

they purchase the first. So they know what it is like to suffer at the hands of a moving technology, they want to have their children be conversant with the technology, they want their teachers to be conversant. Can we do no less than give them some relief, if you will, by participating and supporting and passing a school modernization bill so that there is some relief to all of the many things that they have to do?

In fact, in visiting my schools one of the things that I find most disturbing, and we have a very good program in Houston, is the unsafe school yards where children are in need of safe school yards and good equipment because of the fact that is a very strong part of their education. And I want to applaud my local community for having a program that helps them get good school yards and play areas.

But I do believe that we have a message, but we also have a challenge that we must help America, not only with the hundred thousand teachers, but we must help America rebuild our schools, and I hope that we will make it very clear that we are not finished with our work yet on that very important challenge.

Mr. PALLONE. I want to thank the gentlewoman, and I yield to the gentlewoman from Connecticut.

Ms. DELAURO. I just want to say to the gentleman that I am proud to have been part of an effort in these last several days to stand tall and to stand strong for America's children.

The battle on this issue we won, and the Republicans had to cave on that issue. We will fight the battle for school modernization, but we will also in a Congress that failed to do what the American public has clamored for to do something about managed care reform, to do something about making sure that we save the Social Security system that has been one of the success stories of this country, of today providing two-thirds of America's seniors with over one-half of their income, and we have to make sure that that is a program that is strong and safe not only for those today who are in the program, for the next generation and for generations after that.

And we have to focus our attention on those issues, as well as tobacco legislation and campaign finance reform, and in the same way that we stood tall and strong on the issue of education, the American public needs to know that we are going to be there, the Democrats are going to be there on these issues in the next several weeks, in the next several months, in the next Congress which I believe we will hold the majority in that Congress, and to make in fact the reality of opportunities that the majority party let go in this session and that they failed to do something about.

That is where we have to go next.

Mr. PALLONE. I want to thank the gentlewoman, and I appreciate the fact that you are pointing out very clearly that although this Congress is coming

to an end, that these problems that this Republican Congress have failed to address are not going away.

In my district every day people complain to me about problems with HMOs, and those problems are not going to go away unless we pass patient protection legislation like our democratic Patient Bill of Rights.

And the same thing is true for campaign finance reform. We are about to go into this campaign with all kinds of soft money being used back and forth and the Republicans spending something like 30 or \$40 million of soft money on various campaigns. We need to reform the system. They have ignored that. It is not going to get better, it is going to get worse unless this Congress does something about it.

And the same is true for minimum wage. The minimum wage is too low. We have economic prosperity, and things are pretty good out there, but a lot of people are not benefiting from it because the minimum wage is too low. We have to do something about it. We have to change it. We have to raise it.

And we once again talked about public education here tonight. I am glad that the Republicans agreed to this hundred thousand extra teachers initiative, but there has to be a greater commitment to public education here, and you know that the Republicans are just going to go back to their anti public education agenda.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1197. An act to amend title 35, United States Code, to protect patent owners against the unauthorized sale of plant parts taken from plants illegally reproduced, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1560. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the Lewis & Clark Expedition, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1756. An act to amend chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code, to require the development and implementation by the Secretary of the Treasury of a national money laundering and related financial crimes strategy to combat money laundering and related financial crimes, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendments of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2807) "An Act to amend the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 to prohibit the sale, importation, and exportation of products labeled as containing substances derived from rhinoceros or tiger."

The message also announced that the Senate had passed bills of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1171. An act for the relief of Janina Altagracia Castillo-Rojas

S. 1202. An act providing relief for Sergio Lozano, Fauricio Lozano, and Ana Lozano.

S. 1460. An act for the relief of Alexandre Malofienko, Olga Matsko, and their son, Vladimir Malofienko.

S. 1551. An act for the relief of Kerantha Poole-Christian.

S. 1916. An act for the relief of Marin Turcinovic, and his fiancée, Corina Dechalup.

S. 1926. An act for the relief of Regine Beatie Edwards.

S. 1961. An act for the relief of Suchada Kwong.

S. 2107. An act to enhance electronic commerce by promoting the reliability and integrity of commercial transactions through establishing authentication standards for electronic communication, and for other purposes.

S. 2476. An act for the relief of Wei Jingsheng.

S. 2637. An act for the relief of Belinda McGregor.

S. 2638. An act to provide support for certain institutes and schools.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 191) entitled "An Act to throttle criminal use of guns."

TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE FRANK RIGGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the subject of my special order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, the subject of my special order is basically to recognize one of our colleagues, dear friend of mine, Representative FRANK D. RIGGS from the First Congressional District of California. I first became acquainted with FRANK really over the telephone, and I believe we spoke once before the election in 1990 and once on election day in the evening after the results were known, or perhaps it was the next day. But the first time I met him was when we were both new Members of the House back here for our freshman orientation, which in those days, and I think this is one of the last times this happened, maybe the next to the last, we, in those days, the new Democrat and Republican Members received orientation together.

□ 2030

That included a trip to the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and then also a trip down to Williamsburg, sponsored by, I believe, the Congressional Research Service and perhaps one or two other organizations.

People listening may wonder about this, in contrast to how it is done now but in those days there was a chance to really get to know our fellow Members of the class, and to the public that may sound strange but this is such a large institution, with I believe we have 440 members, 435 of them voting, that it is really hard, given the compressed work week schedule, the Members traveling to the far flung parts of the Nation, coming and going all the time, in retrospect that time we spend as freshmen Members is really almost a unique opportunity to get to know each other.

I said freshmen Members, but Members-elect in this case because this happens before actually we are sworn in as Members of the House.

FRANK and I had the chance to get acquainted with each other and we became fast friends. Actually, we were roommates for the first 9 months of the first year of our term in 1991. Both of us had families out in California. Both of us had the intent of moving our families to be here with us in the Washington, D.C. area as we did the job, and it took several months for both of us, actually until late into the year of 1991, to wrap up the affairs and get everybody organized back here. So we rented an apartment in Crystal City and had the opportunity, as new Members, to experience all of the things that Members of Congress go through.

For us, it was an unusual time because Operation Desert Shield had been put into effect in August of 1990 and late in the year or early in the first part of 1991, Operation Desert Storm was declared. We had a full-fledged military operation. One of our first votes was, in essence, what amounted to a declaration of war. As a result of that, we had the first real victory, well, I should not say the first victory but I guess I will say the first major victory really since World War II that the Nation has experienced.

It was a great operation and something that I think Americans recognized as being kind of a pinnacle of America's military success.

I will have perhaps other comments to offer, but I am pleased to see we have here the chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, which is the full committee of which FRANK is chairman of one of the subcommittees, and maybe our full committee chairman, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING), will comment on that.

Then we have the gentleman from California (Mr. HERGER), who is a fellow Californian, close friend of FRANK RIGGS.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING).

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, it is certainly my pleasure to pay tribute to Congressman FRANK RIGGS this evening. He was, of course, a new subcommittee chair, as we were all new in this business of

being in the majority and leading the efforts in the Congress of the United States.

When FRANK became the subcommittee chair of our Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth and Families, he probably did not realize how full that platter was going to be. That platter has been very, very full, but that did not bother FRANK because he was willing to spend many late hours with staff, as his fertile mind thought about ways of producing quality legislation, thought about ways of making sure that our emphasis was on a quality education for all children rather than just covering them with mediocrity.

So, of course, he had to tackle our workforce development legislation, had to make sure that we could move into the 21st century and have the qualified workforce so that we could be competitive in a very competitive world. Of course, he also then had to deal with vocational education.

Now we are dealing with, among others, secondary students, as well as those who are in community colleges; again, making sure we had a workforce that would be up to handling the challenges of the 21st century.

Of course, he also had to deal with child nutrition, and included in that is an after-school program with the idea of those who are most at risk perhaps we can keep them busy in some after-school program and also provide them with nutrition. Of course, this also covered our senior citizen nutrition program, as well as our school breakfast and our school lunches. That was only the tip of the iceberg.

He then had to deal with the reauthorization of Head Start, trying to make sure that it was a quality Head Start program all over the United States, that every Head Start Program was a quality program. Rather than, again, just covering children with mediocrity, he insisted that we beef up that program so that every child has an opportunity for a quality pre-school program, and particularly to beef up the educational component because even the founder of Head Start said that that was the weak part of the Head Start Program, the education component.

So, as I said, he had a very, very busy schedule and a very full platter, but he carried out all of those efforts, again with the whole idea that quality is the name of the game.

I can remember touring a plant in my county one time and they all wore T-shirts at that plant that said "quality or stop," and that was FRANK's motto as he brought about all of these reauthorization programs.

We certainly will miss him as he goes on to do whatever he is going to do. We on the committee certainly wish him very well. I appreciate the opportunity to participate in the gentleman's tribute to Congressman FRANK RIGGS this evening.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I would thank the chairman, the gen-

tleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING) for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield at this point to a distinguished colleague, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. TAYLOR) who, along with Mr. RIGGS, were two of the Gang of 7. Both of them were involved in an effort exposing the House Bank scandal and ultimately closing down that institution; the House Post Office scandal, which was reformed as a result of this. Several people were indicted and had penalties imposed.

FRANK RIGGS is a courageous man and so is the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. TAYLOR), whom I will now recognize.

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I, too, appreciate the tribute that is being offered to Congressman RIGGS. FRANK has been a good friend and an outstanding Member of this Congress. I knew he had courage when he joined our freshman year as a Member of the Gang of 7 to protest what he thought, and we all thought, was illegal and unjust activities of the House of Representatives.

Of course, the truth proved out and, as we know and as was mentioned a moment ago, there were a lot of things that went on from that investigation. We have a much cleaner and more responsible Congress because of that.

I found that FRANK had courage in the district also. FRANK is an environmentalist in the sense that he cares about the environment and he works to promote real science in the area of the environment. A lot of people do not realize that here in Washington the environment has become a tool for people to scare money out of individuals. They take in over \$600 million, putting false science out and trying to scare people into spending money for ridiculous ideas, and these programs often result in legislation that takes jobs away from people unnecessarily and promotes pseudo science.

FRANK has worked with us on many of our efforts, especially in the area of forestry, to promote what our best universities teach and our best experimental stations teach. He stood up to the claims of the so-called pseudo environmentalists and stood with the people of his district and the people of California in recommending good, sound science in the area of forestry.

That was hard for him to do because they put a lot of money against him in the campaign. In fact, he was defeated after his first term, but he had the courage to maintain truth and he fought back. After the next 2 years, he was reelected to Congress, where he has remained. That told me a lot about FRANK's tenacity for the truth.

It would have been very easy for him to sell out his ideas. He would have gotten contributions. He would have gotten the accolades of groups that are not promoting truth, but it would not have been FRANK RIGGS. His stand was bought dear, but it was something that

impressed me about his character. He has been involved in a variety of those areas, as well as other outstanding legislation here in Washington, and I am honored to be a friend of FRANK and to see him as an outstanding Member of this Congress since we have been here.

I appreciate the tribute that is being brought forth tonight.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments and would just observe that I do not think I know of any harder work than campaigning in a hard fought election, and FRANK RIGGS has had nothing but a steady diet of that in the elections he has run, and it has never been easy. They have always been huge races where a million dollars was spent by both sides. Heavy negative advertising was out there attacking him, distorting his record, and I would just observe that to go through one of those races and then to lose and then to somehow be able to pick yourself back up and take up the battle again for 2 years running, getting ready for the next election, talk about the tenacity of FRANK RIGGS, I think that is true.

That is extremely difficult. Frank is quite an athlete, but among other things is an avid jogger. I remember when we lived together, he would go for a jog at 9:00 at night out in the wonderful high Washington heat and humidity. It would be 90-plus degrees and he would be off on a jog. That is the type of individual he is. He really is just a real fighter and very, very tenacious and has stood tall for the things he believes in.

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. That was FRANK, and certainly it was a tribute to FRANK and to his district to return him back here, and he has been with us since. I think that is a tribute to the people of his district to see and to overcome the heavy spending and the negative attacks and to become a permanent Member of this Congress, where he has been always steadfast in his search for truth and his search for the best interests of the people of California as well as the United States.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I will just observe that thanks to FRANK RIGGS, he introduced me to an East Coast donut, Krispy Kreme, which I hadn't known about before, and it has resulted in a significant expansion of my waistline which will be one thing that will cause me to remember him for a long time to come.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Southern California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) who has joined us, a dear friend and colleague.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, we hear a lot of people say that this fellow or that fellow or this colleague or that colleague will be missed, and sometimes we just wonder because they are just people who we have worked with. We might think this is just someone that I have worked with in my office or someone in my school or whatever.

□ 2045

Tonight, I would just like to say from the bottom of my heart, in recent days as I have walked around the floor of Congress as we have been discussing the various issues, it has crossed my mind and my heart, not just on a couple of occasions but probably 10 or 15 different times, boy, FRANK RIGGS is not going to be around here next year. We are really going to miss him.

I personally am going to miss FRANK RIGGS. This is not just like missing somebody because we got used to working with him. We are going to miss him because he was a voice of decency. And some people claim that I am sort of a little boisterous and get a little hot under the collar and that I might be animated at times. But FRANK, on the other hand, is someone who presents himself in a very decent and a very honorable way and seems always to be in control, because he seems to always have the confidence that comes from someone who has a very strong set of values that he is very proud of, and that is recognizable.

We are going to miss him around here. In the debates, he added greatly with his even-tempered approach and a very astute way of looking at especially the areas of education and such. But we always knew that FRANK was a man of integrity. And some people talk of men of integrity, sometimes get mad and they punch you in the nose because they really know what is right. But that is not what FRANK was about. FRANK was a man of integrity and in a very low-key way earned the admiration and attention of his colleagues because when he did speak, we listened because we knew he was saying something that was worth listening to and was speaking from the vantage of truth and honesty that we could certainly respect.

I think that was really brought home to me, and I do not know if he will remember this or not, but I remember it very vividly that when FRANK was here, I think it was during his first tour of duty, so to speak, one of the early votes that really tested all of us was the vote as to whether or not we should be permitting offensive military action in the Persian Gulf. It was a very tough vote, because most of us believed at that time there would be very severe casualties and most of us believed at that time that this was going to be a situation that would test us as a country.

FRANK had some reservations about it. And, frankly, I had reservations about it as well. However, FRANK made sure that he acted upon those reservations. I sat down with him, and I remember sitting in the cloakroom as the vote was happening and saying, "This is a really important vote. You are going to be judged by this. This is one of those votes that your constituents are not going to miss. And that could really cause great harm if you are making the wrong decision and you know that every one of your fellow Re-

publican colleagues are voting on the other side."

I remember saying, "I am not trying to tell you what to do. I am your friend, but I just want to make sure that you are thinking this through."

Peer pressure did not mean anything to FRANK. FRANK had thought it out. He knew in his heart what he thought was right and he voted "no." And I will have to say that there are some people who vote differently than I do on various issues and I get upset with them because I do not respect the act that they have done, because often those votes that are on the other side of the issues that I stand for, they are voting because they lack the courage to stand up to where I am. But, no, this is an example of the quintessential of FRANK RIGGS in that his vote. He stood alone and he stood that way and he voted that way because that was a courageous thing for him to do. He honestly felt that way.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think I have ever brought that up to FRANK before in all of these years, but I will never forget that moment and how I was deeply proud of this man. If there is anyone in this body who knows how to twist arms and to try to convince people to change their positions on issues, I mean, I learned from the master. I learned from Ronald Reagan and I tried every trick in the book that night to get FRANK over on that side.

Now, we also know that FRANK is not just someone who can be kept down. I do not know any of our other colleagues, or maybe there must be one or two here who actually lost the seat and then came back after 2 years and was reelected by their constituents. So here we have a guy who came here and, of course, he represents a very, very liberal Democratic district up in the northern part of the State. It is overwhelmingly the other party. And FRANK was elected.

And when someone else came in, a Democrat came in, I remember that young fellow. His only claim to fame was that he refused to wear a tie on the floor. And once they really tried to figure out what really counted, his constituents insisted on bringing FRANK back to Washington, D.C.

There are very, very few people in this body that have lost and then, once their constituents found out how wonderful they really were, would be brought back by their constituents. That means their constituents have to admit they made a mistake in not bringing him back immediately for an immediate reelection.

So, FRANK endears himself to all of us who work with him. He is someone who is respected and someone who means a lot to me personally. I am very grateful to the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE) and to my other colleagues today for joining me in this honor and tribute to FRANK.

I know that over the years we are going to be working on several other issues important to California. Again, I

am going to walk around and say, "I really miss FRANK RIGGS." But I know that out in California, we are going to be doing things for the benefit of our State. I know how much you love California and how much we all love California. So we have got some wonderful things we are going to do in the future, but we are going to miss you when we are walking around down here on the floor.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER). And he referred to FRANK's hard work and ability. And I have been just reviewing some of the material on FRANK. I know that something jumped out at me that I did not realize, and that was that he was a graduate with highest honors of Golden Gate University in San Francisco, where he received his Bachelor's Degree in the administration of justice.

Furthermore, he was named the outstanding graduate in the College of Business and Public Administration. Of course, sometimes having achieved a distinction, they will give the graduate a cum laude recognition, or magna cum laude. But summa cum laude is the highest recognition. And, really, anyone who knows FRANK would not at all be surprised that that was the distinction that he earned in college.

I now would like to recognize the gentleman from Southern California (Mr. BILBRAY), even further south than the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER), he is from San Diego and the surrounding areas.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I am from San Diego County, which is south of southern California. I want to make that quite clear. My colleague from Huntington Beach, who is the other half of the Surfing Caucus, has pointed out again and again that Mr. RIGGS is somebody, in the terminology of an old advertisement, who has always been able to "take a licking and keep on ticking." I think that the fact of the ability for him to take hits from people who cannot stand to hear the truth I think is one of the things we have always appreciated about him.

Let me say one thing. Somebody brought up the fact that FRANK comes from a background of getting a good education, getting the facts, and being able to speak the facts. It is something that some people are not very comfortable with. Frankly, there are those who are involved in the environmental movement who do not want to approach the environmental issues as science. It is almost as if people have lost old religion and have now tried to make environmental causes their new religion.

Those of us that have worked on real environmental problems, like myself, are so frustrated with people that do not realize that we not only have a right, but we have a responsibility to keep our minds open and get the facts and approach environmental strategies as a science. It is not a theology.

Frankly, there are those who have attacked FRANK as a heretic because he

is not willing to accept the theology of certain groups and certain people who claim to be wanting to help the environment. I think that FRANK has been less fortunate, but the environment has been better because FRANK has been willing to stand up and say: Science first, foremost, and always; that one cannot be an environmentalist if they do not put science first and take prejudice and preconceived ideas away.

I did not come here to praise FRANK RIGGS or to honor FRANK RIGGS. I want to say there is something that we do not do enough of here. I want to honor the people that really made it possible for FRANK RIGGS to be here. And I am not just saying the voters. I want to honor an 11-year-old little girl who does not have her daddy home every night because he is here on the House floor.

Sarah Riggs is the type of person that we do not talk enough about. The reason why Mr. RIGGS is willing to come here and serve and do without fiscal and family security that a lot of businesspeople out there have is because he cares about his daughter's future. And Sarah Riggs is somebody that we should always remember.

I hope every Member of this Congress always remembers that there are those that make it possible for us to serve. It is Sarah Riggs, Cathy Riggs, Matthew Riggs that are out there without a father, without a mother, because they are here serving and doing the people's business.

And I think that too often, the image that people see on C-SPAN or they see in the paper is of a two-dimensional figure. Of FRANK RIGGS, the Congressman, the politician, but not the FRANK RIGGS the father, the husband. And when we do that, when we only see the two-dimensional, we deny the real heroes and the heroines in this whole thing. That is the Sarah Riggses and the Cathy Riggses and the Matthews that do without and do so much more than anybody could ever expect them to do, because their father is engaged in the business of this country.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say sincerely to Sarah Riggs, and sincerely to all of the young girls out there, and the sons and the wives who sacrifice and fill in the huge hole that is there because their parents are off taking care of business in Congress. I want to thank them, all the Sarah Riggses out there, for the contribution they have made for the betterment of this country. I want to thank the Sarahs for being willing to do what a lot of little children would never want to do, and that is not have their daddy or mother around.

And so I am not here to honor Mr. RIGGS; I am here to honor Sarah Riggs for all her contributions. And I would like to say, "Thank you very much, Sarah, for allowing us to have your daddy for a while here on the House floor. It has been a privilege to serve you. It has been a privilege to work

with your daddy. And I hope in the future, we will be able to continue to see the kind of contributions that your father has made to the American people and the people of California."

Mr. Speaker, I yield back to my colleague.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY). While the next gentleman is proceeding up to the front, I would observe that there is a third and oldest child, Ryan Riggs. And Ryan, Matt and Sarah, we have seen grow up. Sarah is not completely grown, but she is a lovely young lady now. And we have watched them grow up.

Cathy, by the way, is a wonderful mother and a crack private investigator and a law school graduate as well. She has been a staunch supporter of FRANK. And maybe for those who do not realize it, but a Member's family is integral to running a successful campaign. They are all deeply involved, as the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) alluded to. There is a great deal of sacrifice that goes on on the part of the family once the Member is elected, and FRANK has a strong family that loves and supports him.

I yield now to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON).

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I did not want to pass up the opportunity this evening to share with someone who I have only known for a year and 10 months, but someone who I think is one of my better friends in Congress, someone who I had the privilege of working a lot with, because we shared a lot of time and worked on the same subcommittees on the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

FRANK, America would be stronger and better if it had more congressmen like FRANK RIGGS. And I mean that sincerely. Those who talked about his toughness, coming back after a tough loss, coming from a district that he probably should never have gotten elected in, but it was only because FRANK RIGGS was a good man and gave it his best and his family had support there that he was able to come to Congress from that district and serve it very, very well.

□ 2100

I liked his friendly style, his graciousness, his toughness. He had a tough side. He would fight hard. And you cannot be effective here and you will not ever reach the goal line if you do not. We shared a lot of interests. I have some of the same forestry interests that FRANK had, some of the same problems that FRANK had, and I admired his toughness to stand tall.

We had a lot of interests in vocational and technical education and where this country really needs to be going where we really are not headed, FRANK and I agreed on where this country ought to be going in technical and vocational education, preparing our work force of tomorrow.

FRANK, I was disappointed when you decided not to run again. But I admire you for the choice you made. You were one I looked forward to working with in the future. But I am, hopefully, somewhere down the road, we will have the chance to pull on the same rope.

But there was something that you may not be aware of. Of all the Members I have met here, FRANK RIGGS mentioned his family to me many evenings. When we were here in an evening, FRANK was always anxious, if we were kind of not moving as fast as we ought to be and we ought to be getting our work done, because FRANK had an event that one of his kids was at that he felt he should be at. FRANK had a family thing that he felt he should be at. You mentioned your wife and children to me many evenings. You may not remember that. It was just in quick passing. But that says to me that FRANK RIGGS, the Congressman, had his priorities right. He was constantly thinking about his children and his wife and his family, and that is the priority that so often does not get met in this country. If there is a weakness in this country, it is the breakup of the family and the family drifting apart.

I do not know your family well, but I personally think your children have a pretty good dad. I think your wife has a pretty good husband. I know you care an awful lot about them. In the few short months we have known each other, I have learned that they are most important to you, and I honor you for that. The Committee on Education and the Workforce will miss you. This Congress will miss you. I will miss you, because you are a friend, the kind of a friend that I would like to get to know better, because the more I have been around you, the more I have worked with you, you are just a person I have learned to like.

We are going to miss you. It has been a pleasure getting to work with you and know you, FRANK. America is a better place because you served here. I mean that sincerely.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for his comments.

I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. HERGER), my good friend and colleague from northern California, really right in between FRANK's district and mine.

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

It is, indeed, a privilege and an honor that I consider to be able to stand here today. I was just thinking back at the speakers we have had, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING), the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. TAYLOR), the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER), the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY), the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON), to name a few.

I think about, as we were trying to arrange this, and mainly you, Mr. Doolittle, I want to thank you for taking the time to take the initiative to set

this up this evening, but I think as we were talking about it over the last week or so and we were wondering, gee, we need to try to do it sometime in between votes so that we will have some Members around. What we did want to do, it has been at least three hours since our last vote, was get Members around that would be able to express themselves. And just the fact that we have had this many Members this long after our last vote, I think really says so much for you, FRANK, my very good friend and colleague.

As we hear sometimes in the Rush Limbaugh show, we will hear someone who agrees with what was being said, they will say ditto. I just have to, I hear the different things that went on, very few people outside those who have actually served in the House of Representatives or in Congress really know what goes in to the job of being a Member of Congress. It seems like a pretty neat job, which it is. But all the time away from home, I heard you talk about how your first term here, how you roomed together.

The families back in California, we are 3000 miles away, 3 time zones away, all the time that is here. Then when we get back to our district, FRANK represents a district that is very similar to my own, very large, and yours as well, very large geographically. I think that when we are, even when we are so-called at home, we are really not at home. We are out traveling around in one city or another that may be 200 miles away within our district, talking to this rotary group or some other group here or there. And really, the time that is taken away from our family is really a major sacrifice on the part of anyone. So I can certainly understand why it would be that you would be leaving us.

We hear all this, you would almost think that we are speaking at a funeral. Obviously, we are not. FRANK is going to have a very glorious life after Congress here, and we certainly wish you the very best.

But, FRANK, I want to thank you in a number of different areas for being the friend to me that you have been. You were, right off the bat, as you know, there have not been that many friends to those who live in our timber-dependent communities of the United States, certainly in California. And for so long there was maybe JOHN DOOLITTLE, BOB SMITH, north of me, myself were about all there were for a number of terms, several terms when I first served here, out of 435. And how welcome it was when FRANK RIGGS was elected.

Now, we had someone else that was fighting for, as Mr. Bilbray pointed out, to bring about the, to make our decisions on forest health and forest practices based on science, the most recent science, the most current science, not just on politics and what was politically popular in Washington or nationally, but what indeed was in the best interest for our national forests and for the people who live there, the

real people, the fathers, the mothers, the children who work there, who have been working and living there for three and four and five generations. Again, our districts are very similar that way.

I have parts of all of 12 national forests. I know you have a number of national forests there along the beautiful Pacific Ocean right adjacent to mine. I want to thank you for always being a voice for what was right, for someone who would do your homework and find out what the facts were and make your decisions accordingly. I want to thank you for that. Many a time we have stood together, albeit not very many of us standing in this 435-Member House, but nonetheless we would be up there fighting the battle. And I would always know I could count on FRANK RIGGS to be there with me. Again, FRANK, you have been a friend in so many, many different ways.

I also have to mention another great joy, again there are so many things we do and it is an incredible job we have. As I know you do, consider this one of the greatest privileges that anyone can have, to represent citizens, 570,000 approximately in our congressional districts here in Washington, D.C. But one of the nice things that we do each year is have our annual charity baseball game. This is not a softball game. This is baseball. It has been being played for many, many years. And even back when we were a minority, and I spent my first 6 years here in the, first 8 years here in the minority, about the only thing that we as Republicans were able to win at was baseball. We used to beat the other side. We were beginning to lose a few games, and then FRANK RIGGS was elected.

And boy, were you an asset. Thank goodness you came out to our baseball team, that magic, golden glove that you had playing short stop, that wonderful bat you had batting third in the lineup. That is our power hitter. Again, it was just a pleasure not only to serve with you here but to serve with you on the congressional baseball team. As I recall, we won most of those games and we did win the trophy, the best of five games. And at the same time, able to donate in the vicinity of \$60,000 each year, as we have done, to the Children's Hospital and other good causes.

Again, FRANK, I want to thank you. I want to thank your wife, Cathy, and your family for all the effort you have given to serve our Nation. We will sorely miss you but, again, I am looking forward to visiting with you. I know our friendship will go on for many, many years after you leave here, after you graduate from the Congress here. I am looking forward to that. Again, thank you on behalf of myself, my colleagues and our Nation and certainly Northern California. Thank you for your great effort.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. I would just like to, before I yield to the gentleman

from Georgia, just like to briefly highlight two or three areas of FRANK's legislative involvement that I am very proud of him for.

One, he introduced a resolution affirming the right of the Boy Scouts of America, a voluntary association of free individuals, to set standards for membership and exclude those who do not reflect its traditional and moral values. As is consistent with what you heard about FRANK, his courageous, really fearless nature, he carried that resolution and waged that battle. And many of us, including me, are grateful for that.

He also has been extremely active. In fact, he gave up, in what is almost unheard of, I do not know of any other example of this, certainly while I have been here or before I got here. He was a member of the prized Committee on Appropriations. And that is a very difficult committee to get on. They are the ones who recommend how all the money is going to be spent for the budget. He got off of that in order to get on the Committee on Education and the Workforce and eventually become chairman of the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth and Families. And he has fought tirelessly for children while having that stewardship, including a bill that he sponsored called HELP, helping empower low income parents scholarship amendments. This would allow them to offer opportunity scholarships to poor urban and rural children.

Although that legislation was not successful, I believe it is the type of legislation that eventually will pass here. And when it does, you can look back to FRANK RIGGS, we can all look back, as the one who started that ball rolling and who had the foresight to wage that battle in what eventually, I believe, will be a successful effort.

He also wrote the English language fluency act to end Federal support for the disastrous bilingual education programs. And this was modeled in California's English for the children initiative, which this legislation passed the House this last September. He also offered an amendment to the higher education act prohibiting public colleges and universities who accept Federal funds from setting admissions criteria on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin or ethnicity.

FRANK is, frankly, someone who went against the trend. And I hope he will not feel bad if I say this, but I observe that the longer he was here, the more conservative he became. Frequently and as a general rule, the trend is just the opposite. The longer you are here, the more liberal you become. But FRANK was never one to fit into a mold.

Frankly, these actions that he has undertaken, these bits of legislation, I felt would have qualified him to be a member in good standing of the conservative action team. So in my mind you will always be an honorary member of that by your philosophy. I think you have reflected those values in your actions.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON).

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE) for the yielding to me. I am glad to be here on RIGGS behalf.

Mr. Speaker, I am not going to call him FRANK RIGGS. I am going to call him RIGGS, because since a small boy growing up at the Athens YMCA, I called all guys who were near my age by their last name. But FRANK RIGGS, being an old school gentleman type, called me on the House floor one day and said, "I really prefer to be called Frank and I think we should dignify this place in doing such." So FRANK, you trained me, and I will call you FRANK even when I see you from here on out.

I want to say this, I knew FRANK RIGGS as a candidate in 1992. I was given a poster of the gang of 7. The gang of 7 was everybody's hero model. The gang of 7 consisted of Mr. DOOLITTLE, among others, and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER) and the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUSSLE) and Mr. RIGGS. I am leaving out the other three. Mr. HERGER, if you were one of them, I apologize. But we all loved the gang of 7 because they were the ones who were the young turks who blew open the House bank scandal, which the folks of America did not understand why there were so many overdrafts by Members of Congress.

□ 2115

We were just so appreciative of this young energetic, very small, but determined group who blew the whistle on that and said this Congress cannot continue to have such shenanigans.

So I knew who FRANK RIGGS was. It took me two more years to get a chance to meet him because he had a little mishap on the way to reelection that year, with no fault of his own. He has one of the most difficult and competitive districts in the country.

But FRANK rejoined us in 1994, and I had the opportunity to serve on the Committee on Appropriations with him. He was a very energetic Member. He had been here. It showed. He knew his way around the place. He immediately jumped on all kinds of other issues, education, WIC, D.C. scholarships, regular scholarships, English first, all kinds of issues that affect California, agriculture, particularly looking into issues that had to deal with the California wine industry.

He was just a very great Member to sit next to. Then the next year he moved over to the Committee on Education and the Workforce and became a superstar on that. I think the previous speakers have covered that, so I have got to go back to another personal story.

Bipartisan retreat on the train to Hershey, Pennsylvania, looking over at my seat, I had my family and my four children running up and down the aisles, and looked over there, and there was Frank. Frank had on some head-

phones. He had two pencils in his hands, and he was playing the drums, and he was rocking out, having a great time, much to the absolute humiliation of his teenage children who were sitting there looking around saying, "Dad, would you please quit doing this."

But I could tell that, even as they were calling him down in that embarrassment that teenagers sometimes can have of us parents, they loved him. It was "Dad, you are being dad again, and we love you, but can you cut it out a little bit."

Cathy and her relationship with him, we got to know them sitting next to them on this train. I can tell it is just a great family.

I was a little bit disturbed when his teenage son, who is a big strapping boy, I think is six feet tall, started e-mailing my 15-year-old daughter, but those things happen. If my daughter has to get interested in boys, I will reluctantly accept that. If it has to take place, somebody who is an offspring of Cathy and FRANK RIGGS has got to be okay, because having served with his dad for these years that I have had the honor to serve for, I know he is a first-class guy.

The House is better having a guy like this in the House, and the country is stronger because of FRANK RIGGS' service, and we will miss him dearly. I wish you the best.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. Recalling our early days together, I must say, every now and then, back in those days, it seems like we had a lot of late nights here. Every now and then, we would go over to the Pentagon City Mall and have ribs and baked potatoes at the Silver Spoon, which was a great experience.

I kind of looked forward to those occasions since we were both back here on our own for the first 8 or 9 months or so. That was better than having to cook for ourselves. That was always preferable. So, FRANK, those are memories I will treasure as we move on here in life.

I recall once FRANK RIGGS told me in a conference, I do not remember how this came up, but he told me that there were three things that he had considered being when he grew up. This is what he thought as a young person.

One was to be a police officer, which in fact he did become, serving I believe in the Santa Barbara Police Department and then eventually, I do not remember the county, but it is Marin County or one of those up in Northern California, the sheriff's department.

The other thing he wanted to be was a high school coach. He never became a full-time high school coach, but he did, indeed, and does, I guess, presently serve as high school coach for both his daughter and as well for his son, two different teams. Being a Member of Congress and a subcommittee chairman, I do not know how he did it, but he did all those things at the same time.

The third thing was that he was very interested in becoming a member of the clergy. He never actually became a member of the clergy, but he has reflected, I think, fundamental values in his service here as a member of the United States House of Representatives for 6 years.

FRANK, I do not know if I have shared this with you, but there is a great quote I often use, and it means a great deal. It is from a former chaplain in the United States Senate Everett Hale, who said "I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do."

I would say, Mr. Speaker, that FRANK RIGGS reflects the statement of the Senate Chaplain, someone who has done his best to make a difference and who has, indeed, made a difference for men, women, and children in this country, who has honorably served in the United States House of Representatives, and who will be long and fondly remembered.

THE BUDGET AGREEMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult to follow a discussion like that of one of our great colleagues, a beloved Californian, but I want to get to the subject of the budget.

As the Speaker knows, we have been here in Washington camped out now for some 10 to 15 days trying to get a budget agreement with the White House and the Senate. I think it is very important for people to realize that, although we clash so often over partisan reasons, there is a lot more to the partisanship than just not agreeing.

There are genuine philosophical differences between often liberals and conservatives. There are philosophical differences that have to do with the reasons we are elected.

People are elected because they said I am a conservative, I am a liberal. When I go to Washington, I want to represent those liberal views or those conservative views. Guess what. We get 435 people elected to the House of Representatives on their own individual platforms, and of course we are going to have debates and of course we are going to have some disagreements.

Often, that is going to be betrayed as partisanship, and sometimes there is a partisanship element to it. But there is a real profound ideological difference here. The Speaker has said that, look at it this way, Congress is the Civil War without bullets, or it is a substitute for civil war. It is a peaceful way to carry on our republic.

I think that that is what has been going on the last 15 days. The budget debate did not start 15 days ago. It did not start in the summertime. It does

not start with the first appropriations bill. It has started long before most of us were elected.

We came here with ideas of what to cut and what to increase, what to spend money on and what not to. But we have been engaged in this process, most of us, since the time we were candidates.

Then this year, as the appropriations bills went through, we debated various amendments and various spending levels. I am on the Committee on Appropriations. I can tell my colleagues there is hardly anything that is in an appropriations bill that has not had a hearing, that has not had a debate, that has not had a question that has not been scrutinized.

Things in there have been well looked at and well debated. We are at this process where we finally have a massive budget agreement, and I think it is good. I am very excited about this budget agreement.

There is a little bit of this and a little bit of that in there. There are some things that the Democrats can say they have won on, some things Republicans can say they have won on.

But the ultimate winners are the American people. That is what is important for us to do at the end of the day, not say which party won, but say what the American people won.

Here are some things in there that I believe Americans won. Drugs. We have strong anti-drug language in there. We have beefed up the position of the drug czar. We have given him more power to fight the drug thugs.

It used to be that, when the drug lords were out in my area, as my colleague knows, I represent coastal Georgia, the Coast Guard does a lot of drug interdiction. They cannot keep up with the drug runners and their powerful boats. Those days are over with. Now the Federal agencies can go after them. There is nothing more frustrating than having drug dealers having higher technology than law enforcement. I am glad to say that is over with. Interdiction is very, very important.

This is a product, Mr. Speaker, that has grown in South America and processed often in other South American countries and then sneaked in in the dark of the night into America and sold in the school yard near us.

The employees of this company that sell this insidious product, if you will, the drug pushers, they cannot advertise. They cannot exchange business cards. They cannot even tell anyone they do. Yet, in every school district from Maine to Florida to California, they can get illegal drugs, and they did get to our 12 years olds, our 14 years olds, our 15 years olds. This Congress and this bill has taken a strong step to say, get the heck out of our school yards.

In addition to cracking down on the drug dealer, we also have strong rehab. Because if somebody has gotten off track and they have become addicted to drugs, we want them to be able to

turn to somebody or some agency or some institution when they are ready and say I want out. Can you help me? Can you throw me that lifeline?

We are putting the needed resources into institutions, not all Federal, not all State, and certainly not all governmental, but we are doing it with non-profit agencies as well to say that, if you want to get off drugs, we want to have the bridge there to get you off drugs. We hope you do not ever get on drugs, but if you are ready to come home, we want to be there to help you. That is in this bill, Mr. Speaker. I think it is a very significant step for the streets of America, for the safety of our kids.

Another thing that is in this omnibus bill is education. We in the Republican Congress are committed to having world class education. I know the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) has children, because I get his Christmas cards.

What we have in our family is we have got an 8-year-old, a 10-year-old, and a 13-year-old, and a 15-year-old. My children and the gentleman's children are not going to be competing Georgians versus kids from Illinois versus kids from California. But they are going to be American kids competing against German kids and Japanese kids and British kids. They are going to be part of this big global economy that we have.

In that spirit, we want to be sure that our American children can go head-to-head in science, head-to-head in math, trigonometry, and calculus, head-to-head in physics and chemistry, and head-to-head not just in English, but of all language skills.

We want them to be able to compete in it. We think an important part of that is local control of schools, not Washington command control, but local controls.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH), one of the leaders in this budget fight, one of the toughest defenders of the hard-working dollars, tax paid dollars, paid by American middle class. He has joined us now, and it is an honor to yield to him.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from Georgia, for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening again to talk about America's priorities and the pursuit of common sense conservative goals, because as my colleague, the gentleman from Georgia points out, Mr. Speaker, it makes sense to get the resources to where they have the most impact. Education is far too important to leave up to Washington bureaucracies.

So what we have done is to agree in historic fashion to provide resources but to make sure those resources are implemented at the local level. That is the key, because the first priority, of course, must be with parents and the teachers who are there in the classroom who know our children's names,