

TRIBUTE TO LAYLA WILLIS

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2000

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, "We have a lot of fun. We don't sweat the small stuff." That is the message of Layla Willis, a resident of Evergreen, CO, who was recently named "Mother of the Year" by Working Mother magazine.

By balancing her full time job, which requires frequent travel, with the daily tasks of raising three children, Layla has set an example for all working mothers to follow.

The message she brings forth rings true in all our lives. Many times we have to stop and dwell on issues or problems that will have a minimal impact in the grand scheme of our lives. But the growth and development of our children and grandchildren is significant and deserves our utmost attention.

Today, it is imperative in most homes that both parents work. My wife and I both worked full time jobs, as did my mother, but we can all stop and take steps to ensure that, regardless of this, our children never feel neglected. Layla has shown us all that it can be done in today's hectic lifestyles.

I would also like to commend Layla for her commitment in providing all children with a well rounded after school curriculum. With working parents, many children have a void in their lives when they leave school. Layla realizes that students need tutoring for school subjects, and other extra curricular activities that develop skills such as arts and crafts, sports and reading.

I urge all parents in Colorado and America who must work, to follow Layla's example, make your family the number one priority and stop sweating the small stuff.

HONORING CALIFORNIA
DISTINGUISHED SCHOOLS**HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2000

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize several exceptional elementary schools within my district. The California Distinguished Schools Program will honor Robinson Elementary of Manhattan Beach Unified, Rancho Vista Elementary of Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified, Tulita Elementary of Redondo Beach Unified, and Edison Elementary of Torrance Unified in an awards ceremony tomorrow. Started in 1985, the California Department of Education program recognizes a school's commitment to providing a superior education.

A total of 233 California grade schools were chosen for the annual awards. These schools were recognized with having the most up to date technology, balanced and rigorous curricula, and qualified, talented faculty. Most importantly, they are schools with the utmost student-teacher interaction as well as school-community interaction.

These schools value the cultural diversity of the local communities and make it a priority in their classes. They pay close attention to the

needs of each student, emphasizing the importance of academics and the community.

I commend these schools for providing local children a quality education. Their commitment to parental participation, professional development, community involvement, and academic achievement is exemplary. Education is important to the future of our nation. I wish these schools continued success.

IDEA FULL FUNDING ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4055, the IDEA Full Funding Act. Since the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act became law in 1975, the federal government has not lived up to its promise of providing 40 percent of the extra cost for state and local governments to educate these children.

I am proud to have participated in the effort over the past four years to increase IDEA funding by \$2.6 billion, or 115 percent. These important increases have only brought the federal contribution to 12.6 percent of the average per pupil expenditure to educate children with disabilities. We must do better. This legislation will authorize increases in special education spending by \$2 billion a year until we reach the federal commitment of 40 percent by the year 2010.

As a former schoolteacher in Orchard Park, New York, I am acutely aware of the burdens placed upon local school systems to educate special needs students. We owe it to these children to live up to our financial commitment. If the federal government lives up to its commitment to fund IDEA, the state and local school districts are then free to spend their money on classroom modernization, technology initiatives, hiring more teachers and buying new textbooks for students. This legislation ensures that special education students are given the proper resources, while at the same time, releases funding to help all students.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4055, the IDEA Full Funding Act.

TRIBUTE TO RAYMOND L. ORBACH

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2000

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with the California Inland Empire Council Boy Scouts of America in saluting Dr. Raymond L. Orbach as their Distinguished Citizen of the Year—2000.

Dr. Raymond L. Orbach has been Chancellor at the University of California, Riverside for eight years, where he is also Distinguished Professor of Physics. At UCR, Chancellor Orbach has made community service and partnerships the focal point of his administration. The major part of that focal point is the students themselves. In fact, to remain in touch with the student population, he teaches

the calculus-based freshman Physics course at UCR every winter quarter.

Chancellor Orbach has been and continues to be a shining example of a person with passion and principles, who has strived to change the cultural and political direction of our nation. His approach and policy has been a simple one, that a community's strength comes from just that—the community. We must first start close to home and then radiate out if we hope to have fulfilling lives and impact others.

We have a vast system of public higher education in this country; a network of great state universities and colleges. Today we enjoy academic excellence in America as it is enjoyed nowhere else in the world. Chancellor Orbach is responsible for that part of America's incredible educational experiment known as UCR.

Every student at UC Riverside is the beneficiary of this man, who is deeply committed to educating our nation's young people and ensuring that they have a bright future. In fact, a New York Times Magazine article, in May of 1999, lauded Chancellor Orbach for his passion and principles. He is one person, making a difference. Chancellor Orbach reminds us what we, as Americans, ought to be. What we, as Americans, are capable of achieving.

Since 1910, the Boy Scout has been the epitome of the good American citizen. He has been instilled with the drive to "help other people at all times," and to keep himself "physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight." To do this he must be: trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

Chancellor Orbach has gone above and beyond the Boy Scout protocol. I ask all of my colleagues in Congress to please join me in honoring the Chancellor for his courage, innovation, and commitment to the youth of tomorrow as he is recognized on May 8th.

THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 12, 2000

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, each year on the 24th of April we commemorate the anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. As we begin a new century, it is critical that we redouble our efforts to battle the forces of hatred and intolerance that perpetuate the persecution of people because of their ethnic, racial or religious identity. The massacre of Armenians in Turkey during and after the World War One is recorded as the first state-ordered genocide against a minority group in the 20th Century. Tragically, Mr. Speaker, it was not the last. In the 85 years since this unspeakable tragedy, the world has witnessed decades of genocide and ethnic cleansing, wholesale persecution of people simply because of who they are—European Jews, Bosnian Muslims, the Tutsis of Rwanda, Kosovar Albanians.

Mr. Speaker, as we reflect on the magnitude of the Armenian genocide and those that followed in the past century, the words of Helen Keller ring true. "No loss by flood and lightning, no destruction of cities and temples by the hostile forces of nature has deprived man

of so many noble lives and impulses as those which his intolerance has destroyed," she said.

Mr. Speaker, we honor the memory of the Armenian people who perished and express our condolences to their descendants. We stand with them and together reflect upon the meaning and lessons of their suffering and sacrifice. We must reflect, we must learn, but we must also be prepared to act. Let us vow in this century and for all future generations to make the words "never again" ring true.

Mr. Speaker, while we remember their tragic history we also marvel at the strength and determination of the Armenian people. Independent Armenian statehood has been restored to guarantee the security and future of the nation and serves as an inspiration to Armenian people everywhere. Since gaining its independence Armenia has made great strides in fortifying democratic institutions and promoting a market economy, but the road has not been easily traveled and the way ahead will not be without challenge. Mr. Speaker, we also honor the memory of Armenia's leaders who were killed by a shameless band of assassins last year. We express our condolences to their families and to the people of Armenia.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that the Armenian people will continue to strengthen their democracy and prosper. It is my fervent hope that the parties to the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh will renew and redouble their efforts to reach a negotiated settlement and to help bring peace and prosperity to the entire region—now and for generations to come.

HONORING BISHOP WALTER EMILE BOGAN, SR.

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today I honor one of Flint, Michigan's top citizens. On April 14, The Great Lakes Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Michigan will perform a sacred and heartfelt ceremony, as they consecrate and install Bishop Walter Emile Bogan, Sr. as their Jurisdictional Bishop. Bishop Bogan, who pastors the Harris Memorial Church of God in Christ in Burton, Michigan, succeeds another great man, Bishop C.L. Anderson, Jr., who was called back to the Lord on September 15, 1999.

Walter Emile Bogan has long been considered one of Flint's favorite sons. He was born in the city in 1948, the eldest sibling of William and Norma Bogan. During a youth revival conducted by his grandfather, Walter heard his first calling, and received baptism on August 27, 1967. Two months later, he accepted his call to the ministry and became ordained in August 1969 by his late father-in-law and mentor, Bishop C.J. Johnson, Sr. He continued his studies at such institutions as Moody Bible Institute, Morehouse College, Charles Stewart Mott Community College, and the University of Michigan. He also began a career with the General Motors Corporation, becoming the first African-American Journeyman Pipefitter for Chevrolet Metal Fabrication.

In July of 1970, Bishop Bogan was appointed by Bishop J.O. Patterson, Sr. as Inter-

national Assistant Chief Adjutant and Vice President of the International Youth Department for the Church of God in Christ. He has also served as District Superintendent of the Progressive District and Special Administrative Assistant to Bishop Anderson. The insight and guidance Bishop Bogan received from his experiences and from the associations with the elder Bishops that prepared him for the tasks that were to come. They also allowed him to become a stronger leader and role model, able to create as tremendous an impact as he had received.

As Jurisdictional Bishop, Bishop Bogan will oversee approximately 50 churches throughout Flint, Pontiac, Detroit, and other Michigan cities. Through this, he will affect thousands of people both inside and outside the churches under his care. He has already taken steps to further his agenda, which includes the development and nurturing of smaller congregations, assistance in creating new churches, an educational fund to help youth pursue higher education, and a support network for windows. In addition, Bishop Bogan plans to spread the Lord's message by feeding the hungry, provide shelter for the homeless, counsel the misguided, and much more.

Mr. Speaker, our community would not be the same without the presence of Bishop Walter Emile Bogan, Sr. Just as I consider it an honor and a pleasure to serve here as a Member of Congress, he reaffirms that the church owes him nothing, for he also considers it a pleasure to serve. I know that our community, and now our extended community will become a better place to live in because of Bishop Bogan's spiritual mission. I am pleased to ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in congratulating him on his new endeavor.

IDEA FULL FUNDING ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4055, the (IDEA) Full Funding Act, which sets the federal government on a course to reach full funding of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). I am a cosponsor of this bipartisan legislation and I want to thank the House Leadership or bringing it to the floor for consideration.

Simply put, IDEA has the honorable intent of providing a quality public education for children with special needs. It requires school districts to provide programs and related services for special needs student and commits the federal government to provide 40 percent of the cost of those programs. However, since IDEA was implemented in 1975, the federal government hasn't been come close to the 40 percent if promised. The federal government currently pays only about 12.6 percent of the program's costs.

Because of the financial burden the underfunded IDEA program places on school districts, the Ventura County Superintendent of Schools and other members of my local Education Advisory Council identified IDEA as their number one federal education issue. The federal government's failure to keep its prom-

ises to fund its share of IDEA is putting a back breaking strain on local school districts. This shortfall is hurting the students the act was designed to help, and every other public school student as well.

H.R. 4055 sets a schedule to meet the 40 percent commitment by fiscal year 2010. This bill will authorize increases of \$2 billion each year to ensure the federal government's commitment becomes reality in 10 years.

I am pleased that we are already working toward this goal by committing to an additional \$2 billion for IDEA in the Fiscal Year 2001 Budget Resolution. However, the IDEA Full Funding Act will ensure we meet this goal. I hope we can pass this bill on a bipartisan basis to fully fund IDEA and finally make good on our promises.

I urge my colleagues to support this Bill.

WELCOME HOME MEMBERS OF THE 69TH PRESS CAMP HEAD-QUARTERS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join family, friends and neighbors in welcoming home the returning members of the 69th Press Camp Headquarters from their deployment to Bosnia-Herzegovina and Hungary.

Comprised of 25 members of the California Army National Guard and the Nevada National Guard, the unit, headquartered in Fairfield, was mobilized and deployed overseas in September 1999 in support of Operation Joint Forge.

Operating the Coalition Press Information Center at The Eagle Base in Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as the Media Center in Tazsar, Hungary, the 69th Press Camp Headquarters performed an invaluable role keeping the world informed about NATO's military and peacekeeping operations.

Each day, they held press briefings to the international press who, in turn, kept citizens everywhere alert to the ongoing operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina. They were also responsible for publishing two publications, The American Endeavor and The Talon for the benefit of both U.S. and NATO forces.

Mr. Speaker, I note the record that the 69th Press Camp Headquarters received the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the NATO Medal and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" Device (denoting mobilization). But these awards cannot fully convey the heartfelt thanks Americans have for the dedication and sacrifice of these Guard members.

For more than 9 months, these individuals were away from family and friends. For more than 9 months, they performed a key role in answering questions from skeptics and critics and supplying information about NATO's operations—balancing accuracy with operational security needs. They did an admirable job.

But nothing compares to the homecoming they will receive this weekend. I am pleased to join family, friends and neighbors in welcoming the members of the 69th Press Camp Headquarters and in saying "thank you" and "job well done."