

Security College where Iraqi Security Forces were trained to take control of their country. The college was so successful that it is now entirely run by Iraqis.

Continuing the Military Police role 3/11 also maintained and operated a provincial detention facility where detainees were treated with respect and humanity. Long before incidents at other prisons in Iraq were discovered, 3/11 set the highest of possible standards in the country for quality of care and facility conditions. The detention facility has been heralded as a hallmark in our area of operations and brings much praise to the battalion.

All along the way 3/11 was asked to step outside its area of expertise and provide the highest level of performance, and each time the expectations were met and exceeded. Few units if any can claim to have accomplished such a wide variety of missions in such a short period of time. The Marines of 3rd Battalion 11th Marines can return home to their loved ones knowing they provided absolutely vital contributions to the war in Iraq. The Iraqi people have never known liberty in their entire history and now they finally have a chance to live free. With Marines and soldiers out there like those from 3/11, the war on terror will be definitively won and the world will know a higher level of freedom and prosperity than it has ever known. I personally want to thank each of you who have supported me through this journey. I will never be able to put into words, my appreciation for all you have done for me. My definition of family has grown exponentially since being over here and I thank you. But more than just your personal support I am grateful for your support of the cause. Not everyone in America is educated enough to understand the full importance of what we are doing in this part of the world and I am so thankful that you all do. Freedom and liberty are fragile and America seems to be one of the only countries actively fighting to ensure that they do not perish from this earth. Your continued efforts at home are much needed in spreading the truth. Together we will win this fight and secure a better future for the whole world.

God Bless and Semper Fidelis,
1ST LT. ROBERT L. NOFSINGER USMC.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LET PARENTS RAISE THEIR KIDS ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 6, 2004

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Let Parents Raise Their Kids Act. This bill forbids Federal funds from being used for any universal or mandatory mental-health screening of students without the express, written, voluntary, informed consent of their parents or legal guardians. This bill protects the fundamental right of parents to direct and control the upbringing and education of their children.

The New Freedom Commission on Mental Health has recommended that the Federal government adopt a comprehensive system of mental-health screening for all Americans. The commission recommends the government implement universal or mandatory mental-health screening in public schools as a prelude to expanding it to the general public. However, neither the commission's report nor any related mental-health screening proposal requires parental consent before a child is subjected to mental-health screening. Federally funded uni-

versal or mandatory mental-health screening in schools without parental consent could lead to labeling more children as "ADD" or "hyperactive" and thus force more children to take psychotropic drugs, such as Ritalin, against their parents' wishes.

Already, too many children are suffering from being prescribed psychotropic drugs for nothing more than children's typical rambunctious behavior. According to the Journal of the American Medical Association, there was a 300-percent increase in psychotropic drug use in two to four year old children from 1991 to 1995!

Many children have suffered harmful side effects from using psychotropic drugs. Some of the possible side effects include mania, violence, dependence, and weight gain. Yet, parents are already being threatened with child abuse charges if they resist efforts to drug their children. Imagine how much easier it will be to drug children against their parents' wishes if a Federal mental-health screener makes the recommendation.

Universal or mandatory mental-health screening could also provide a justification for stigmatizing children from families that support traditional values. Even the authors of mental-health diagnosis manuals admit that mental-health diagnoses are subjective and based on social constructions. Therefore, it is all too easy for a psychiatrist to label a person's disagreement with the psychiatrist's political beliefs a mental disorder. For example, a federally funded school violence prevention program lists "intolerance" as a mental problem that may lead to school violence. Because "intolerance" is often a code word for believing in traditional values, children who share their parents' values could be labeled as having mental problems and a risk of causing violence. If the mandatory mental-health screening program applies to adults, everyone who believes in traditional values could have his or her beliefs stigmatized as a sign of a mental disorder. Taxpayer dollars should not support programs that may label those who adhere to traditional values as having a "mental disorder."

Mr. Speaker, universal or mandatory mental-health screening threatens to undermine parents' right to raise their children as the parents see fit. Forced mental-health screening could also endanger the health of children by leading to more children being improperly placed on psychotropic drugs, such as Ritalin, or stigmatized as "mentally ill" or a risk of causing violence because they adhere to traditional values. Congress has a responsibility to the nation's parents and children to stop this from happening. I, therefore, urge my colleagues to cosponsor the Let Raise Their Kids Act.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
DONALD GLENN BROTZMAN

HON. JOEL HEFLEY

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 6, 2004

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and remember the life of former Republican Congressman Donald Brotzman of Colorado, who recently passed away at the age of 82. Congressman Brotzman honorably

represented Colorado's second Congressional District from 1962 through 1975, during some of this great nation's most tumultuous and trying times.

He was born June 28, 1922 on a farm in Logan County, on Colorado's eastern plains. Both a musician and three-sport athlete at Sterling High School, Don Brotzman won a football scholarship in 1939 to the University of Colorado in Boulder where he was an all-conference center and varsity letter-winner in shot put and discus.

As war continued to rage on the other side of the world, Don Brotzman delayed his education and served as an Army officer in Yokohama, Japan, and the Philippines through World War II. Following the end of the war, he returned to Boulder to complete degrees in business and law in 1949.

Mr. Brotzman began working as a lawyer in Boulder in 1950, and was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives in 1952 and later the State Senate. Local media named him the outstanding freshman member in both chambers.

By 1959, he was appointed United States Attorney for Colorado by President Eisenhower and served as such until he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1962, where he was voted president of his freshman class.

Congressman Brotzman served five terms and helped to shape laws such as the Clean Air Act and the Public Broadcasting Act. He reached across the aisle to champion causes such as the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area west of Boulder, a national program to help runaway youth and a tax credit for higher-education expenses. Despite serving on the minority side of the aisle, he successfully found the funds to complete the Chatfield Dam and Reservoir, and sponsored the bill authorizing the building of Bear Creek Dam and Reservoir in Colorado.

Furthermore, he persuaded the Johnson Administration to sponsor a study that eventually changed the Army's environmental practices at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal in Adam's County, Colorado, and he was one of the first members of Congress to call for an all-volunteer military.

Colorado lost a great friend and a tremendous leader when it lost Donald Brotzman. His strong western values and commitment to always do what was right, despite partisan interests and outside persuasion, has continued to serve as a great example.

RECOGNIZING SPIRIT OF JACOB
MOCK DOUB AND EXPRESSING
SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT "NATIONAL
TAKE A KID MOUNTAIN
BIKING DAY" SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED
IN JACOB MOCK DOUB'S
HONOR

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 5, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 480, expressing the sense of Congress that "National Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day" should be established in honor of Jacob Mock Doub.