

in recognition of his service to the school and the educational community.

Mr. President, on January 12th, the community of Albuquerque and Highland High School paid tribute to this remarkable teacher, and today I join with my fellow New Mexicans in expressing my admiration for Marshall Floyd's continued dedication to educating the students of New Mexico and his commitment to the community of Albuquerque.●

THE HOLOCAUST VICTIMS REDRESS ACT

● Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the House of Representatives on passage of S.1564, "The Holocaust Victims Redress Act."

The bill was passed by the Senate on November 13, 1997 and was referred back to the House where it was originally introduced by my colleagues, the Chairman of the House Banking Committee, Rep. JIM LEACH, and Chairman of the House International Relations Committee, Rep. BEN GILMAN. I am very pleased that we have been able to work together to pass this important legislation enabling the correction of a horrible injustice after the war. Now, needy survivors can obtain some measure of justice and dignity.

Mr. President, this important bill contains two main provisions. First, the bill authorizes \$25 million for a U.S. donation to the fund established by the United States and the United Kingdom at the London Conference on Nazi Gold in December. Second, the bill authorizes \$5 million for research into the issue and translation of foreign language documents coming from this effort. The Administration has been fully supportive of this effort. Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat, particularly, has played a vital role in this effort and without him we would not be where we are today on the issue.

Regarding the \$5 million authorized in the bill for research, it is my strong belief that the management of these funds should be granted to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. This museum is the one organization uniquely capable of conducting research like this, research that is a core function of its mission. The Museum, I might add, has been an invaluable aid to the Banking Committee during our on-going inquiry into the disposition of Holocaust-era assets by Swiss banks from before, during and after the Holocaust. Accordingly, I can think of no better group to manage the research funding from this bill than the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Mr. President, I again want to thank my colleagues for their help in obtaining passage for this important bill. If we are going to try to obtain justice for victims of the Holocaust. While much more needs to be done on this issue, this is an important measure in this long overdue effort.●

CHILD SUPPORT PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT ACT

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) has been added as a cosponsor to S. 1293, the Child Support Performance Improvement Act. Senator SNOWE and I introduced this legislation last year to call for critical ways to strengthen child support enforcement, including an effort to address the critical need for medical support among children with absent parents.

It is an honor to have Senator KERRY, a long-time child advocate and leader, join Senator SNOWE and me in our effort to promote effective and efficient child support enforcement. Senator KERRY's commitment to this issue is well known, and he has been aggressive pushing for action through previous legislation.

Today, we are joining forces to promote our bill, S. 1293, and to work together on a new initiative to resolve the lingering barriers that prevent enforcement of medical child support, a crucial aspect of support and stability for children and families. Senator KERRY's special commitment to medical support is clear. Working with him and other colleagues, we want to eliminate the barriers which hinder state agencies from effectively implementing the 1984 federal law that requires states to petition for medical child support, if it is available from non-custodial parents. Our law says children should not be discriminated against in health care coverage in cases of divorce, but we need to work together to ensure that this obvious principle works in practice. Public health coverage, through Medicaid or the new children's health initiative, should not be a substitute for private insurance from parents when such insurance is available. We hope to ensure that children get coverage they need and deserve.

To achieve our goals, we want to work with congressional colleagues, child advocates, state leaders, interested business groups and the Administration to ensure that we forge consensus on ways to tear down existing barriers to health care coverage that is fair and streamlined.

The technical nature of this issue is complicated. But the reality for children and families is clear—medical coverage means that parents have the peace of mind that their children can obtain the health care that is so vital for a healthy, successful childhood. I welcome Senator KERRY's support and urge all of my colleagues to join in this effort.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I am pleased to join the distinguished Senator from West Virginia as a cosponsor of this very important child support legislation. He has long been a leader on these issues and I am delighted to work with him to ensure that children get the support they need and deserve. I particularly look forward to working together to pass medical enforcement

legislation. At least 700,000 children nationwide have a health insurance order through an ERISA-protected plan where the noncustodial parent fails to provide the required coverage. Providing an efficient, effective way for child support agencies to enforce the requirement for medical child support coverage through ERISA-protected plans would result in more children with private health insurance and reduced public costs for medical coverage.

RECOGNITION OF ZION GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a tremendous accomplishment by the Zion Grove Missionary Baptist Church and Reverend Frank L. Selkirk III, Ph.D. As of December 31, 1997, the Church has raised enough money, from members and the Kansas City, Missouri, community to pay their mortgage.

The Zion Grove Missionary Baptist Church Family will commemorate this achievement with a "Mortgage Burning Ceremony" on January 18. The hard work and perseverance of all the members at Zion Grove Missionary Baptist Church will begin to show in 1998 when money becomes available for new programs and possible expansion.

I congratulate Zion Grove Missionary Baptist Church for their hard work and success. Additionally, I commend staff and members for their spirit and energy throughout their many years of existence and wish them continued success in enriching the Kansas City community for years to come.●

DANIEL J. KEARNEY

● Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and mourn a loss for the working men and women of this country.

On Friday, January 2d, 1998, Mr. Daniel J. Kearney of Cohasset, Massachusetts, passed away. On that day the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the United States of America lost an individual who embodied and protected the most cherished principles of this nation.

From his military service to his fervent support of the labor movement, Mr. Kearney led a quintessentially American life, one that contained family and sacrifice, struggle and victory. He married the late Mary A. MacGrath, and together they raised daughters Gail and Linda. His distinguished service in the U.S. Navy spanned the period from World War II through Korea, and he maintained this commitment to his nation through leadership and service in the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.

Mr. Kearney began his long career in the labor community as an apprentice blacksmith at the Boston Naval Yard in 1946, where he graduated from the Boston Naval Shipyard Apprentice School. In 1952, he served as a program

engineer for the Navy, and this resulted in his becoming a contract negotiator for shipbuilding in 1956. In this position, Mr. Kearney worked on the construction and conversion of nuclear attack and ballistic missile submarines, helping navigate our nation's defense through a historic and complex transition.

His largest contribution to this country, however, was his relentless and passionate advocacy on behalf of working men and women, and his early posts in the Navy yards of Massachusetts were the origin of his life-long campaign for organized labor.

He went on to organize, and to serve as a union officer and local president of, various American Federation of Government Employees locals, lead the Philadelphia Council of the AFGE and serve as President of the Massachusetts State Council of Locals. He served as National Vice President of the AFGE, and later as Vice President Emeritus of AFGE's New England District.

Dan Kearney's faith in the electoral processes of this country, both local and national, was another passion. Beginning back when John F. Kennedy was first elected to Congress, and continuing through Senator Edward Kennedy's re-election in 1994 and my own re-election in 1996, Mr. Kearney was a welcome fixture in the Democratic campaigns of Massachusetts. For him, coordination of grass roots politics was another tool to help people improve their lives, and he gave it his all.

In later years, the issues facing senior Americans became his campaign, and his sincere advocacy of fairness and decency resulted in an appointment to the White House Council on Aging. As recently as several weeks ago, he dropped by my Boston office with thoughts on issues facing seniors, retired government employees, and the labor movement as a whole.

He leaves a loving family and many friends, and he leaves the world better for his efforts. As we celebrate his life, we offer our condolences and sympathy to all who knew and loved him.●

TRIBUTE TO VIRGINIA WHITE

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Virginia White, a public servant of outstanding integrity and honesty, who is retiring after 25 years of service to her community. On January 31, Virginia will end her tenure as Meridian Township Clerk.

In 1972, Virginia was first elected as Township Clerk on the promise to improve her community. Not only did she fulfill her pledge, but she began a long, meritorious career serving the people of Meridian Township. During her time as clerk, she established a reputation for hard work and dedication to serving her community. While a clerk, Virginia's dedication to Meridian Township was unsurpassed and she maintained the greatest of commitments to public service. Mr. President, Virginia

White is one of few individuals I can think of who truly embodies the ideals and principles that define the term "public servant."

Virginia's desire to better her community reached far beyond Meridian Township. When she co-founded the Michigan Association of Clerks, a network was formed which brought city and township clerks across the State of Michigan together. Additionally, in an effort to create better systems of local governance, she wrote a national manual on conducting elections. Together, these efforts reflect Virginia's longstanding pursuit to provide her municipality with the best possible clerk. I am proud to say she accomplished this goal with great distinction. Although Virginia will be greatly missed, I know she is looking forward to a well-deserved retirement. I join her family, friends, and colleagues in wishing her all the best with her new endeavors and a bright future.●

TRIBUTE TO RETIRED MAYOR BETTY JO RHEA

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to one of South Carolina's leading ladies, Betty Jo Rhea. Betty Jo retired as Mayor of Rock Hill, South Carolina on January 20. With her retirement, my state loses one of its most beloved politicians and progressive leaders.

Betty Jo Rhea began her career of public service over 25 years ago, when she was appointed to the Rock Hill Parks and Recreation Commission. She was elected to the Rock Hill City Council in 1977, and has spent the last 20 years in the thick of her city's political fray.

In 1986, Rhea became Rock Hill's first woman Mayor. When she retired in January after 12 years in the office, she also was one of the city's longest serving and most popular mayors. During her tenure, Betty Jo focused her prodigious energies on attracting jobs to the region and preventing economic collapse in the wake of the closing of the textile mills that had underpinned Rock Hill's economy.

She has been incredibly successful. Not only did she help prevent a severe recession, she led Rock Hill in an economic rejuvenation. Under her leadership, the city built three business parks to attract large industries, began a downtown revitalization and preservation program, and started a successful recycling program in cooperation with Rock Hill Clean and Green.

But Betty Jo didn't stop there. She also went abroad to promote Rock Hill, serving as the region's most successful ambassador. She was President of the Municipal Association of South Carolina, on the board of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and active in the National League of Cities.

In recognition of her achievements and dedication to her community, the Municipal Association of South Carolina awarded Rhea the Allison Farlow

Award, its highest honor. And in appreciation of her support for recycling, conservation, and greenery programs, Rock Hill Clean and Green created the Rock Hill Environmental Action (RHEA) award, named in her honor. For Rhea's contributions to the community, Winthrop University bestowed on her an honorary doctorate.

As Betty Jo's friends and admirers know, her greatest attributes are her sunny disposition, charm, and complete devotion and loyalty to Rock Hill and its people. Of course, these qualities haven't hurt her in politics, either. They have won her many friends and allies; and no doubt her success as Mayor has been aided by her habit of baking homemade bread for City Council members at Christmas.

Fortunately for South Carolina, Betty Jo Rhea's retirement from her duties as Mayor is not a retirement from public life and community service. She is set to begin her new career as head of a fund-raising campaign for the arts, and she plans to volunteer with the Salvation Army. Rhea's days of ribbon-cutting are over, but the people of Rock Hill can look forward to many more years of her wise counsel and progressive leadership.

Mr. President, I salute Betty Jo Rhea. She exemplifies all the virtues of citizenship and political leadership. She has pursued politics not out of egotism, but rather from the sincere desire to help her neighbors and strengthen her community. Thanks to her leadership, Rock Hill has not only weathered economic hardship, it has ridden the storm to ever-rising economic heights.

As one of her many fans remarked upon her retirement, Betty Jo Rhea truly was "a people's mayor."●

RECOGNITION OF REPRESENTATIVE BONNIE SUE COOPER

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Missouri State Representative Bonnie Sue Cooper for her outstanding contributions to the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). As last year's Chairwoman, Bonnie Sue set a new leadership standard that will be a challenge for all future Chairpersons.

ALEC is the largest bipartisan, individual membership association of state legislators in the country. After serving as Vice-Chairwoman for two years, Bonnie Sue was voted Chairwoman for the 1997 term. According to Arkansas Speaker of the House Bobby Hogue, "In the year Bonnie Sue has been Chairman there has been progress on every front at ALEC. It has strengthened its policy making operations and raised its profile among both legislators and the private sector." Speaker Hogue replaced Bonnie Sue as Chairman.

Bonnie Sue has been an incredible leader, not only in the State of Missouri, but also at a National level. I enjoy seeing leadership of Bonnie Sue's caliber and know that there are only