

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 us 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 insolicited 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.