

have served the purpose and saved considerable time and money for the District and the Congress.

I ask my colleagues who are urging the District government to pursue greater efficiency and savings to do your part in giving the city the tools to cut through the bureaucratic maze the Congress has imposed upon the District. Congress has been clear it wants to see the DC government taken apart and put back together again in an effort to eliminate redundancy and inefficiency. Congress should therefore eliminate the bureaucracy in DC that Congress is solely responsible for by granting the city budgetary and legislative authority.

Only through true budgetary and legislative autonomy can the District realize meaningful self-government and Home Rule. The President and the Congress took the first step in relieving the District of costly escalating state functions in the President's Plan. This bill takes the next logical step by granting the District control over its own budgetary and legislative affairs. I urge my colleagues to pass this important measure.

THE FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1998

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today Congressman PORTMAN and I have introduced The Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1998. This legislation eliminates duplicative paperwork for those individuals and groups attempting to get federal assistance. The bill also removes federal road blocks to coordinating service delivery for families receiving federal assistance. The Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1998 establishes the framework by which federal, state and local agencies can more efficiently deliver services to those in need.

We have asked families to get back on their feet so they can take care of themselves and their children but our maze of federal regulations makes it more difficult for community programs to assist families in doing this. We must help these families to help themselves. The Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1998 coordinates federal service programs to better serve our Nation's children and families and I am pleased to introduce it today with my colleagues ROB PORTMAN, JIM MORAN, CHRIS SHAYS, TOM DAVIS, STEVE HORN, GARY CONDIT, DENNIS KUCINICH, BOB WEYGAND, ROSA DELAURO, JIM MCGOVERN, CAROLYN KILPATRICK, JIM TALENT, MARK SANFORD, and JOHN SUNUNU.

IN TRIBUTE TO BOB CRANDALL

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, today marks the retirement of one of the most prominent fig-

ures in American aviation. After twenty five years, the last thirteen as Chairman and CEO, Bob Crandall is leaving American Airlines. His legacy is immense.

A vehement opponent of deregulation in the 1970s, Bob Crandall guided American and, in turn, other airlines through the tumultuous 1980s. Bob Crandall's innovations—computer reservations systems, frequent flier programs, super saver fares and the hub and spoke system, to name a few—have become industry standards. American Airlines has tripled in size since moving its headquarters to Dallas-Fort Worth, which has grown with American to become one of the busiest airports in the United States.

We congratulate him as he leaves American and thank him for his visionary leadership both in the aviation community and in the Metroplex. We do not know exactly what his future holds, but we hope we have not heard the last of Bob Crandall.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND EMPLOYEE PROTECTION ACT"

HON. TED STRICKLAND

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation, along with my colleague Mr. ED WHITFIELD of Kentucky, which would guarantee that an amount equal to the tax windfall the federal government receives from the privatized United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) would help to assist job creation and stimulate economic development in southern Ohio and western Kentucky. In the Energy Policy Act of 1992, the government-owned corporation USEC was created to assume responsibility for the Department of Energy's (DOE) uranium enrichment program. The 1992 Energy Policy Act not only transferred the Department's uranium enrichment program to USEC, but it also included a requirement that USEC prepare a strategic plan to privatize the corporation. On June 30, 1995, USEC issued its privatization plan. Today, that privatization plan is near completion and the transfer of this public asset will take place as soon as this summer.

Back in the 1950's the Department of Energy's gaseous diffusion plants in Piketon, Ohio and Paducah, Kentucky operated to supply enriched uranium for U.S. nuclear weapons and later for reactor fuel for nuclear submarines. Today, the Piketon and Paducah facilities provide an essential service in the production of fuel for commercial nuclear power plants operated by electric utilities. Unfortunately, the changes in DOE's mission have led to significant workforce reductions at the plant in southern Ohio, and this downsizing dramatically affects a region which has not experienced the unparalleled economic recovery so many other communities throughout the country have enjoyed. Under privatization, USEC intends to restructure its operation and there is a growing uncertainty about the security of existing jobs at the plant. Therefore, I believe the bill we are introducing today provides a reasonable approach to addressing the needs of the workers, their families and the communities of Ohio and Kentucky that supported our efforts during the Cold War.

Specifically, the bill directs the Department of Energy's Worker and Community Transition Office to set up and manage a fund dedicated to improve economic security of the communities which depend on and support the operation of the two uranium enrichment plants located in Piketon, Ohio and Paducah, Kentucky. The appropriation to this fund would be authorized at a level equal to the tax windfall received by the federal government from the privatized USEC. Under the management of DOE's Worker and Community Transition Office, the allocation of funds to the regions would be directly related to the economic distress factors in the local communities surrounding the facilities and could provide the resources necessary to improve the economic health in these regions. Those counties experiencing the highest unemployment rates would receive larger allocations than counties with unemployment rates closer to the state average unemployment rate. These financial resources would be used to help train displaced employees and market the region for future business opportunities. This dedicated fund would dissolve when the local unemployment rates of the affected counties reach the average unemployment rate of the respective states for a period equal to at least one year.

While I recognize that downsizing at DOE facilities adversely affects local communities across the country, I doubt whether many of these communities have the pressing need that exists near the Piketon, Ohio plant. Recent unemployment statistics indicate that the average unemployment rate of the four counties surrounding the Piketon, Ohio plant is greater than 10%. The average unemployment rate in the state of Ohio is 4.3%, seasonally adjusted, and the national adjusted average unemployment rate is 4.7%. This bill is designed to address this unacceptable disparity and help to ensure that southern Ohio has an equal opportunity to contribute to this nation's economic recovery.

HONORING LOU BOOKER ON THE OCCASION OF 20 YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE SANTA FE SPRINGS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lou Booker for 20 years of outstanding service as Executive Director of the Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce & Industrial League. Lou was recognized last week in Santa Fe Springs, California.

Lou Booker and her husband Vern have two children Steve and Lynn and six grandchildren. They reside in La Palma, California.

Lou began her career with the Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce & Industrial League in 1978. Throughout her 20 years of service, she has implemented and maintained programs that have placed Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce & Industrial League at the forefront of area chambers. One of the programs that Lou supports is the Rotary Club of Santa Fe Springs. Lou has also worked to expand the City of Santa Fe Springs' annual

business and residential "Citizen of the Year" Award Ceremony and the biannual "Salute of Merit Award," to recognizing fire, police and highway patrol service personnel.

Lou has earned a state-wide reputation for developing a chamber that consistently has been on the "cutting-edge" of innovation. She is the editor of a highly acclaimed monthly newspaper—The Business & Industry News; the Business & Industry News Directory and a nationally recognized and awarded Business Emergency Preparedness Network. She has also assisted in the development and publication of the Legislative Action Guide for the Gateway Chambers Alliance. These publications keep constituents informed on local and national business issues.

In addition to her service to our local business community, Lou has also provided leadership and inspiration to the youth of Santa Fe Springs. She has assisted in the implementation of community Chamber/League committees and activities that have development school programs and projects focusing on drug awareness and career development. She is a strong supporter of the CHOICES Program and the DESTINY FUND, a school Mentor program.

Mr. Speaker, this afternoon, members and leaders of our community gathered to recognize Lou for her 20 years of exemplary service to the community of Santa Fe Springs. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Lou Booker's 20 years of selfless dedication to the Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce & Industrial League.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to support provisions in our upcoming campaign finance debate which require full disclosure of all campaign contributions and expenditures.

In the past several years, we have too often seen abuses of the campaign financing system, where money is pouring into elections from foreign and other unknown sources with little consequence. I find it disturbing that campaigns are sometimes run behind the scenes, behind the backs of voters, so that the campaign finance process generates fear and distrust among voters, instead of honesty and openness.

Although the popular opinion polls may show an indifference or apathy toward campaign finance, I feel that many Americans see these questionable escapades as an inherent part of the campaign finance system, and they feel the situation may never improve.

As a Member of Congress who has no extravagant personal wealth, and no means to independently finance my own campaign, I believe in letting the system work. I believe that candidates young or old, rich or poor, black or white, can and must continue to be able to serve their community and country as a Representative in Congress. The opportunity to serve in Congress must not be limited to only those who have personal wealth, which is the effect that many of the campaign reform bills would have on candidates.

In order to preserve this opportunity for future Congressional aspirants, I believe we must focus our campaign finance reform efforts on getting the truth to the American people—because that is what they want. And finding the truth means opening up our books, all of our campaign finance documents, and letting the light shine brightly on who is giving money to our candidates, who is spending special interest money on their elections, and how much they are spending on these races.

Because too often, people inherently fear that which they do not know. The American people have been kept in the dark about who is getting what money, how much is coming in and from where it comes. Only then will the people be able to decide who best represents them.

Congress must support full disclosure of all campaign related financing, and full publication of campaign documents, and let the sun shine in on how candidates finance their campaigns.

SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE 125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DAY

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, Thomas Jefferson once said of newspapers: "The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

Next Thursday, on May 28th, one of the great papers in the State of Indiana, the South Bend Tribune, will mark 125 years of continuous publication as a daily newspaper. Since its inception in 1873, the Tribune has compiled an outstanding record of professionalism and public service that continues today. South Bend, the State of Indiana, and portions of Michigan are all fortunate to have a newspaper that sets such a high standard for community service and journalistic competence.

The Tribune is an exceptional newspaper in a variety of ways. Allow me to mention a few examples. First, the Tribune has been recognized on many occasions by local, state, and national newspaper organizations for its outstanding coverage and service to its readers. Year after year the paper wins awards in a wide variety of categories: from photography, to deadline reporting, to editorial writing.

Second, the dedicated and devoted staff of the Tribune produce a newspaper that is consistent in the high quality of its content. Readers all over Indiana have learned that they can depend on the Tribune to produce an excellent newspaper every day.

Third, the Tribune continues to be devoted to its community. In an era of cookie-cutter national newspaper chains that lack local flair or public concerns, the Tribune remains a locally owned and managed newspaper that is dedicated to promoting the health and civic discourse of its community.

When Joseph Pulitzer retired, he outlined a standard for newspapers that exemplifies the history of the Tribune: "That it will always fight

for progress and reform, never tolerate injustice or corruption, always fight demagogues of all parties, never belong to any party, always oppose privileged classes and public plunderers, never lack sympathy with the poor, always be drastically independent, never be afraid to attack wrong, whether by predatory plutocracy or predatory poverty."

The residents of the Tribune will mark May 28th with the hope and assurance that the newspaper will continue to have a similar impact for many years into the future.

RETIREMENT OF REAR ADMIRAL KENDELL PEASE

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished service of Rear Admiral Kendell Pease, who recently retired from the United States Navy as Chief of Information after 34 years of exemplary service.

After a brief period as an enlisted man and four years at the Naval Academy, Admiral Pease joined the fleet as a public affairs officer in 1968. He served his country in Vietnam, with subsequent assignments in Naples, Italy; Charleston, South Carolina; Washington, DC; and Norfolk, Virginia. He was public affairs officer at the Naval Academy, served on the staff of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs at the Pentagon, and was also public affairs officer at the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

It was at the Navy Office of Information in the Pentagon where Rear Admiral Pease really made his mark as a spokesman for Navy-wide operations and policy. He served in the Office of Information three different times, the final time in his position as Chief of Information, where he was the principal public affairs advisor to and spokesman for both the Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations for nearly six years, the longest term ever held by a Chief of Information. Admiral Pease's tenure spanned some of the most dramatic changes the sea service has experienced in more than 200 years. He saw the aftermath of Tailhook and the integration of women into combat roles in the Navy; he saw the challenges of personnel drawdowns following the collapse of the Iron Curtain; he helped the Navy mold and then iterate a drastic change in mission philosophy, from a blue water fighting force designed to counter the Soviet threat to a brown water force capable of fighting in the littorals and projecting power from the sea. He was always engaged with the media, discussing necessary new acquisition programs like the F/A-18E/F Super Hornet; the *Seawolf* and the New Attack Submarines; the next generation aircraft carrier CVX and CVN-77, the transition ship to CVX; and DD21, the Navy's land attack destroyer for the 21st century. Over and over and over again, Rear Admiral Pease communicated the Navy's role of Forward Presence—operating ships, submarines and aircraft anywhere in the world, unencumbered by host country sensitivities.

Admiral Pease was the Navy's chief spokesman during numerous naval deployments to protect American interests in global hotspots