads in the southern part of Kaufman County. During World War II, John and his father helped construct the British Flying Training School that was built at the local airport. There John remained as Supervisor of Civilian Operations non-military personnel through the duration of the War.

Tirelessly committed to the community, Big John not only served as a member of the Terrell Volunteer Fire Department for over 38 years, but was even named fire chief by his peers. When he retired from the fire department Big John was elected mayor of Terrell, serving four terms from 1981 to 1988. According to his family, Big John was eternally dedicated to the City of Terrell, making every decision with the best interest of the people of Terrell at heart. With great vision, Big John helped lay the foundation in the 1980s for the extensive industrial growth that benefits Terrell today.

Mr. Speaker, Big John Briggs was loved and respected by most everyone who knew him and he will be greatly missed by family and friends. As we adjourn today, let us do so in honor of and respect for this great American—the late John R. Briggs.

HONORING AGAPE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Agape Christian Fellowship Family Worship Center's 10th Anniversary in Brooklyn, New York.

Agape Christian Fellowship is more than a place of worship. It strives to take care of the spiritual, educational, support, and social needs of the family as a whole. From a small acorn a mighty oak tree shall grow, with its roots planted deep and its presence strong. This metaphor only begins to describe The Agape Christian Fellowship Family Worship Center.

The numerous ministries, evangelical and missionary outreaches strive to constantly increase in number and spirit the Family of the Savior. The Elders and Ministers Alliance celebrates and supports those called to serve and those who desire to be a vehicle for God. The Nehemiah Ministry for children encourages the positive support and rearing of children in the way of righteousness. The Evangelism and Missionary Department serve to meet the needs of the lost and preach salvation and hope in Christ. These are but a few of the many examples of Agape's diligence to spread the word of God.

The Educational Division, Music Ministry, and Daughters of Esther are integral parts of Agape's desire to support members and non-members to have a complete life in the Lord. The Educational Division celebrates those in schools at all levels and encourages them to stay steadfast in their faith. The Daughters of Esther minister to young women to construct their lives according to biblical principles.

Mr. Speaker, with the accomplishments highlighted and the numerous others I could not, I ask you to join me in saluting the Agape Christian Fellowship Family Worship Center on their 10th Anniversary.

A TRIBUTE TO LOU NANNE ON HIS
ELECTION TO THE U.S. HOCKEY
HALL OF FAME

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the greatest figures in the history of hockey in Minnesota, the birthplace of this great sport in America.

Hockey is an instrumental part of the culture of our wonderful state. Minnesotans often boast about our 10,000 lakes, but we have 10 times as many ice rinks. And Lou Nanne is one of the founding fathers of hockey in Minnesota as well as our nation.

Mr. Speaker, Lou Nanne of Edina, Minnesota, located in the Third Congressional District, was elected to the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame on Wednesday, September 23rd, a truly fitting tribute to "Sweet Lou from The Soo," a reference to his native Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Just like his patented rushes from one end of the rink to the other, Lou Nanne is known from coast to coast for the key role he played in making hockey the major sport it is in America today. In 1989, Lou received the prestigious Lester Patrick Award for his outstanding service to hockey in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, there is no level of hockey—amateur, college, Olympic, international and pro—in America which has not been touched by Lou Nanne's great playing talent, coaching expertise, distinctive management style, enthusiasm, articulate salesmanship and inspirational involvement.

Whether it is attending a pee wee hockey game at a cold, neighborhood rink somewhere in a distant corner of our state, speaking to a high school boosters group, helping to raise money for a paralyzed young player, competing at the highest level of the sport both here and around the world, or managing a professional team, Lou Nanne has done it all in promoting the sport he loves so dearly.

Mr. Speaker, Lou came to prominence as a player for the University of Minnesota, my alma mater. Lou played for the Gophers from 1959 to 1963 and was named an All-American his senior year.

Lou Nanne served as captain of the 1968 U.S. Olympic team, as well as general manager of Team USA for four years.

Lou was the hometown favorite when he played for the Minnesota North Stars of the National Hockey League, starting with the team from its inception and remaining one of the team's stalwarts for more than a decade of thrills, from 1967 to 1978. He was coach of the North Stars in 1978, general manager for the ensuing decade and president from 1988 to 1990.

We Minnesotans just call him Sweet Lou because of his smooth stick handling skills and low-key, friendly personality. I'm also proud to call Lou Nanne my good friend of many years.

Mr. Speaker, all Minnesotans are extremely proud of Lou Nanne on his election to the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame. We wish Lou and Francine and their wonderful family the very best in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO MAMIE HUGHES

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Mamie Hughes, an inspirational civic leader and civil rights activist in my district. For her dedicated, steadfast commitment to public service and quality leadership throughout the years, Hughes is being recognized As Woman of the Year by the Central Exchange, an organization established in 1980 as a networking resource for women. Ms. Hughes is the first African-American in Kansas City to receive this coveted award.

Ms. Hughes graduated from Fisk University in Nashville, TN, with a Bachelor of Arts degree, and began her public service as an elementary school teacher in Arcola, MS. She continued her career as a teacher in the Kansas City, Missouri School District.

In 1962, as a mother of five children, Ms. Hughes volunteered for several Kansas City civil rights organizations. She represented the 4th district in the Jackson County Legislature for 6 years following a 1972 election, and eventually chaired its Health and Welfare Committee. Following a 1976 re-election, Ms. Hughes was chosen by her peers for the honorable position of Vice-Chair of the Legislature, and 2 years later she was appointed by President Carter to be Regional Director for ACTION, a Federal Volunteer Service Agency, where she oversaw more than 20,000 volunteers in four states.

In 1981, Ms. Hughes' focus shifted slightly from regional to local concerns when she accepted an offer by the Black Economic Union of Greater Kansas City to serve as a Community Planner. A year later, as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Black Economic Union, Ms. Hughes became a driving force behind the rejuvenation of the Historic Jazz District at 18th and Vine as she promoted the area as a cultural center and worked with local officials to get the project designated as an Historic District. We owe thanks to Ms. Hughes for the successful tourist attraction including the Negro League Baseball Museum and Jazz Museum, and the growing business and residential development that 18th and Vine are today.

Ms. Hughes currently is employed by the City of Kansas City, Missouri, as an ombudsman for the Bruce R. Watkins Drive, an important thoroughfare that is being constructed to connect the communities of south Kansas City with downtown. When the development of the Bruce R. Watkins Drive led to public concern about citizens' property rights. Ms. Hughes stepped up as champion for citizens within the area, to counsel them about their rights as residents. She also coordinates activities of the Missouri Department of Transportation with Kansas City's Housing and Urban Development, Public Works, and Parks, Recreation, and Boulevards Departments.

As a founding and charter member of the Central Exchange, a lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, board member of the Kansas City Habitat for Humanity, and an advisory board member of the Women's Foundation, Ms. Hughes has received many awards. Her honors include the Public Service Award from the African American Episcopal Church Missionary Society, Career Woman of the Year from the Jones Store Company, and Eleanor Roosevelt Award for her Exemplary Leadership for Women from the Greater Kansas City Commission on the Status of Women.

My friendship with Ms. Hughes is special. She is an inspirational figure in our community and offers the woman of Kansas City and the region a strong role model. As an original member of the Woman's Public Service Network, she is very active in the organization which is a network on key issues of concern to women in our community, especially in helping women succeed in the political process.

Ms. Hughes has the respect, admiration, and trust of citizens in our area and region. She is unique, and truly deserves to be Woman of the Year. Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking her for her efforts on behalf of others, and congratulating her for her dedication to making the world a better place for all of us.

BALTIMORE REGIONAL CITIZENS AGAINST LAWSUIT ABUSE

HON. ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, the week of September 20–26, 1998, has been recognized in my home state of Maryland as "Lawsuit Abuse Awareness Week." Baltimore Regional Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse (BRCALA) has worked tirelessly over the last three years to educate Marylanders about the higher costs for consumer products, medical expenses, taxes, and lost business expansion and product development associated with lawsuit abuse. Almost everyone agrees that America has become an overly litigious society.

BRCALA is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots, legal watchdog organization. Its efforts include running educational media announcements, posting billboards and signs, and speaking to local groups throughout the Baltimore area in order to raise public awareness of lawsuit abuse.

When frivolous lawsuits are filed, we all pay, and we all lose, BRCALA's mission to curb lawsuit abuse is an example of Marylanders devoting energy and efforts toward solving problems which cost our state jobs, profits, and opportunities. Its public awareness campaign reaches out to thousands of my constituents as well as thousands of other citizens throughout the Baltimore metropolitan region.

Legal reform of any kind is not a simple issue. The legal system must function properly to provide justice to every American. Accordingly, when lawsuits and the courts can be used recklessly at the consequence of imposing excessive costs to other parties—from individuals to nonprofit agencies to businesses—the system should be reviewed and reformed if possible.

While BRCALA has thousands of supporters throughout the state of Maryland, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize particular individuals who have given countless hours to advance its mission. They are Mary Felica Kniep, Executive Director for BRCALA; Vicki L. Almond, chairwoman; Joseph Brown, Jr.; Stanley Dill; Dr. William Howard; Gary O. Prince; and the Honorable Joseph Sachs—each directors and supporters dedicated to BRCALA.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend all of the individuals who are involved with Baltimore Regional Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse for their wholehearted dedication to this important endeavor.

TRIBUTE TO SANDRA S. MORGAN

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Ms. Sandra B. Morgan who on October 14, 1998, will retire after a distinguished 31 year career with the City of Los Angeles government. On October 2, 1998, Sandy, as she is affectionately known, will be honored at an appreciation dinner at the Proud Bird Restaurant in Los Angeles. In honor of her exemplary service to the City of Los Angeles government, I am pleased to have the opportunity today to publicly commend her.

A native Angeleno, Sandy was born to Hia-watha and Lula Garrett on October 2, 1948. She attended public schools in Los Angeles, graduating from Manual Arts High School in 1966. After attending Los Angeles City Junior College, she began her career with the City of Los Angeles government working for the Department of Traffic as a clerk stenographer. From 1967 to 1985, she held various clerical positions of increasing responsibility, rising to become an executive secretary to the vice president of the Board of Public Works in April 1985. Later that same year, she became a personnel analyst, serving as a management advocate for the City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. As part of her duties, Sandy developed and implemented employee training modules for the Department of Transportation Office of Parking Management.

When not fulfilling her responsibilities as a city employee, Sandy can be found managing her real estate company, Morgan's Real Estate, which operates in the states of California and Nevada. She is also a notary public. Married to Leslie H. Morgan, a retired real estate officer for the City of Los Angeles, she has three stepsons, Fredrick, Gerry, and Vincent. Sandra and Leslie also are the proud grandparents of Fredrick and Darnell.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted on behalf of the citizens of the 32nd Congressional District of California to have this occasion to thank Sandra S. "Sandy" Morgan for her many years of dedicated and committed services to the citizens of Los Angeles. As she prepares to set course on yet another chapter of her life, which I understand will begin with the Morgan family's move to Las Vegas, Nevada, I ask that you join me in extending our best wishes to her for a future that is filled with much happiness, good health, and abundant prosperity.