

HONORING NATIONAL COMMUNITY  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DAY**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 1, 1998*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize National Community Economic Development Day (National CED Day), which will be celebrated by community development corporations (CDCs) across the country on Wednesday, April 8, 1998.

This third annual event, held during National Community Development Week and sponsored by the National Congress for Community Development (NCCED), recognizes the achievements of more than 2,500 CDCs working in America's low-income urban and rural communities. More than 800 NCCED members are actively involved in housing renovation and construction, real estate development, industrial and small business development, employment-generating activities, and other innovative programs to revitalize communities. More than 21 million people benefit from the work of CDCs.

This year's National CED Day theme, Community Empowerment Through Partnerships, underscores the benefits of building effective alliances between community and faith-based organizations, businesses, and state, local, and federal governments. Collectively, these partnerships work to foster a better social and economic quality of life for America's families. National CED Day gives CDCs the chance to form and expand productive partnerships with local businesses, corporations, banks, academic institutions and public officials, which strengthens the economic base of both urban and rural communities nationwide.

Community Development Corporations are good at what they do around the country and in Houston. They recognize the interrelated factors that cause economic decline. They evaluate the needs of each community and create plans for each neighborhood. They then develop comprehensive strategies for community economic development using entrepreneurial solutions, and they stay in the community for the long term.

Effective community development depends on all of us working together, developing and sharing good ideas, and bringing individual talents and resources to bear addressing the economic challenges facing our families and our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I commend all involved with National Community Economic Development Day and the good work that CDCs have done in Houston and around the country. I look forward to continuing to work together in this crucial effort.

1998 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 31, 1998*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R.

3579) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Chairman, the House Report accompanying the Supplemental Appropriations bill contains a little-noticed section that could cost taxpayers many millions of dollars in revenues from public lands in the Gulf of Mexico.

Technological advances in recent years have made it much cheaper to find and produce oil and gas in what was formerly considered "deep water" in the Gulf. In 1995, the Congress unwisely passed a Deepwater Royalty "holiday" to stimulate oil companies (most of whom were already enormously interested in deep water leases) to bid on these tracts. Here's how Congress provided that incentive: instead of charging royalties on oil and gas produced from these new leases, the oil companies would be given as much as 87.5 million barrels absolutely free! We have given away hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars in royalties from leases on public lands that the oil industry was already clamoring to bid on. It came as little surprise that companies are snapping up the royalty-free leases and paying higher than normal front end bonuses to acquire them. Why wouldn't you pay more if you know you will get nearly 100 million barrels of production royalty-free?

Thanks to improved technology and cheaper production costs, oil exploration and production in the Gulf are booming. As reported in Forbes magazine last year, Gulf of Mexico deepwater development costs have dropped to as little as \$3 per barrel, one-third the level in 1987.

This is great news for the oil industry, but might not be quite so good a bargain for the taxpayers who own the oil and gas. The Minerals Management Service, which oversees offshore production, wants to look at possibly raising the royalty rates on the holiday leases once royalties do begin to apply in an effort to determine whether or not the public is actually receiving fair market value on its oil and gas. MMS is fully allowed to take such corrective action under the 1995 law that gave away the leases royalty-free.

But the oil industry, enjoying the benefits of the 1995 law and flush with money from Gulf leases, now wants to curtail the government's legal right to make adjustments to ensure the public's financial interest is fully protected. The House Appropriations Committee's Report on the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations bill includes language to prevent the Secretary of the Interior from making any changes to the lease terms. This language undermines the Secretary's authority to set terms that guarantee the taxpayer receives fair market value on the sale of its mineral resources.

Congress should be protecting the public's right to receive a fair return—not tying the hands of the Interior Department when it is attempting to secure fair market value for the taxpayers. This Report language is irrelevant to the Emergency Supplemental and, by revising the authority granted Interior in the 1995 law, constitutes an indirect effort to legislate on an appropriations bill.

I would hope such instructions are not included in the Conference Report or the Statement of Managers. And I would recommend that Members oppose the Conference Report should it be included. If the weakening rec-

ommendation is in the Statement, the MMS should ignore this unwise effort to tamper with the law and shortchange taxpayers.

## TRIBUTE TO PHIL WALKER

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 1, 1998*

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Phil Walker, a Fort Collins, Colorado, native and 40-year broadcaster for KCOL radio who has just been recognized as the Colorado Broadcasters Association Broadcast Citizen of the Year.

This annual award is given to an individual who displays an outstanding record of community citizenship. Phil was selected for his tremendous service during Fort Collins' 1997 devastating flood when he stayed on the air non-stop for four days, broadcasting relief coverage and directing emergency assistance.

However, Phil has been known to our community and his listeners long before last summer's flood. He started work at KCOL as a freshman at Fort Collins High School in 1957. Today, we start our weekday mornings at 6:00 a.m., hearing, "Good morning everyone! How's my city? on News Talk 1410 AM, Monday through Friday. What better way to wake up than to hear this cheerful greeting emanating from a man who loves and knows his city, my hometown.

Phil has been recognized as a visionary who constantly thinks about Fort Collins' future, but he also airs a very popular radio feature about the 200-year history of Fort Collins and northern Colorado, known as "Visions Along the Poudre." As he proudly states, "This is my home town," obviously giving him great insight and knowledge of the area.

Phil has won numerous awards during his career including Best Regularly Scheduled Newscast by the Colorado Broadcasters Association in 1996; Best Broadcast Feature Writer in Colorado by the Society of Professional Journalists in 1994; and Best Radio Program in Colorado by the Broadcasters Association in 1980-83, 1989, and 1991-96; was chosen as the "Best Local Author" in the annual Coloradoan poll four years in a row for "Visions Along the Poudre Valley;" President's Award by the Fort Collins Historical Society in 1996; and this year, was chosen as the Honorary Historian for Larimer County by the Larimer County Commissioners.

His community involvement is extensive as well, including being the founding member of the NewWestFest committee; creator of the Annual community Carolfest held during Christmas; administrator of the town's 4th of July fireworks display for 15 years; established a fundraising program for the Fort Collins Museum; master of ceremonies for many charitable events; and was recently the Honorary Chairman of Riverfest, the annual celebration of the Poudre River.

Recalling a conversation he had with his father as a youngster, he asked his dad, "Why are you doing all this volunteer work? You don't get paid for doing it?"

His dad responded, "Well, it's my turn." Phil asked, "What does that mean," to which his dad said, "If you keep your nose clean and live in this town for about forty more years, you'll know what it means."

"Well, it's been forty years and I know what he meant," said Phil.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to this very hardworking, civic-minded, selfless man who has contributed so much to this community. The Colorado Broadcasters "Broadcast Citizen of the Year" award is much deserved. He embodies the true American spirit.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF  
THE UNITED STATES OPPOSES  
H.R. 695, THE SAFE ACT

**HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 1, 1998*

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, as you know every major police organization in the United States, representing millions of Americans strongly oppose H.R. 695. Now our veterans have joined their efforts to defeat the bill. I have included in the RECORD today a letter from the VFW which outlines their opposition to H.R. 695, the SAFE Act.

The 2.1 million members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars believe that the version of the bill reported by the Committees on Judiciary, International Relations and Commerce will be detrimental to our national security and law enforcement.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE  
UNITED STATES,

*Washington, DC, February 17, 1998.*

Hon. Gerald B. Solomon,  
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Dear Mr. Solomon: On behalf of our 2.1 million members, the VFW thanks you for inviting us to the presentation you recently sponsored regarding the issue of encryption. We found the presentation to be extremely informative and persuasive.

Please be assured that the VFW fully agrees that there is a need for the law enforcement and intelligence communities to have an unfettered capability to counter terrorists and criminals, both domestic and foreign. We strongly support H.R. 695, the "Security and Freedom Through Encryption (SAFE) Act" as reported by the House National Security and Intelligence Committees, which calls for controlled government access through key recovery tools to decrypt information and communications that endanger our national security. We oppose the version of H.R. 695 reported by the Judiciary, International Relations and Commerce Committees because they failed to incorporate essential key recovery language. As America moves forward into the 21st century it is absolutely essential that we have the ability to keep pace with those who intend to bring us harm.

Again, thank you for inviting us to a most stimulating presentation. We look forward to working with you on this issue.

Sincerely,

KENNETH A. STEADMAN,  
Executive Director.

IN HONOR OF THE OPENING OF  
EDISON INTERNATIONAL FIELD  
OF ANAHEIM AND OPENING DAY  
OF THE ANAHEIM ANGELS BASE-  
BALL SEASON, APRIL 1, 1998

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 1, 1998*

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, tonight, I would like to join you in celebrating the opening of Edison International Field of Anaheim and the opening day of the Anaheim Angels baseball season. When the first ball is thrown out on the field tonight, we will be part of the history of this great American sport—baseball.

Baseball has been a part of our American history from the 19th century. From its earliest beginning, baseball has captivated the American audience in a most remarkable way. Baseball is synonymous with America. It is as American as the Fourth of July, apple pie, and the Star Spangled Banner.

Nothing has captured the imagination of America's young and old, as baseball. How many little leaguers dream of playing one day in the major leagues, the bright lights shining down on the field, the crowds cheering as a home run slides into home base. Baseball is our national pastime. We, as Americans, are proud of this sport. And, some of our greatest American heroes, have been baseball players—Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Mickey Mantle, Joe DiMaggio, Jackie Robinson.

Tonight, we again celebrate this most American of traditions. The new Edison Field has brought state of the art facilities to Orange County. With the new additions of seating for over 45,050 fans, a total of 108 executive style boxes and new dining facilities, the Edison Field stadium will continue to draw record crowds to see their favorite team, the Anaheim Angels play. It is so exciting to have this excellent team of baseball players representing Anaheim. We are so fortunate to have such a talented baseball team right here in Orange County.

Best wishes for a winning season!

HONORING HEAR O'ISRAEL OF  
HOUSTON, TX

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 1, 1998*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a valued organization within the Houston community, Hear O'Israel, which is sponsoring Listen to the Cries of the Children National during the month of April 1998. Hear O'Israel works to make a difference in the lives of the disabled, battered and abused women, the elderly and young people across Houston. They work to give these men and women a stronger sense of self-worth and instill in them the need to treat others with compassion and respect. The following resolution approved by the Houston City Council demonstrates the high regard for Hear O'Israel in our community.

A RESOLUTION

LISTEN TO THE CRIES OF THE CHILDREN  
NATIONAL

Hear O'Israel International, Inc., a non-profit, non-denominational organization will

sponsor Listen to the Cries of the Children National during the month of April 1998. Listen to the Cries of the Children National is designed to strengthen unity among families and enhance public awareness of the negative consequences that alcohol and drug abuse, family violence, child abuse, and gang activity have on children.

The Listen to the Cries of the Children National campaign will call attention to the plight of children around the world who are abused, neglected, physically challenged, or who do not have access to adequate food, shelter, clothing, and health care and are crying out for help. As a symbol of compassion for suffering children, Hear O'Israel International, Inc. will encourage supporters to turn on their automobile headlights and wear white ribbons during the observance.

The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Houston do hereby salute Hear O'Israel International, Inc. for its efforts to improve and enhance the quality of life for our children, and extend best wishes for a successful and rewarding campaign.

Approved by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Houston this 26th day of March, 1998. A.D.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED  
CAREER OF HERSCHEL MULLINS

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 1, 1998*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Herschel Mullins for marking his 60th anniversary as owner and founder of Mullins Jewelry.

On March 1, 1938, Mr. Mullins bought the business from the man for whom he worked as an apprentice for two years. Raised on a farm in the Florence community, Mr. Mullins traded in farming for repairing and selling clocks and jewelry. His love of working on clocks was a trait he inherited from his father.

A little over a year later, on July 5, 1939, Mr. Mullins married Mildred Alsup. Today, they have three sons, Charles, James and Thurman, nine grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. Mullins Jewelry is one of few remaining family owned and operated businesses. His wife, sons and their wives and grandchildren work with him. The business, located on the South side of the square in Murfreesboro, needs no advertisements; it is sustained by word-of-mouth.

In addition to contributing to local commerce, Mr. Mullins has also contributed to his country and community. During World War II, he worked on aircraft instruments at Sky Harbor and Smyrna Air Force Base. Mr. Mullins has been involved in many local and civic activities, serving as past president of the Blackman Community Club and member of the Optimist club, March of Dimes fundraising committee and downtown improvement committees. He is a lifelong member of the Florence Church of Christ, where he serves as an elder.

Again, Mr. Mullins, congratulations on 60 years of successfully operating your family business. May the days to come be filled with the happiness of family and friends. Thank you for the contributions you have made to your country and the communities of Rutherford County.