

Jim was elected to the Galveston Independent School District Board of Trustees and served a 4-year term from 1991–94 during which time a successful bond issue permitted major construction and renovation of GISD facilities. In 1994, he was a successful candidate for the Galveston County Judge, a leadership position he has held since and from which he has earned much praise for his efforts to streamline county government. The Galveston County Daily News and the Boy Scouts of America both honored him in 1996 as their Citizen of the Year.

During the past 10 months, Jim and Carol Yarbrough and their family have faced perhaps their greatest challenge with the discovery of Carol's breast cancer. They recognized immediately the value of educating others to the challenge of cancer when they chose to share their story with the people of Galveston County, and, indeed, all of us. Carol now visits all the Galveston County high schools as a volunteer with the "Check It Out" program to educate junior and senior girls about breast cancer.

Since education has been an important part of Jim and Carol Yarbrough's success, the College of the Mainland Foundation believes a scholarship named for this remarkable couple will help current and future students succeed.

Once again, I commend the Yarbroughs for their leadership in my community.

TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, as I rise today to welcome Taiwan Representatives Stephen Chen and Mrs. Rosa Chen to the nation's capital, I hope the Republic of China will be able to return to the United Nations and other international organizations as soon as possible.

As an economic power and a symbol of democracy, Mr. Speaker, Taiwan deserves the world's respect and recognition. Since 1949, the Republic of China on Taiwan has moved from an agricultural society, exporting only bananas and sugar, to a major trading nation today. Moreover, the 21 million people on Taiwan are prosperous and free.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I take advantage of this opportunity to congratulate President Lee Teng-hui, Vice President Lien Chan and Foreign Minister Jason Hu. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them good luck as they celebrate their National Day on October 10, 1998.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6, HIGHER EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Conference Report on H.R. 6, the Higher Education Amendments of 1998. This

measure is similar to the House-passed bill and contains key Democratic priorities. The heart of this measure is its student aid programs, which are authorized under titles III and IV. These critical programs expand post-secondary educational opportunities for all students and increase the affordability and accessibility of a college education for many of our Nation's families.

I am very pleased with the historic increases for the Pell Grant program, included in H.R. 6. This critical program provides need-based aid for undergraduate students. As such, H.R. 6 raises the maximum authorized level for Pell Grant awards from the current appropriation of \$3,000 a year, to \$4,500 for the 1999–2000 academic year, to \$5,800 for the academic year 2003–2004.

In addition, the Conference Report makes some critical changes to the needs analysis formula used to determine the size of a student's Pell Grant and other Federal student aid awards. It increases the amount of income that families may exclude from calculations—to determine what they should contribute to the cost of education—and decreases the percentage of a student's assets that must be contributed toward the cost of their education.

This measure also lowers interest rates of student loans from the current 8.25 percent to 7.46 percent. This is the lowest level in 17 years and will result in students experiencing \$11 billion in savings over the life of their loans.

And, despite Republican efforts to eliminate the Federal Direct Loan Program, H.R. 6 strengthens both the Direct Loan and the Federal Family Educational Loan programs. This will continue to provide colleges and universities with the opportunity to choose the most appropriate program for them.

Mr. Speaker, while I am pleased with each of these commitments, I am particularly proud of the provisions included in H.R. 6 that were specifically designed to expand educational opportunities for underserved and minority students. One such report is the establishment of the "Gear Up Mentoring Initiative," which was originally introduced by Representative FATTAH (D-PA)—and endorsed by the administration—as the High Hopes Initiative. This program is a new national effort targeted at helping disadvantaged students prepare for college. Other important efforts include the strengthening of: the trio programs, which fund outreach and students support services designed to encourage disadvantaged students to enter and complete college; historically Black Colleges and Universities; and Hispanic-serving institutions.

Other important provisions include those focused on improving teacher quality, preparation and recruitment—and providing scholarships, support and services to recruit and prepare teachers to serve, for at least 3 years, in underserved urban and rural schools.

These are all critical investments that will continue to go a long way in leveling the playing field of educational opportunity for all of our Nations' students. As such, it is absolutely essential that they continue to receive strengthened and sustained support.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Conference Report for H.R. 6. This is an acceptable compromise that will benefit students across the Nation.

IN HONOR OF THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Cuyahoga County Public Library for 75 years of serving its community. Throughout its existence, the library has earned a reputation for conducting innovative programs and providing valuable services which have become models for libraries across the nation.

When the state legislature passed a law enabling the establishment of a county district library for any area not served by a free public library, the ever-increasing population of Cuyahoga County saw an opportunity to build a library in its community. The Cuyahoga County Public Library was the first to be organized under the new law.

The library rendered its services through schools, which proved to be the best way to serve residents eager for this resource. The schools had ample space and were willing to provide the available quarters rent-free. According to the County Library Report for 1924–1925, eight branches and 49 stations and classroom libraries were opened to the public.

As it continued to expand throughout the years, the Cuyahoga County Library was restructured within the framework of a regional library system. It grew to include in-depth collections and subject specialties in specific areas of study. Annual circulation grew from six million in 1965 to 10 million by the mid-eighties.

Today, this library has reached such success that it is ranked among the 10 busiest library systems in the nation. It has 29 locations, serving 47 suburban communities with a population of approximately 608,000 people. I am pleased to honor such an achievement on the 75th anniversary of the Cuyahoga County Public Library.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6, HIGHER EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, through bipartisan efforts, we have before us a piece of legislation which will assist students, teachers, parents and educational administrators for the next five years. As an educator and former educational administrator, I know that components of the bill, such as increasing Pell Grant limits and lowering interest rates on student loans, provide students the security of pursuing their educational goals without fear of financial constraints. Improving teacher quality and strengthening minority institutions of higher education is also a strong signal that the United States is committed to enhancing student education as well as leveling the playing field for students by continuing to assist historically disadvantaged student populations.

The Conference Report on HR 6 also contains language which would extend Pell Grant

eligibility to the Freely Associated States (FAS) until 2004. I remind my colleagues that the FAS were formerly the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands administered by the United States under a United Nations Trusteeship. Our special relationship with the FAS encompasses a wide range, from defense to trade to education. I commend the House and Senate conferees for reaching sufficient agreement to continue extending federal educational programs to FAS students at least until after the renegotiation of the Compacts of Free Association scheduled to begin in the year 2000. The FAS, composed of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau, are vital security allies in the Pacific and each have separate agreements with the United States which would allow for their eligibility in the Pell, College Work Study and the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Programs.

Mr. Speaker, education is a universal necessity. I think that HR 6 is testimony that this body is committed to continuing quality higher education. I urge my colleagues to support HR 6.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SUBARU
OF AMERICA ON THEIR 30TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Subaru of America and its many proud, hard-working employees on thirty years in the United States.

I am especially proud that Subaru of America is headquartered in my Congressional District in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. As the only automobile company with its national headquarters based in the Delaware Valley, Subaru has an important presence in my state and local region. In addition to the 360 people employed at its Cherry Hill headquarters Subaru directly impacts more than 5,000 jobs in the U.S.

Subaru's success is evident in the important milestones the company has reached just this year. Additionally, Subaru's impact on the state of New Jersey and throughout the region through its generous charitable contributions is extraordinary.

On behalf of New Jersey's Third District, on this the 30th Anniversary of Subaru of America, I wish Subaru and its employees the best in their future endeavors, and thank them for their dedication and commitment to our region.

HONORING ROBERT AND REGINA
LEVY ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of Robert and Regina Levy. It gives me great pleasure to congratulate Robert and Regina on their special day.

What a remarkable accomplishment to be able to celebrate a marriage that has endured for so many years. The bond that brought them together has remained and grown over the years. May they always share the love and joy they feel today.

In an era where marriages are too often short lived, it is wonderful to see a couple who have endured the trials and tribulations that can cause a marriage to fail. The love and commitment they have demonstrated should serve as an inspiration to couples everywhere.

Mr. Speaker, what an achievement to be married for 50 years. It is an honor to represent a couple like the Levy's. I ask that my colleagues join me, their 6 children and 11 grandchildren in celebrating this joyous occasion. I am proud to call them my constituents.

IN HONOR OF PETER P. DILEONE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Peter P. Di Leone of Shaker Heights, Ohio. Mr. Di Leone was an accomplished man, serving his community as a lawyer, a labor expert, and an advocate of free speech.

Born in Providence, Rhode Island, he was raised by a socialist father who loved to have energetic discussions at the dinner table. He attended Adelbert College, where he played half back on the football team, and then went on to law school at Western Reserve University.

As a lawyer, Mr. Di Leone specialized in labor arbitration through the National Labor Relations Board. He was among a small number of experts who were chosen as permanent arbitrators for rubber companies and the rubber workers union. His accomplishments were awarded when he was elected to the board of governors of the National Academy of Arbitrators.

Along with that honor, he was known as the "Pillar of the Cleveland City Club," where he served as president. The City Club was established to encourage new ideas and a free exchange of thought through the renowned tradition of debate and discussion, pastimes that were embedded deep into his frame of mind. In 1987, he became the first person to be inducted into the City Club Hall of Fame while still living.

Mr. Peter P. Di Leone was a great man who led a successful and accomplished life. I would like to express my deepest condolences to his daughters, Linda Klein and Paulette Novak, and the rest of his surviving family. He will truly be missed by all who knew him.

TRIBUTE TO CARL FREEMAN

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late philanthropist, Carl Freeman. Mr. Freeman was not only a prominent developer and real estate manager, but was also a

special friend of many charitable organizations in Maryland's 7th Congressional District. He came to prominence as a builder after World War II, when he constructed homes for veterans and their families in Takoma Park and Silver Spring. My husband and I fondly recall living in one of his apartments when we first married. The success of Carl Freeman's building projects helped him gain recognition in national magazines such as *House and Home*, *Practical Builder*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, and *American Home and Architect Forum*.

In addition to his financial success, Carl Freeman displayed a generous spirit. He sponsored a class of students through the I Have a Dream Foundation, chaired the Maryland Israel Bonds Committee, and was a supporter of the Treatment Learning Centers, United Jewish Appeal and the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington.

He was a major supporter of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the Phillips Collection, the Montgomery County Arts, the Museum of African Art, the Washington Ballet, the Washington Opera Society, Arena Stage Round House Theater, Olney Theater and the National Symphony Orchestra. He was also chairman of the Greater Rockville Foundation of the Arts.

Mr. Freeman was founding president of the Suburban Maryland Builders Association and a member of the Montgomery County Board of Realtors. He was also director of the Montgomery General Hospital.

While we are saddened by Carl Freeman's death, we are grateful for his life. He inspired us with his dedication, warmth and friendship. For over thirty years he played leadership roles in art, health and business organizations throughout Montgomery County. The thousands of people who were affected by Carl Freeman believe that he had a true gift of generosity and faith in the human spirit. Carl Freeman has left this world a better place for our children and our children's children. I am honored to add my voice to the praises of friends, colleagues, and family who will miss him.

THE FIGHT AGAINST BLINDNESS

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 1998

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute today to a group of constituents whom I am proud to represent.

"Some people see things as they are and say 'Why?' I see things that never were and say 'Why not?'" The words of George Bernard Shaw come to mind when I think of the group of wonderful, dedicated constituents and friends whom I have had the pleasure of working with on an issue critical to millions of Americans. Carlos and Betti Lidsky, Dr. Jaime Edelstein, and Dr. Jaime Suchlicki along with the help of other dedicated volunteers of the Heart Sight Committee and the Foundation Fighting Blindness have spearheaded an effort to bring the issue of Retinal Degenerative Diseases to the attention of the American public and to raise awareness over the need to fund critical research. Their work is tireless, their dedication unwavering, and the message they bring to those who suffer with the disease is that someday soon, a cure will be found.