

bad—embodies the entrepreneurial spirit that makes America so great.

While the success of their carpet business speaks volumes about Ruth and Harland, their enduring legacy rests in their beautiful family. Harland and Ruth are the proud parents of four—Kathy, Mike, Jean, and Todd—the grandparents of 14—Kelly Paxton, Rachel Jacob, Jake Zambrano, Amanda Hamblin, Elissa Zambrano, Joey Pepper, Josh Zambrano, Megan Lawson, Greg Jacob, Matt Pepper, David Pepper, Manon Jacob, Luke Jacob, and Amelia Jacob—and the great-grandparents of six more—Alexia Zambrano, Jerika Hamblin, Alex Zambrano, Arianna Zambrano, Sydney Hamblin, and Josh Zambrano.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, the Jacob family has been very blessed over the course of the last 50 years. As my friends Harland and Ruth celebrate this wonderful occasion, I want to wish them congratulations and continued happiness on behalf of their many friends, family, and neighbors. Ruth and Harland, we are all very proud of you!

HALT PHARMACEUTICAL LOBBYING TO PHYSICIANS TO INCREASE R&D

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD several examples of unsolicited drug company “freebies” a Florida physician received in just one week. Over the years, I have received numerous examples of doctors being given free meals, cocktails, travel subsidies and recreational events—all financed by pharmaceutical companies. Drug companies spend billions a year promoting their products to physicians through these very questionable tactics instead of using this money for life-saving research and development.

Last January, the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) found that more than \$11 billion is spent each year by drug companies promoting and marketing their products—with about \$8,000 to \$13,000 spent per year on each physician. JAMA concluded that present physician-industry interactions adversely affects prescribing and professional behavior.

Additionally, a March USA Today article described a growing trend among pharmaceutically-financed advertising and marketing firms to sponsor physician continuing medical education (CME) courses that doctors in 34 states need to keep their licenses. These marketing firms are paid by drug companies that often hire faculty to teach these courses to push their sponsors’ products.

Such evidence of pharmaceutical waste, the adverse impact of drug company gifts on prescribing practices and the need for increased pharmaceutical R&D led me to introduce H.R. 4089, the Save Money for Prescription Drug Research Act of 2000. My bill would deny tax deductions to drug companies for certain gifts and benefits provided to physicians (other than product samples) and instead encourage drug companies to use those funds for a much more important use—pharmaceutical research and development.

Research and development is much more important than drug company promotions. Our nation has reaped great rewards as a result of pharmaceutical research. Pharmaceutical and biotech research have led to the discovery of lifesaving cures and treatments for ailments that would have cut lives short in earlier years. But drug companies can do more. Think of all the additional lives that could be saved if the pharmaceutical industry dedicated the resources now spent on physician promotions to R&D.

Mr. Speaker, Congress has a responsibility to put an end to this pharmaceutical “giftgiving” and to encourage research and development of life-saving drugs. The drug industry’s lobbying of physicians, which clearly leads to distorted, inappropriate, overprescribing of drugs, must be brought to an end.

HONORING MRS. HAZEL PAHLER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I want to ask that we all pause for a moment to remember a woman who we have lost, Hazel Pahler. Though she is gone, she will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

Mrs. Pahler was a first lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps. She was laid to rest with full military honors, in Grand Junction, Colorado after her battle with cancer. Mrs. Pahler was a nurse who witnessed the horrors of war. She was dedicated to her profession and was able to endure all the hardships of war while remaining focused on the welfare of the soldiers.

As a result of her untiring efforts, Mrs. Pahler earned many awards. She has been honored with the European, African and Middle Eastern medals, the American Defense Medal, the Red Cross Service Pin, the World War II Victory Medal and three Overseas Service Bars. She is a remarkable person that devoted her life to the service of others.

Hazel Pahler is someone who will be missed by many. Her friends and family will miss the woman that they all enjoyed spending time with. The rest of us will miss this woman who exemplified the selflessness that so few truly possess. But, when we lose a woman such as Mrs. Pahler, being missed is certainly no precursor to being forgotten. And everyone who ever knew her will walk through life a bit differently for it.

TRIBUTE TO THE CONSUMER LEAGUE OF NEW JERSEY

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of a remarkable organization, the Consumers League of New Jersey (CLNJ), which was recognized on Tuesday, May 16, 2000 because of its many years of service and leadership at a dinner celebration in West Orange, New Jersey. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the

group, so it is only fitting that these words are immortalized in the annals of this greatest of all freely elected bodies.

Since 1900, the Consumers League has fought for the rights of consumers. Congress used ideas from CLNJ testimony in the U.S. Home Equity Loan Consumer Protection Act, to prohibit “rate rise surprise.” Congress also adopted a CLNJ measure to help save homes from foreclosure, by giving homeowners a chance to pay their mortgages through bankruptcy payment plans. The league helps people shop for credit with a pamphlet on low-cost credit cards. Consumers League also helps low income consumers with its “rent to own” campaign.

Consumers League of New Jersey is non-partisan. CLNJ does not make endorsements nor does it contribute money to candidates. They give people an honest opinion, and try to persuade elected officials to help consumers.

In the early 1900s children worked in factories, and many of the protections of modern life which we take for granted were non-existent. Consumers League struggled for 35 years before its original agenda of safe food, safe working conditions, prohibitions on child labor, promotion of minimum wages laws and union protections, was enacted into law as the New Deal.

CLNJ has always been ahead of the country in its vision of justice. It was not until the New Deal that many of the reforms championed by CLNJ became law. CLNJ was a founding member of the National Consumers League (NCL), and worked with NCL and unions to bring about change. CLNJ also took up the cause of the “watch-dial” radium poisoning of female workers in Essex County, New Jersey.

In the 1960s and 1970s, CLNJ leaders spoke out for consumer protection laws, credit laws, usury limits, and enforcement of minimum wage and child labor laws. They looked into supermarket prices. They also went to the fields to support migrant farm-workers. Rutgers University of New Jersey has considerable archives about the early and middle years of CLNJ history.

From 1985 onward CLNJ has fought for consumer rights and basic justice. For fifteen years they promoted lower interest rates by publicizing lower interest credit cards. They gave away tens of thousands of credit card pamphlets. CLNJ also lamented bank mergers, which resulted in fewer choices, higher prices for consumers and interest rates that never went down. In addition, CLNJ supported the Fair Lending Coalition. They also helped enact New Jersey’s Basic Banking law.

From 1986–89, CLNJ’s President was a member of the Federal Reserve Board’s Consumer Advisory Council. The president opposed “checkhold” delays. The common ground discovered between CL and bankers proved to be the formula which Congress enacted into law: the Federal Reserve must process checks quicker, and banks must end the long holds. In addition, the president supported Truth in Savings, which was also enacted.

CLNJ fought against weakening New Jersey’s Secondary Mortgage Loan Act. When the Legislature legalized abuses, less than one year later, CLNJ testified before the United States Senate in 1987 about home equity loans, or as CLNJ put it “charge a blouse, put a lien on your house.” Congress banned what New Jersey had approved: the “rate rise

surprise" (the power to change a home equity contract after you borrowed significant funds).

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the United States of America, the State of New Jersey and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of the Consumers League of New Jersey.

HONORING MICHAEL L. PESCE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Brooklyn's finest residents, Michael L. Pesce, who was recognized last night at the First Tri Block Association's June meeting.

Michael L. Pesce was born in the small coastal town of Mola di Bari, Italy. He and his family immigrated to America when he was 12 years of age and settled in the Carroll Gardens section of Brooklyn. He attended local public schools and graduated from City College with a Bachelor's degree in Economics. Justice Pesce received his J.D. Degree from Detroit College of Law in 1969 and was admitted to the bar in 1970. He began his career working for the Legal Aid Society in their Hunts Point, Bronx office, handling a wide range of civil matters.

In 1972, he was elected to the New York State Assembly, representing the 52nd Assembly District. Over the next eight years, he served on many committees, including Labor, Governmental Operations, and Higher Education, and served as Chair of the Special Assembly Committee on Ports and Terminals. During this period, he was also a partner in the firm of Pesce & Levine.

Justice Pesce was elected to the Civil Court in 1980, and was assigned to the Criminal Court, where he served for three years. He was designated an Acting Justice of the Supreme Court in 1984 and was elected to a full term in 1989 from Kings and Richmond Counties. In 1996, he was designated Administrative Judge for the 2nd Judicial District.

He has long been actively involved in Carroll Gardens and in the wider Italian-American community. Justice Pesce serves on the Board of Directors of Amico, Inc., and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Visiting Nurse Association of Brooklyn. In 1986, the Italian government granted Justice Pesce the title of "Cavaliere" (Order of Merit). Please join me in honoring Justice Michael L. Pesce, one of Brooklyn's finest.

RECOGNIZING THE MILFORD HIGH
"WE THE PEOPLE" TEAM

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the "We the People" team from Milford High School in Milford, New Hampshire. These outstanding young students recently won an award at the "We the People" national finals held in Washington, D.C. As you may know,

the "We the People" mock hearings test student knowledge of the U.S. Constitution. The Milford students were recognized for their expertise on the following subject: How Did the Values and Principles Embodied in the Constitution Shape American Institutions and Practices? The dozen Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors competed against 50 other classes from throughout the nation. The team demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American constitutional government.

I had the privilege to serve as a judge for this year's state competition to come to Washington for the national competition. It was apparent to me then that the Milford High School students had the knowledge, team-work, and enthusiasm necessary to successfully compete against 50 other classes from throughout the nation. These students can be proud of their award winning performance.

I was honored to have the team visit me here on Capitol Hill during their trip to Washington for the national competition. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the following students for their performance at the national "We the People" competition: Adam Berger, Jon Butt, Jenn Catherine, Vanessa Chretien, Mike Gott, Keith Holt, Pam Murphy, David Norway, Mike Parisi, Abby Parker, Pete Phillips, and Ashley Standbridge.

HONORING MR. RYAN PATTERSON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the accomplishments of an outstanding student, Ryan Patterson. His innovative mind has won him a parade of awards, most recently he has won top prize in the Colorado Science Fair. He also represented Colorado at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, in which he won almost \$10,000.

His outstanding invention rightfully called "Sleuthbot" is a computerized device schools can use to seek out bombs or suspicious individuals without getting put into harms way during a crisis. Mr. Patterson traveled to Detroit with 1,200 other students from 40 countries to compete in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. His accolades from the competition are extensive, but most admirable is the \$250 and a paid internship he received from Axonne Corp. Mr. Patterson is a model for all students to follow and one that will be sure to achieve great things for the good of mankind. He has proven to be an asset to his school and community.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say congratulations to Ryan Patterson on a truly exceptional accomplishment. Due to his dedicated service and ingenuity, it is clear that Colorado is a better place.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2559,
AGRICULTURAL RISK PROTECTION
ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Agriculture Risk Protection Act (H.R. 2559) conference report. I commend Chairman COMBEST and Ranking Member STENHOLM for their efforts to craft comprehensive legislation which will help restore the safety net for agriculture producers.

Risk management tools such as crop or revenue insurance provide protection from yield or price declines within a growing and marketing season. Indeed statistics for North Carolina show that over the last ten years the number of acres insured has increased from 581,764 in 1988 to 2,844,524 in 1999. Participation is very high, with 82 percent of acres covered for tobacco, 83% of acres covered for peanuts, and 89% covered for cotton.

In 1999, \$131 million in liability was paid to North Carolina producers who suffered crop damages, first from drought and then from three hurricanes and subsequent historic flooding in eastern North Carolina. Even with these payments North Carolina producers will benefit greatly from their portion of the additional emergency assistance monies, which nationwide total \$7.1 million over two fiscal years (2000 & 2001), provided by this legislation. This includes \$340 million for tobacco farmers to compensate for economic losses along with \$47 million in economic assistance for peanut producers, which equates to \$30.50 per ton for quota peanuts and \$16 for additional peanuts. I am especially thankful that we have included provisions which address conditions created when producers suffer multiple years disasters.

Additional emergency assistance provisions include:

\$40 million for USDA to provide soil, water and natural conservation assistance for farmers in the form of cost share or incentive payments;

\$10 million for USDA's Farmland Protection Program

\$34 million FY 2000 and \$76 million in FY 2001 for USDA to purchase additional food commodities for distribution to schools participating in the school lunch program

\$32 million in FY 2001 available for a variety of agricultural research programs including those related to soil, science, forest health and management, tobacco research for medicinal purposes and reducing and managing waste in livestock and poultry operations.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of our colleagues to support and vote for the conference report.