

six o'clock in the evening. An average of thirty-five surgeries are performed daily, but many times the number reaches more than fifty. The statistics are phenomenal. Since Dr. Dicksheet began his work in 1968, more than 40,000 operations have been performed. Financially, his contributions exceed \$80 million.

But, what does the work mean to his patients? Nothing short of a new life! Infants who would have died, unable to suck milk, now thrive. Families outcast by the social stigma of deformity, are restored. Young girls, (and boys), unmarriageable and unable to work or make a living, have a future. Each of the 40,000 cases has a life changing story. It would be impossible to accurately estimate the thousands of people whose lives have been positively affected by Dr. Dicksheet and his associates. And, when you consider that the doctors also teach surgical techniques to Indian surgeons through the Indian Medical Society, the number increases even more.

What makes Dr. Dicksheet's story even more remarkable is that the doctor has conducted the majority of his humanitarian work while he, himself, has been in grave health. About 18 years ago he underwent surgery for laryngeal cancer. His speech is, for the most part, inaudible and he must communicate in writing much of the time. Ten years ago he suffered a severe heart attack, followed by another attack in 1994. In spite of his health he has continued to raise funds, travel and operate from a wheelchair. At this time, however, his health has further deteriorated. He is not expected to live much longer. Over the years he has treated each day as a "bonanza," and filled it with giving his life to his fellow man. "I feel good in giving this service to my countrymen," he responds when asked about his work.

What will happen to his work? Preparation has been made to turn the work over to the very capable hands of Dr. Paul Dreschnack, who has worked with Dr. Dicksheet for nine years and shares his vision, enthusiasm and dedication. As Dr. Dreschnack responded in an interview in 1995, "I'll be doing it (the work) for a long time." I am very proud to count Dr. Paul Dreschnack as a resident of my Congressional district.

The humanitarian contributions of these men sets an example for the world. They exemplify how much more we can give when we are willing to give our lives, totally. They show us how much larger our vision can be when we refuse to see obstacles and we view our fellow man as our brother.

I am very pleased to bring Dr. Sharadkumar Dicksheet and Dr. Paul Dreschnack before you.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

MICHAEL BILIRAKIS,  
Member of Congress.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID G. RICE, JR.

### HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to David G. Rice, Jr., a true friend of Colorado's agriculture industry, who recently passed away at the age of 81.

Dave was born on his family's homestead in 1916, outside Grand Junction, Colorado. He

studied animal husbandry at Colorado A&M, graduating in 1939. Dave then went to work in the Cooperative Extension offices of Elbert and Delta Counties for the next ten years, except for time he served in the military during World War II.

In 1949, he started his 33-year-long career with the Colorado Cattlemen's Association (CCA) retiring as their executive vice president. Upon retirement, he became CCA's Vice President for Legislation and Federal Lands and, until very recently, remained actively involved lobbying on behalf of agriculture.

For his service to agriculture, Dave received numerous awards throughout his career including the Federal Land Bank of Wichita's 50th Anniversary Medal, authorized by Congress and the President of the United States; CSU's Livestock Industry Award; and induction into the Colorado Agriculture Hall of Fame. He was uniquely acknowledged by the 55th Colorado General Assembly for 40 years of service to the industry in the form of a plaque dedicated and hung in the State Capitol, the only plaque hung in honor of a lobbyist. He has also been honored by various conservation organizations such as Ducks Unlimited and the Safari Club.

The best accolades come, however, in the form of what people say about us. I believe Kirk Hanna, CCA's President, best summed up many folks' feelings when he recently said, "Dave Rice is a legend in agriculture—though I doubt he would have admitted it. He was admired by many in both the political and agriculture arena not only for what he did, but for who he was—a man who cared about other people. His contributions to the state of Colorado and agriculture are sure to remain unsurpassed." Amen. I could not have said it better.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute to this man whose knowledge and wisdom will be sorely missed by both the agricultural and legislative communities.

### COMMEMORATIVE COIN

### HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of legislation which is being introduced today by Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES-NORTON with the four Congressional delegates as cosponsors. The legislation would amend the 50 States Commemorative Coin Program Act to extend the program by an additional year for the purpose of including the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands.

Mr. Speaker, earlier in this Congress when we passed the Commemorative Coin Program Act, the insular areas were omitted from the legislation. Current law authorizes the minting of twenty-five cent coins to commemorate each of the 50 states through state-specific designs on one side of the coins. It is a ten-year program, with five states being honored each year.

This bill amends current law by adding an eleventh year to the program. During this year,

the District of Columbia and the four insular areas, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, would also be recognized through the minting of twenty-five cent coins. Commemorative designs on one side of the coins would be submitted by the chief executive officer of these areas.

This legislation is very timely for my Congressional district, Mr. Speaker. American Samoa will celebrate the centennial of its union with the United States in the year 2000.

American Samoa has a long, proud history of supporting the United States—ever since the traditional leaders of the main island of Tutuila ceded their island to the United States on April 17, 1900. Tutuila's beautiful harbor is the deepest in the South Pacific, and the port village of Pago Pago was used as a coaling station for U.S. naval ships in the early part of the century and as a support base for U.S. soldiers during World War II. To this day, American Samoa serves as a refueling point for U.S. naval ships and military aircraft.

At the present time, American Samoans have a per capita enlistment rate in the U.S. military which is as high as any state or U.S. territory. Our sons and daughters have served in record numbers in every U.S. military engagement from World War II to Desert Storm. We have stood by the United States in good times and bad, and we will continue to do so.

Congress has recognized American Samoa's proud heritage on numerous occasions, and many of my constituents have asked that the United States Government provide special recognition of the 100th year of our union. I believe it would be most fitting to acknowledge the centennial anniversary of our relationship with the United States with the issuance of a commemorative coin, and I am optimistic that this bill will become public law later this year.

### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today we will adjourn for the Easter recess without having had a debate on campaign finance reform. The leadership of this House may believe they made good on their promise to allow a vote, but they have not. The House leadership may think they have fooled the public into believing that they took action, they are wrong. Frankly Mr. Speaker, I am outraged that we have not taken action on this important issue.

Over the next two weeks I will be holding a Town Hall meeting in each of the sixteen counties which I represent in western Wisconsin. Having traveled throughout my district no one has told me that we need more money in politics. They have asked me to pass meaningful reform, to take the big money out of the process and return campaigns to the people. At my Town Hall meetings I will tell my constituents that the leadership has denied me the right to vote on limiting the influence of big money in campaigns.

When we return at the end of April I hope we will make a serious effort to fix our campaign finance system. The people of my district have told me not to take "no" for an answer.

FAIRNESS FOR SMALL BUSINESS  
AND EMPLOYEES ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

**HON. VINCE SNOWBARGER**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 26, 1998*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3246) to assist small businesses and labor organizations in defending themselves against government bureaucracy; to ensure that employees entitled to reinstatement get their jobs back quickly; to protect the right of employers to have a hearing to present their case in certain representation cases; and to prevent the use of the National Labor Relations Act for the purpose of disrupting or inflicting economic harm on employers.

Mr. SNOWBARGER. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to speak for the many small owners in Kansas who have been working for years to reform the National Labor Relations Board and our current employment laws.

Millions of dollars and countless jobs have been lost in the Third District of Kansas because of the tactics of some labor unions. While I respect and appreciate the right of working Americans to be represented by a Union, I also respect the rights of the great majority of working men and women who choose not to be represented by a Union.

If this wasn't such an important issue, Mr. Chairman, I might remind my colleagues that my district has one of the healthiest economies in the nation, which is due, in no small part to Kansas' Right-to-Work legislation.

As we consider today's important reform initiative, I wanted to share with my colleagues some stories from my home in Kansas.

Millions of dollars and countless jobs have been lost in the 3rd District because of a tactic referred to by the AFL-CIO as "salting". This common procedure is used in Kansas by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Their regular plan is to have around 20 union members storm into a non-union electrical contractor's office with video cameras mounted on their shoulders. The union members then demand to be hired and if they are not, they file discrimination charges with the National Labor Relations Board.

The two largest independent electrical contractors in my district, SKC Electric (200 employees) and Teague Electric (100 employees), have spent nearly \$500,000 (between the two of them) fighting frivolous charges of discrimination. Not once has the union asked for a NLRB sanctioned election to decide if the employees want to be represented by the IBEW. Instead, they harass the companies by driving up legal expenditures and limiting their ability to grow. Fortunately these two companies are financially strong and have been able to survive under this intense pressure for the past four years. But it is wrong to allow bad actor unions to literally . . . litigate small businesses to death.

Not everyone in my district has been so lucky.

M&R Electric was a two-year old electrical company with approximately 30 employees. It was owned and operated by a former union electrician who had saved to start his own small business. The company was growing rapidly and providing good careers for many

hard working young people. That is until the IBEW showed up with their video cameras and NLRB charges. By the time small company knew what hit them, they had spent more than \$250,000 fending off legal challenges and were out of business. I am sure most of my colleagues know that new businesses are very vulnerable. This is why these kinds of actions are so threatening. The result in this case? Thirty good jobs lost in my district.

The bottom line is, that no employer should be required by law to hire an individual who is bent on destroying their company.

Mr. Chairman, this practice is not defensible and the families who lost their jobs and the men and women who invested their life savings to start a business deserve the protections that this bill provides.

CAMPAIGN REFORM AND  
ELECTION INTEGRITY ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

**HON. BRUCE F. VENTO**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 1998*

Mr. VENTO. Madam Speaker, I opposed H.R. 3485 which was defeated by the House. This legislation would guarantee a new arms race in campaigns and campaign spending by setting in place incentives for more money to be raised from special interests and more money to be spent.

While there is not agreement in Congress on the campaign finance reform, the American people have spoken. They are tired of slick, multi-million dollar campaigns that feature 30 second sound-bites and media spin masters. They want the unlimited campaign spending binges brought under control; they want the candidate, not the candidate's handlers, to speak; and they want campaigns to focus on the issues.

However, as with so many other matters, the Republican Majority Congress has failed to listen to what the American people want, and instead relied on the voice and pocketbooks of the special interests. The result was H.R. 3485, more money, not less and a greater alienation of the voters.

H.R. 3485 did nothing to bring the explosion of campaign spending under control. Instead, this legislation tripled the amount of money that individuals could contribute to state, local and federal political parties and doubled their contribution limits to federal candidates.

H.R. 3485 would make politics the playground of the wealthy. This legislation increased individual contributions to federal candidates from \$1,000 to \$2,000 per cycle (\$2,000 to \$4,000 for both the primary and general elections; to state and local parties from \$5,000 to \$15,000; national parties from \$20,000 to \$60,000 and the aggregate limit from \$25,000 to \$75,000. These levels do not invite participation by more people; it encourages more participation by the few who have the big bucks to participate.

While H.R. 3485 expanded the ability of wealthy to participate, this bill ironically contains a separate provision designed to intimidate low-income, minority citizens to keep them from voting.

This program, a citizen verification system, conjured up poll taxes and inhibiting actions

form another time in our history. This legislation was appropriately rejected by the House earlier this year.

The House should not detour from the road of campaign finance reform by adopting H.R. 3485. Instead, we should move forward with the solid bipartisan reform package, that the Republican leadership is blocking from House action. This alternative, similar to the McCain Feingold proposal offered in the Senate, will ban soft money and make a meaningful contribution to campaign finance reform.

There has been a lot of public consternation by Members of Congress about the declining participation levels and the feeling of disenfranchisement among American voters. After witnessing the lengths that the leadership will go to keep real campaign finance reform off of the House floor, I can understand why the American voter is giving up on Congress. The People's Body does not have time to do the people's work. Instead of bringing up meaningful campaign finance reform this week, the House is going to be dividing up the financial marketplace among the special interests who pour money into campaign coffers.

Madam Speaker, the process used last night harkens back to the smoke-filled rooms of long ago. A bill supported by a majority of the House was kept off the House floor through legislative legerdemain. Not only were we denied a full debate on campaign finance reform, but we were kept in the dark as to the final contents of H.R. 3581. This bill is like a lot of campaign ads—lots of rhetoric, not much substance.

It was appropriate that H.R. 3485 be considered so close to the Academy Awards. Like the 1972 Best Actress, Lisa Minelli, in the movie, Cabaret, this bill and its supporters were singing loud and clear "Money makes the world go around." It is time to get off the money merry-go-round and restore our political process to the American people by moving forward with true campaign finance reform.

HON. JOHN L. BURTON: STATE  
SENATE PRESIDENT

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 1, 1998*

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it may still come as news to some members of the House that our former colleague, the Hon. John L. Burton of San Francisco, has recently been unanimously elected the President of the California State Senate, elevating him to one of the highest elective positions in our state.

John Burton, as all who know or have served with him know, is an extraordinarily gifted legislator, a deeply committed public servant, and very much his own man. There has not been a more dedicated or unrepentant spokesperson for working people, for children, for the poor, for those living on society's margin, than Johnny Burton.

His elevation to Senate President caps a remarkable and inspirational career. It also demonstrates that we can disagree, even strongly, but retain the personal relationships and trust that are integral to the operation of a successful legislative body. When John Burton set out to accomplish something on the floor of the House, whether it was expanding food stamp