

here in our nation's capital while a third concert, "The Country Freedom Concert" was hosted in Nashville.

These three concerts raised well over \$20 million in ticket sales, viewer pledges, and other donations. Proceeds from these shows will benefit the American Red Cross, the Pentagon Relief Fund, the Salvation Army and the Robin Hood Relief Fund.

This weekend of concerts joined many of the world's greatest performers with Clear Channel Entertainment to raise money in support of the recovery efforts from the September 11 attacks. These concerts in New York, Washington and Nashville featured appearances by Billy Joel, Paul McCartney, Bono, Elton John, the Backstreet Boys, James Taylor, Michael Jackson, NSYNC, Eric Clapton, James Brown, Ricky Martin, John Mellencamp, Marc Anthony, Aerosmith, Mariah Carey, Tim McGraw, Vince Gill, George Strait and countless others.

These concerts offered America another chance to help in our recovery efforts and national healing. I am proud to join these individuals in standing up for America. I urge my colleagues and all Americans to watch the rebroadcast of the "United We Stand" concert tonight on ABC at 8 pm EST. Finally, I support this effort and commend the efforts of those in the music and entertainment community for their efforts.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SECURING
AMERICA FOR EFFECTIVE
TRANSPORTATION ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Securing America For Effective Transportation, or Safety, Act. This legislation is in stark contrast to the bureaucracy laden approaches of other bills. My bill would not create new federal spending nor new federal bureaucracies. The actions taken by this legislation fit into a few broad categories. First, it would give airline pilots the right to defend themselves, their aircraft, and their passengers by permitting them to bear arms. Second, it would clearly define the act of skyjacking as an act of piracy and provide appropriate punishment for any such act, up to and including capital punishment. Next, this legislation would provide appropriate strengthening of regulation of airline security in a fashion consistent with our constitutional framework. This would be done by requiring, for example, that law enforcement personnel be posted at screening locations rather than simply in the confines of an airport, and by requiring the production of passenger manifests for international flights. Finally, this bill would give airlines a strong incentive to improve passenger security, not by giving them taxpayer funded grants nor by creating new bureaucracies tasked with making administrative law, but rather by providing a tax incentive to airlines and other companies performing screening and security duties.

One example of my approach is how it treats employees. Rather than the Senate approach federalizing the work force or the House approach of subsidizing private security

firms via federal contracts, my bill raises the take-home pay of airline security personnel by exempting their pay from federal income taxes.

Mr. Speaker, the House bill, while a slight improvement over the Senate version, is still a step in the wrong direction. By authorizing a new airline ticket tax, by creating new federal mandates and bureaucracies, and by subsidizing the airline industry to the tune of another \$3 billion dollars, this bill creates a costly expense that the American people cannot afford. We appropriated \$40 billion dollars in the wake of September 11, and I supported that measure as legitimate compensation for individuals and companies harmed by the failure of the federal government to provide national defense. Soon thereafter we made another \$15 billion available to the airlines, and now we have a House bill that further victimizes the taxpayers by making them pay for another \$3 billion dollars worth of subsidies to the airline industry.

We need to stop this spending spree. President Bush correctly has indicated that the best way to deal with economic stimulus is not to spend more federal dollars but rather to engage in tax cuts. Yet, by creating this new airline ticket tax, we are going in the opposite direction. I oppose this new tax and it is not included in my bill. Instead, the approach taken in my bill uses tax reductions to ensure airline safety and promote further economic growth. By granting tax incentives for safety initiatives, we gain the advantages of new security precautions without creating onerous new regulations or costly and burdensome new bureaucracies. I proudly offer this bill for consideration.

SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency yesterday announced plans to increase arsenic standards in drinking water from 50 parts per billion (ppb) to 10 ppb.

I've always shared the concerns of the operators of our water systems throughout New Mexico that the high costs of complying with stricter new standards could raise water bills so high that New Mexicans can no longer afford treated water. The federal government must help cover the cost of these new standards.

Mayors throughout the western states, including Albuquerque Mayor Jim Baca, have repeatedly expressed their concern about the effects higher standards will have on consumers and on city coffers that are already stretched.

Today I am introducing the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure that communities throughout the United States can continue to enjoy safe and clean drinking water. My legislation will provide grants to communities that need to come into compliance with the new drinking water standards announced today by the Bush administration.

We all want, expect, and deserve safe and clean drinking water that is affordable. Through a combination of the EPA's new

standards and federal assistance, I believe we'll continue to get just that.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN
GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of our good friend and colleague, Congressman Gerald B.H. Solomon.

From 1979-1999, Congressman Solomon served his country in the United States House of Representatives. Like so many Members here today, I am truly thankful for the example and leadership that Congressman Solomon demonstrated every day on behalf of his constituents.

A successful businessman, decorated Veteran, and leader both here and in his community, he set an enduring example of commitment, integrity, and service. His career was one that truly made a difference in the lives of those he represented. He was a zealous advocate on behalf of our American Veterans, a leader in scouting, and a foremost expert on education issues.

That outstanding commitment was an important reason that Congressman Solomon was named Chairman of the House Rules Committee. He used the authority afforded that position to fight for Veterans' benefits, a strong military, sound foreign policy, and fiscal responsibility here in Washington. Back home, he fought equally hard to promote pride, patriotism, civic duty, and volunteerism.

I am truly saddened by my friend's passing. But I will work hard here in Congress to carry on his fight for Veterans, and will work hard every day to emulate his overwhelming commitment to service and leadership. We are truly blessed to have known him, and truly fortunate to have the unique opportunity to carry on his proud tradition of advocacy and patriotism.

Mr. Speaker, today I join with the New York delegation, Members from both sides of the aisle, and indeed, a grateful Nation to honor Jerry Solomon for his outstanding service and leadership. I know I join with every Member in extending to Freda and his entire family my deepest sympathies, and would ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join with me in a moment of silence.

HONORING KIM SUTTERS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kim Sutters for being named "Registered Nurse of the Year" by the Central Valley Coalition of Nursing Organizations. Sutters will receive the award in the Advanced Practice category.

Kim is known as the "pain guru" of Valley Children's Hospital. Staff, physicians, pharmacists and patients rely on her expertise in this area and she is regularly called upon to consult in pain management. She has developed a pain brochure, which was translated