

"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.

ON THE INTRODUCTION (BY REQUEST) OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FUND AMENDMENTS OF 1998

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing by request of the Administration, along with the Chairwoman of the Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit Subcommittee, Mrs. ROUKEMA, the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Amendments of 1998.

The reauthorization of the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund should be an important part of the Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit agenda this year. The CDFI fund was established to increase access to credit in distressed areas and to provide community development and financial services opportunities to disadvantaged people. Created in 1994, funds allocated to the CDFI Fund help leverage additional private capital used by CDFIs to revitalize neighborhoods, encourage and promote entrepreneurs, restore private market activity in distressed communities and empower local residents. The Administration's FY 1999 budget has requested \$125 million for the CDFI program and in concert with a reauthorization effort, we can improve and further empower the CDFI funded programs.

Demand for the CDFI funded programs has exceeded expectations. The Treasury Department has reported that requests for assistance in the first two rounds have been approximately \$500 million. Of the \$125 million requested by the Administration in FY 1998, only \$80 million was appropriated. This, along with the earlier appropriations, has barely scratched the surface of the need for the unique activities of the CDFI Fund and its sister program, funded with one-third of the appropriations, the Bank Enterprise Act (BEA).

I look forward to working with the Administration, Chairwoman ROUKEMA and other Members of the Banking Committee on a reauthorization of the CDFI. We do need to act soon to help the CDFI and BEA programs to go forward in the future with new initiatives that can expand the CDFI Fund's tools for assisting community development financial institutions. CDFI provides seed money for the creation of jobs, brings capital into distressed communities, and lifts people out of poverty. With our efforts this year, we can maximize the benefits CDFIs can provide to underserved communities across the country.

A section-by-section of the bill follows:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FUND AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1998—
SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

This section designates this legislation as the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Amendments Act of 1998 and provides a table of contents.

SECTION 2. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO REFLECT STATUS OF THE FUND WITHIN THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT; MISCELLANEOUS TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

Subsection (a) amends the purpose section of the Community Development Banking and

Financial Institutions Act of 1994 (the Act) to add language that clarifies that the purpose of the Act is to promote economic revitalization and community development not only through investment in community development financial institutions (CDFIs), but also through incentives to insured depository institutions under the Bank Enterprise Act of 1991.

Subsections (b) and (c) amend the Act to reflect the intent of subsequent appropriations provisions that made the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI Fund) a wholly owned government corporation within the Treasury Department. Technical amendments to the Act eliminate the concept of a presidentially appointed Administrator of the CDFI Fund, and, as with other Treasury programs, vest all of the duties and responsibilities of the CDFI Fund in the Secretary of the Treasury (subject to existing statutory delegation authority). The Secretary may appoint all officers and employees of the CDFI Fund, including a Director.

Subsection (c) also makes technical changes to clarify that the Inspector General of the Treasury Department is the Inspector General of the CDFI Fund.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENTS TO PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE FUND.

Subsection (a) makes minor changes to the Community Development Financial Institutions Awards Program (CDFI Program) administered by the CDFI Fund. The amendments provide that, for the training and technical assistance programs already authorized by the Act, the Fund may enter into cooperative agreements in addition to the other methods described.

Subsection (b) contains amendments clarifying the Bank Enterprise Act (BEA) Awards Program for insured depository institutions. The subsection provides technical amendments and clarifies that the Fund may provide assessment credits to insured depository institutions for increases in loans and other assistance provided to CDFIs. The provisions clarify the manner in which the Fund may take account of forms of assistance provided by insured depository institutions. In addition, the provisions permit the Fund to use alternative eligibility requirements to determine the definition of a "qualified distressed community." Current criteria are difficult to interpret and may exclude some insured depository institutions, particularly those serving rural areas, from participation in the BEA Program.

SECTION 4. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION.

This section authorizes appropriations in such amounts as may be necessary for the CDFI Fund to carry out its responsibilities under the Act.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENTS TO THE SMALL BUSINESS CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM.

Subtitle B of Title II of the Act currently provides the CDFI Fund with authority to administer a program to encourage states to implement small business "capital access programs" with participation of certain depository institutions. These "capital access programs" expand access to small business loans by creating a loan loss reserve, funded by the depository institution, the borrower, and the state. This reserve fund allows banks to make more difficult small business loans. The Fund, under the Small Business Capital Enhancement (SBCE) Program, could reimburse participating states for a portion of funds contributed to these loan loss reserve accounts.

The amendments made by section 5 remove statutory barriers that currently block the

CDFI Fund from administering the SBCE Program. Subsection (a) allows CDFIs to participate in the SBCE Program. Subsection (b) removes the requirement that the SBCE Program receive a threshold appropriation before beginning operations. Finally, this section will allow the CDFI Fund (if the SBCE Program is operating) to reimburse participating states according to criteria established by the CDFI Fund in an amount up to 50 percent of the amount of contributions by the states, until funds made available for this purpose are expended. This permits the Fund to target reimbursements to states that have not yet established these programs or that have insufficient funds for effective programs.

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S
20TH ANNUAL HALL OF FAME
10K RUN

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with joy that I rise to pay tribute to Bronx Community College, which will hold its 20th Anniversary Hall of Fame 10K Run on Saturday, May 2, 1998.

The Hall of Fame 10K Run was founded in 1978 by Bronx Community College's third President, Dr. Roscoe C. Brown. Its mission is to highlight the Hall of Fame for Great Americans, a national institution dedicated to those who have helped make America great.

The tradition continues, first under the leadership of Acting President, Dr. Leo A. Corbie and now under Dr. Carolyn G. Williams, the first woman President of Bronx Community College. Both Dr. Corbie and Dr. Williams have endorsed and follow the commitment made by Dr. Brown to promote physical well-being as well as higher education.

As one who has run the Hall of Fame 10K Run, I can attest that the excitement it generates brings the entire City together. It is a celebration and an affirmation of life. It feels wonderful to enable more than 400 people to have this experience—one that will change the lives of many of them. It is an honor for me to join once again the hundreds of joyful people who will run along the Grand Concourse, University Avenue and West 181 Street and to savor the variety of their celebrations. There's no better way to see our Bronx community.

For its entire 19 years, Professor Henry A. Skinner has coordinated the Bronx Community College Hall of Fame 10K race, a healthy competition which brings together runners of all ages from the five boroughs of New York City. He is also the President of Unity and Strength, the organization of minority faculty, staff and administrators of Bronx Community College.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the individuals and participants who are making the Bronx Community College's 20th annual Hall of Fame 10K Run possible.