IN RECOGNITION OF MICHIO KUSHI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michio Kushi, the 20th century developer of macrobiotics. This diet is the catalyst for many of the mainstream dietary and lifestyle changes currently taking place.

The Standard Macrobiotic diet has been practiced widely throughout history by all major civilizations and cultures. The Diet centers on whole cereal grains and their products and other plant quality. Twenty-five to thirty percent of daily food consists of vegetables and the remaining intake is comprised of soups, beans and sea vegetables. Consumption of products such as meat and dairy products are typically avoided. Michio Kushi, the founder of macrobiotics, was born in Japan and graduated from Tokyo University, the Faculty of Law, Department of Political Science. Influenced by the devastation of World War II, he decided to dedicate his life to the achievement of world peace and the development of humanity.

Kushi and his wife Aveline introduced macrobiotics to North America in the 1950s by establishing the first macrobiotic restaurant in New York. In the 1960s, the Kushis moved to Boston and founded Erewhon, the nation's pioneer natural foods distributor and manufacturer. Over the last thirty years Michio Kushi has taught throughout the United States and abroad, giving lectures and seminars on diet, health, consciousness and the peaceful meeting of East and West. In 1978, the Kushis founded the Kushi Institute, an educational organization for the training of future leaders of society, including macrobiotic teachers, counselors, cooks and lifestyle advisers. In 1986, Michio Kushi founded One Peaceful World, an international information network and friendship society of macrobiotic friends, families, business, educational center, and other associations to help guide society and contribute to world health and world peace. In the 1980s, Kushi began meeting with government and social leaders at the United Nations, the World Health Organization, and the White House. The health benefits of a macrobiotic diet have attracted the attention of leading medical professionals. The American Cancer Society reports that a macrobiotic diet may lower the risk of cancer.

The Smithsonian Institution will announce the acquisition of the Michio Kushi Family Collection on Macrobiotics and Alternative and Complementary Health Care during a special day-long event at the National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, June 9. The events include a symposium featuring Michio Kushi and his wife Aveline Kushi, an exhibit of macrobiotic food and books, and an awards presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Kushi for their significant role in the development of alternative and complementary health care and to the formation of the natural and whole foods movement.

I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in applauding the dedication and hard work of the Kushis in helping to educate the world's population on the benefits of the macrobiotic diet.

PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL AVIATION SAFETY

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, safety is our highest responsibility in aviation. The American travelling public has the right to expect the highest standards of safety when flying on a U.S. carrier or on a U.S. carrier's code share partner.

Last September, the aviation community received a wake up call when SwissAir flight 111 crashed off the shores of Nova Scotia. On board this fatal flight were 53 U.S. passengers who had purchased tickets from Delta Airlines for Delta flight 1111, but who flew on SwissAir, through an arrangement called code-sharing. This accident brought home the realization that, in a world of close alliances between domestic and foreign airlines, the lines separating domestic safety regulation and international safety regulation have been blurred. It is clearly time to reassess our safety activities to make certain the American travelling public flies safely, whether on a U.S. or a foreign carrier.

As relationships between domestic and foreign carriers continue to grow through code sharing, we need to take a hard look at whether safety has kept pace. Since 1994, the number of code-sharing alliances has more than doubled—from 61 to 163. A passenger who buys a ticket from a U.S. airline for a code-sharing flight (ticketed as a flight by a U.S. airline) has a right to expect that the entire flight will be operated under similar safety standards. Yet, put simply, there is not a process within the Department of Transportation (DOT) for assuring that a foreign code-share partner operates under safety standards similar to those governing U.S. airlines.

A look at the world's aviation safety record establishes the need for prompt action. There is a wide disparity in the accident rates for different regions, with Africa and South and Central America, for example, having an overall accident rate considerably higher than the world average. This suggests strongly that some carriers are not offering a similar level of safety as U.S. carriers. Unfortunately, DOT does not have a comprehensive mechanism in place to determine whether particular foreign carriers have safety deficiencies before code-sharing arrangements are approved.

Accordingly, I am introducing legislation today with my colleagues, ranking Aviation Subcommittee member Mr. LIPINSKI and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, that will dramatically improve DOT's organizational capability to assess whether a proposed foreign code share meets safety standards similar to those required of our U.S. carries.

The legislation would require a U.S. carrier seeking to code share with a foreign air carrier to conduct a comprehensive safety audit, including on-site inspections, of the foreign carrier's operations. Prior to receiving DOT approval of a foreign code share, the U.S. air carrier must certify to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) that the foreign air carrier meets the standards set forth in its FAA-approved safety audit program. In turn, the FAA would be required to conduct a comprehensive annual review of each domestic carrier's approved audit program, thus assuring that the FAA remains vigilant in its oversight of the carrier's implementation of that program. The domestic carrier would also conduct a periodic review of the foreign carrier's operations to ensure continued compliance with the safety standards. In addition, the FAA would be directed to work with the International Civil Aviation Organization to ensure that code-sharing oversight becomes a part of any foreign authority's air safety regulatory framework.

The importance of this requirement cannot be overstated. Currently, the FAA, which is responsible for safety oversight of our domestic carriers, conducts only limited review of foreign airlines participating in code-share agreements with our airlines. For foreign airlines, the FAA looks only at whether the flag country has a good institutional structure for regulating aviation safety. The FAA does not evaluate the safety of the foreign airline itself.

Delta's recent suspension of its code-share with Korean Air underscores this point. The FAA had no safety concerns with the arrangement because South Korea has a system for regulating safety that, on paper, appeared adequate. However, in this case—and possibly in far too many other cases—there appears to be little correlation between FAA's assessment of the foreign regulatory system and the actual safety performance of a carrier.

That observation is not meant to fault FAA for its efforts to assess the aviation regulatory systems of foreign governments. The FAA's assessment does provide valuable information about the structure and capabilities of a particular country's civil aviation authority; it does not provide specifics about a particular foreign code-share partner, when the changing nature of international aviation demands such an assessment.

This legislation will respond to the challenge of increasing the safety margin for the American traveling public by establishing a process for making meaningful safety judgments about foreign airlines.

I urge my colleagues to join me in co-sponsoring this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO THE MENNONITE COLLEGE OF NURSING

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mennonite College of Nursing in Bloomington, Illinois on the occasion of their 80th year. Not only is this an historic marker on the College's time line, but on July 1, 1999, this fine institution will combine with Illinois State University, ensuring that its fine traditions and quality educational programs continue far into the next century.

The Mennonite College of Nursing was founded in 1919, as the Mennonite Sanitarium Training School, with the purpose of providing a Christian ministry though the operation of a hospital and a diploma school of nursing. Since its founding, the school has provided cutting edge training for its students. In the early 1980's and to meet the changes nursing education needed by changing health care delivery systems, the Board of Directors decided to transition Mennonite Hospital School of

Nursing into Mennonite College of Nursing, awarding a four-year baccalaureate degree, the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

The North Central Association awarded Mennonite College of Nursing institutional accreditation in 1986. Mennonite College of Nursing made nursing history as the first independent upper-division single purpose institution of nursing education in the U.S. to receive accreditation from the National League for Nursing.

In 1995, Mennonite implemented the Graduate program, with its first educational track for Family Nurse Practitioner. And in 1998, the Master of Science in Nursing degree program was awarded initial accreditation by the National League of Nursing.

The mission of the Mennonite College of Nursing is to educate beginning and advanced practitioners of nursing to go beyond academia and serve the citizens of central Illinois and the world. In keeping with the traditions of its roots, this fine institution has placed a particular focus on addressing the health care needs of both urban and rural populations, including those who are most vulnerable and under served.

In reviewing the work of the College's many graduates, it is clear they have been successful in not only teaching the technical skills of the nursing profession, but in instilling a whole philosophy of ministering to the sick. Unlike other schools, at the core of its curriculum, the Mennonite College of Nursing promotes four key values. They are: the affirmation of the dignity and worth of all persons; the recognition of the wholeness of life; the responsible use of nature; and the promotion of a life of peace.

Mr. Speaker, I am greatly honored to have this fine professional school in my district. With 83% of its graduates remaining in Central Illinois, I can affirm the fact that the quality of life in our communities has benefited greatly the Mennonite College of Nursing.

Mr. Speaker, the important work of the Mennonite College of Nursing needs to be recognized by this Congress, so that the school is forever acknowledged before the American people as it becomes the sixth academic college of Illinois State University. I am very proud to have the Mennonite College of Nursing in the 15th district of Illinois, and I ask all of my colleagues to join me in extending our heartfelt congratulations to this outstanding institution.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD D. REYNOLDS

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Richard D. Reynolds, a life long resident of Southern Illinois, who was born on April 13, 1938. I want to take this opportunity to recognize a true gentleman who stands firmly on his commitments. Richard has had a long history working for labor in southern Illinois and is retiring as business manager/secretary treasurer of Southern and Central Illinois Laborer's District Council at the end of this month. Richard joined the union movement in 1975, when he joined Southern Illinois Laborers' Local Union 1330. Richard has dedicated many years of his life to protecting the rights of workers and laborers in Illinois. His tireless efforts have led to many improvements for a great number of Southern Illinoisans. He represents a group of people who do honest work and expect, and have received from Richard, strong and dedicated union leadership. He has contributed to nearly double the counties his union covers. The union staff has grown from 1 to 20, and he has helped the union raise thousands of dollars for charitable causes. Richard's service with the union is truly outstanding and has helped push the labor movement forward to a stronger level.

Richard's accomplishments will not soon be forgotten and I know that he will be greatly missed by many. When a man retires who has dedicated so much of his life to improving the lives of others, we all must strive to keep up the good work of that man and not forget the ideals and values which guided him. Mr. Speaker, I invite all of my colleagues to honor Richard Reynolds and to not only wish him the best in his retirement but also God's speed.

TRIBUTE TO THE EXPLORAVISION AWARDS PROGRAM

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, Mrs. MORELLA, and I are proud to announce the introduction of the ExploraVision Resolution, a concurrent resolution to honor the ExploraVision Awards Program and to encourage more students to participate in this innovative national student science competition.

This program, sponsored by Toshiba and administered by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), is the largest K–12 student science competition in the world. Working in teams of 3 or 4 with a teacher-advisor, students use their imaginations to envision a form of technology 20 years from now, and compete by sharing their vision through written descriptions and story boards.

ExploraVision is truly an innovative program that energizes students with a desire to learn and increases their interest in the world of science. We are pleased to see the role this competition takes in developing students' science skills to meet the challenges of the future. We commend the efforts NSTA and Toshiba put into making the competition meaningful and beneficial to the students.

On June 4, more than 40 students came to our Nation's capital to receive top honors in the 1999 ExploraVision Awards. We applaud the student winners for their hard work, creativity, and ability to function together as a team to explore innovative scientific work for the future. With their enthusiasm for learning and their commitment to scientific excellence, the future of our Nation is in good hands.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this resolution to support the goals of the ExploraVision Awards Program, and to commend the student winners for their outstanding accomplishment.

MASAKOWSKI ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 1999

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my long time friend, Monsignor John C. Masakowski, who celebrated the 50th anniversary of his Ordination on June 4, 1999. It is my pleasure to have been invited to participate in this milestone celebration.

Monsignor Masakowski, or Father John as he is affectionately known to his parishioners, is the son of the late John and Stasia Gorney Masakowski. He was born in my hometown of Nanticoke in 1924 and educated in our local schools. Father John left the area to receive his degree in philosophy at St. Mary's College in Orchard Lake, Michigan and his degree in theology from SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, also in Orchard Lake. He was ordained at St. Peter's Cathedral of Scranton by the late Bishop William Hafey.

Father's first assignment was at St. Mary's parish in Swoyersville, where he served for ten years. Father John, along with the help of Judge Bernard Brominski, established the Assumpta Council of the Knights of Columbus and served as the Council's chaplain.

Father John served as secretary to Bishop Henry Klonowski at Scranton's Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary parish for the next several years before serving at St. Mary's Church in Wilkes-Barre. He was assigned as the administrator of St. Mary's Church in Wanamie and later as administrator of St. Joseph's Church in Hanover, where he oversaw the extensive remodeling and repairs of the church building.

In 1971, Father John became the twelfth pastor of his present church, Larksville's St. John the Baptist Church. Father John has had the church remodeled and refurbished during his tenure at St. John's and built a chapel in the parish cemetery in 1985. He reorganized the parish societies and reinstated the locally-famous parish picnic. Not long after he came to St. John's, he organized the construction of a grotto to Our Lady of the Pines. In 1983, he organized the Fourth Degree Assembly in honor of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

Mr. Speaker, the beautiful St. John's Church is a landmark in Larksville due to the labors of the church's dedicated parish leader. His church and parish have always remained his top priority. On July 10, 1990, Father John was rewarded for his dedication with his designation as Monsignor Masakowski.

I have always considered Monsignor Masakowski to be a close family friend and have appreciated the warm welcome I always receive when visiting. Father John's extraordinary sensitivity was demonstrated to me when he offered me great comfort by participating in my mother's funeral mass. I will always be grateful for the warmth and kindness of that gesture.

As St. John the Baptist Church celebrates its Centennial Celebration his year, I am pleased and proud to join with all of my friends at the parish in congratulating Monsignor Masakowski on his milestone anniversary. I send my very best wishes to this beloved and respected man.