

to learn from the artist his/her aesthetic aims for the work; how it was intended to be displayed, performed or interpreted; and what influences affected the artist.

Our proposal represents an important step in providing some tax incentive, with needed safeguards, for the creators and moves toward putting them on the same footing as collectors who contribute similar property. It could make the difference in a decision by the creator/donor to contribute some of their created work to a museum or public library. That way important works are preserved and we all benefit. We urge our colleagues to join in cosponsoring this legislation.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE MORTGAGE AND RENTAL ASSISTANCE REAUTHORIZATION ACT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 2003*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of legislation that I am reintroducing with my colleague, JOSE SERRANO of New York. Following the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001, individuals who required temporary housing assistance relied upon the Mortgage and Rental Assistance program (MRA), included in the Stafford Act, for aid. Under the MRA program, which can be used for both natural and non-natural disasters, they may have been eligible for grants to repair homes to a habitable condition, or to obtain mortgage or rental payment assistance to prevent foreclosures or evictions.

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 amended the Stafford Act to end the program in May 2002. Without this program, thousands of people affected by future major disasters, including hurricanes, earthquakes, and terrorist acts, may be unable to obtain any assistance to address their housing needs.

This legislation reauthorizes this program so that it will be available in the future. Although there were clear problems with FEMA's implementation of the MRA program in New York after 9/11, progress has been made to ensure that FEMA assists all the individuals who have experienced these types of housing problems because of the terrorist attack. With the program finally running the way it should, we must take the necessary steps now to guarantee that anyone affected by future disasters will have the aid that they need.

#### DO-NOT-CALL IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday February 12, 2003*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, as someone who has, my share of unsolicited telemarketing calls, I sympathize fully with the concerns of the sponsors of the Do-Not-Call Implementation Act (HR 395). However, I would remind those who support federal intervention to "put a stop" to telemarketing on the basis of its annoyance, that the Constitution prohibits the

federal government from interfering in the areas of advertising and communications.

In addition to exceeding Congress' constitutional authority, legislation to regulate telemarketing would allow the government to intrude further into our personal lives. Our country's founders recognized the genius of severely limiting the role of government and reserving to the people extensive liberties, including the freedom to handle problems like this on the local level and through private institutions. The fact that the privately-run Direct Marketing Association is operating its own "do-not-call" list is evidence that consumers need not rely upon the national government to address the problems associated with telemarketers. Furthermore, many state public utility commissions have imposed regulations on telemarketers. Further regulation at the federal level will only result in a greater loss of liberty. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to take the constitutional course and oppose the Do-Not-Call Implementation Act.

#### RECOGNITION OF SUSAN B. ANTHONY'S BIRTHDAY

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 2003*

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, when we hear the term "women's rights" we must think of the early suffragette Susan B. Anthony who fought to establish equality for women. But few people equate this woman with the plight of the unborn.

I'd like to take the opportunity, on this 183rd year following her birth, to commemorate the woman who fought to bring equality to women, African Americans, and unborn children.

Long before pro-choice advocates took the term "women's rights" for their own cause, Susan B. Anthony and the early suffragists were advocating "women's rights." Among the women's rights demanded by the suffragists was the right of a mother to give birth to her child. In fact, Anthony has been quoted as stating that abortion destroys a woman's life, wronging her greatly. For Anthony, women's rights and the rights of unborn children are partners in the same cause.

Let us recognize in the voice of Susan B. Anthony the truth that abortion is a great wrong. Mothers who choose to have an abortion both extinguish the light of their unborn child and inflict almost certain emotional damage upon themselves. There is no reason for this needless pain and suffering to go on.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF THE ELKS, NAPA, CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 2003*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, Napa Chapter, for providing 100 years of out-

standing community service throughout the Napa Valley in my home state of California.

Over the past century, every corner of our community has benefited from the contributions made from the distinguished membership of the Napa Elks Lodge #832. From its stage productions that entertained an entire community throughout the early 1900's to the charitable contributions it has provided families needing shelter, food and education, the Napa Elks Lodge has been a cornerstone of our community.

When the youth of our area need help in funding school programs or financial assistance to attend college, the Napa's Elks Lodge is always there with a helping hand. The same holds true for assisting community organizations that help our most vulnerable neighbors. Last year alone, dedicated Elks members raised over \$8,000 for the Napa Emergency Women's Services, Children or Parents Emergency Services, Youth Programs and Job Rehabilitation. Every year it awards over \$20,000 in college scholarships to graduating high school seniors.

Mr. Speaker, during this past century the Napa Elks Lodge has been more than a tremendous service organization. Its members have provided daily examples of personal and social responsibility as well as advocating the Elks principles of justice, fidelity, charity and the spirit of American patriotism. Kelly Lamm, who will become the next Exalted Ruler, exemplifies the progression of this outstanding organization. A past board member of the local women's bar association and long-time volunteer with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program, Ms. Lamm's commitment to service is a model of the true Elks character. She will soon be accepting the reigns from Exalted Leader Bret Meltzer who has provided outstanding leadership in guiding the Lodge to its recent successes.

Mr. Speaker, the Elks represent a dedicated and meaningful fabric of our community. As they are the standard by which other service organizations should compare themselves, it is most appropriate that we honor them on their centennial celebration.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH ACT OF 2003

**HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 2003*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the Environmental Health Research Act of 2003.

Arctic polar bears show high concentrations of certain synthetic compounds in their tissues. Whales in the world's oceans carry PCBs and other contaminants at concentrations that cause developmental defects in humans.

U.S. streams and groundwater show widespread contamination with chemicals, dioxins, and antibiotics. Alligators in Florida's lakes suffer from reproductive problems that appear to be associated with chronic chemical contamination. New studies have made a persuasive case that contaminants were in part or wholly responsible for the loss of the lake trout and herring in the Great Lakes many decades ago.

Rates of infertility, the incidence of testicular cancer in young men, Parkinson's disease, autism, endometriosis, childhood diabetes, and asthma have risen dramatically since 1970.

Is there a connection between all of these events? There is reason to believe there might be, but the truth is we simply don't know enough to conclude one way or the other.

There is mounting evidence from the scientific community that exposure to certain environmental toxins, even at low doses, may cause adverse effects on development, growth, reproduction, metabolism, and other hormone-dependent processes in humans. Research interest is growing dramatically as our fear also grows that the pesticides, medicinal drugs, plant hormones, and industrial compounds that we confront every day may be causing many of our health ailments.

In its Report on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals released two weeks ago, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found disturbing exposure levels in individuals. The report calls for further research into this area to find out whether or not the levels CDC measured in its study lead to health problems.

Today, I am proud to introduce the Environmental Health Research Act. This bill would authorize the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to provide grants to either public or non-profit private groups to develop and operate six centers that would conduct research into women's environmental health, and to establish a comprehensive research program on the impact and occurrence of hormone disrupting chemicals as they affect human, ecological, and wildlife health.

This bill is enormously important, and long overdue. To date, federal research on hormone disruption and environmental toxins has been scattershot and underfunded. The research program authorized through this legislation will enable NIEHS to gather solid data about the dangers posed by some chemicals and the mechanisms through which they act. With this information in hand, we can make sensible, informed decisions and policies about our own and our children's health and well-being.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Hormone Disruption Research Act. We owe it to future generations to pursue this scientific research, which has implications for every one of us.

#### THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE

#### HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 2003*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 85th anniversary of Lithuanian independence and the 13th anniversary of freedom from Soviet occupation. In Southfield, Michigan, the Lithuanian-American Community of Michigan will be gathering on Sunday, February 16, 2003 at Divine Providence Lithuanian Catholic Church to celebrate this historic event.

In February 1918, Lithuania declared its independence from Czarist Russia. During this period, Lithuanians were free to follow their

cultural traditions and express their national identity. The Molotov-Ribbentrop pact of 1939 caused Lithuania to spend the next five decades under Soviet domination, forced to deny their heritage, their language and their traditions.

Despite the military might and repressive acts of the Soviets, the Lithuanians never lost touch with their roots and never lost their will. Lithuania's re-established independence in 1990 served as a testament to the courage, endurance and strength of the Lithuanian people. I was fortunate enough to be in Lithuania as its people celebrated the regaining of its independence.

In the 13 short years since the re-establishment of its independence, Lithuania has made extraordinary advances in restoring democracy, ensuring human rights, securing the rule of law, developing a free market economy, and cultivating friendly relations with neighboring countries. Such achievements should be an inspiration to people everywhere.

Mr. Speaker, I unite with Lithuanian-Americans and Lithuanians around the world in celebrating their independence day.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE PRIVACY PROTECTION CLARIFICATION ACT

#### HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 2003*

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleague, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, in introducing The Privacy Protection Clarification Act.

Gramm-Leach-Bliley was landmark legislation that for the first time permitted companies to engage in banking, insurance and securities transactions simultaneously. While considering these new freedoms for entities to operate across business lines, Congress also wanted to ensure that consumer privacy would not be placed at risk.

Title V sought to address this issue by giving regulators latitude to enforce privacy provisions among financial institutions. Unfortunately, in interpreting the language of the law, some confusion has arisen over what, specifically, those "financial institutions" might be.

Well, in seeking to clarify the confusion, the Federal Trade Commission concluded that "financial institutions" include any business that "significantly engages in financial activities." What's the definition of "significantly"? Well, it could be as little as once a year. And what's a financial activity? There are four: debt collecting, financial advisory activities, tax planning preparation and advising, and leasing real or personal property.

Okay, that's fair enough. But in writing its regulations in this way, the Federal Trade Commission appears to have unintentionally swept under its umbrella the one group of professionals that already is governed by the strictest possible confidentiality or privacy regulations.

What group is this? It's attorneys.

Attorneys already are bound by a duty of confidentiality, enforceable under the laws of all 50 states, that prevents misuse of client information and provides a higher degree of privacy than Gramm-Leach-Bliley. For example, lawyers in my home state, Illinois, are prohib-

ited from releasing confidential information. Our code reads, "except in certain specified circumstances, a lawyer shall not, during or after termination of the professional relationship with the client, use or reveal a confidence or secret of the client known to the lawyer unless the client consents after disclosure."

And Illinois is no exception. All 50 states have equally restrictive language. In all 50 states, lawyers who violate these laws face disbarment and/or other penalties that are much more onerous than those for a violation of Title V under Gramm-Leach-Bliley.

Do attorneys "significantly engage in financial activities" as defined by the FTC? Yes, some attorneys do give tax-planning advice. Others may handle debt collection cases.

Still others may take up cases related to the other two named "financial activities" providing financial advice or leasing real or personal property.

Yet in order to comply with the privacy provisions under Gramm-Leach-Bliley, these attorneys now run the risk of violating the client-confidentiality restrictions placed on their profession.

Why is that? Well, under the FTC interpretation, every attorney who engages in any of the four defined "financial activities" for a non-corporate client must mail to that client a privacy notice—every year, for as long as he or she is in practice. And what does that privacy notice convey? Well, it informs clients that they may direct their attorney not to share their personal information with other entities—the so-called "opt-out" provision of Gramm-Leach-Bliley. Yet the attorney-client confidentiality relationship is, by nature, an "opt-in" protection.

In short, for attorneys, the very act of disclosing a privacy policy can create a confidentiality violation.

This was not the intent of Congress. It was not our intent to regulate attorney-client relations. Our intent was to regulate the growing use and sale of consumers' personal information for marketing, profiling and other commercial purposes by banks, thrifts, securities firms, insurance companies, credit unions, and other bona fide financial institutions.

At the end of the day, our bill will make the intention of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act crystal clear. The scope of the law was not intended to include law firms and sole practicing lawyers.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

#### RECOGNIZING THE COURAGE AND SACRIFICE OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES HELD AS PRISONERS OF WAR DURING THE VIETNAM CONFLICT AND CALLING FOR A FULL ACCOUNTING OF THOSE WHO REMAIN UNACCOUNTED FOR

SPEECH OF

#### HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 12, 2003*

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, those of us who have served our country in war understand in our hearts what every American understands in his head. We understand what it says—carved in stone—on the Korean War