

Frank to trek to Central America to collect insects for the movie's famous cave scene.

Working as a park naturalist and natural-areas supervisor for the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for 23 years, Frank managed resources and operations for more than 6,500 acres of county parkland, sanctuaries, and open space. For more than a decade, he also served on the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission's Significant Ecological Areas Technical Advisory Committee where he provided astute insights, wise counsel, and excellent leadership.

Retiring from county government in 1994, he began Frank Hovore & Associates, a biological consulting firm that provided planning for parks, plant and animal surveys, environmental education, and habitat conservation plans. Consulting afforded Frank the time to travel widely for research on New World beetles deemed essential to forest ecosystems worldwide.

Frank will be remembered as an honest, curious, and caring man who was generous with his time and talents in order to protect the environment, to explore nature's mysteries, and to mentor others. His passing leaves a void in the lives of many people, but his legacy will live on forever through the contributions he made to the world as a scientist, educator, and environmentalist. Frank's greatest role, however, was as a father to his daughter, Holly, and to his son, Tom.

With his passionate love of nature, and keen intellect, Frank Hovore might have identified with Robert Frost when he said, "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—I took the one less traveled by. And that has made all the difference." In an effort to understand the insect world, Frank often took the road less traveled. And he made a difference, a world of difference.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 29, 2006*

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I was excused from Washington on Thursday, September 28, 2006, to attend a funeral in Wisconsin. As a result, I was not recorded for rollcall votes No. 495, No. 496, No. 497, No. 498, No. 499 and No. 500. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 495, No. 496, No. 497, No. 498, No. 499 and No. 500.

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#### CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

### HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 26, 2006*

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 3525, the Child and Family Services Improvement Act of 2006. This legislation reflects a bipartisan agreement developed by the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee to reauthorize

and improve important child welfare programs under our jurisdictions.

Other bills might attract more media attention, but few are more important. This agreement reflects our mutual interest in doing more to ensure children are protected from harm. To achieve this goal, the bill increases resources for activities and services that will help prevent child abuse and neglect from occurring. But it also involves spending more intelligently and with greater accountability the money we have previously committed for these purposes.

For example, we know from numerous reports and simple common sense that when caseworkers visit children in foster care, children are safer and more quickly placed in permanent homes. While most States agree that children in foster care should be visited at least once per month, there currently is no consequence for States that fail to meet that standard. Moreover, data suggest that most States can't even tell which foster children are visited and how often. Very simply, these children and the Federal taxpayers who support these programs deserve much better.

The Child and Family Services Improvement Act is designed to address this shortcoming by requiring additional accountability. Specifically, the legislation will require States to ensure that, within 5 years, they can document case-worker visits once a month to at least 900 percent of foster children.

This is a significant step in the right direction. This legislation requires States to increase child protection funding or risk losing Federal funds. That's the right structure—continue today's generous level of Federal support, but insist that States that don't make the grade contribute more of their own funds to improve these programs.

This agreement will also target \$145 million over the next 5 years for preventing and treating parental substance abuse, including involving methamphetamines. This is an issue of great concern to me because the State of California, its Central Valley region, and Kern County, which I represent, unfortunately have significant levels of methamphetamine production, use, and distribution.

The Child and Family Services Improvement Act is good policy; it not only targets increased resources for prevention, it also is fully paid for, which protects taxpayers. Thus, it is not surprising that numerous groups including Catholic Charities, the Center for Law and Social Policy, Lutheran Social Services, and the National Congress of American Indians, have endorsed this important legislation.

Finally, I would like to thank Ways and Means Human Resources Subcommittee Chairman WALLY HERGER and Ranking Member JIM McDERMOTT, and Senate Finance Committee Chairman CHARLES GRASSLEY and Ranking Member MAX BAUCUS for their hard work on this legislation. Accordingly, I ask my colleagues to support this legislation and send it to the President's desk without delay.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT RESTORATION ACT OF 2006

### HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 29, 2006*

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, 16 years ago, a bipartisan Congress took significant steps to break down the physical and societal barriers that for far too long kept disabled Americans from fully participating in all aspects of American life. Prior to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, commonly known as the ADA, disabled Americans were subjected to false stereotypes, experienced discrimination in almost all aspects of society, and were relegated to a form of second class citizenship.

The ADA changed this by restoring the full meaning of equal protection under the law and all the promises that our Nation has to offer. Through the ADA and its broad protections from discrimination in employment, State and local government programs and services, places of public accommodation and services provided by private entities, transportation, and telecommunication services, disabled citizens have experienced increased opportunities, higher graduation rates, higher employment rates and lower rates of poverty. Because of this landmark civil rights law, disabled American citizens no longer live in isolation but live as independent, self sufficient members of our communities.

However, beginning in 1999, through a trilogy of cases beginning with *Sutton v. United Airlines, Inc.*, the Supreme Court has slowly chipped away at the broad protections of the ADA and has created a new set of barriers for disabled Americans. An oversight hearing held by the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution revealed that certain decisions of the Supreme Court have actually worked to exclude millions of disabled Americans from the ADA's protections, the very citizens that Congress expressly sought to include within the scope of the Act in 1990.

The impact of these decisions is such that disabled Americans can be discriminated against by their employers because of their conditions, but they are not considered disabled enough by our Federal courts to invoke the protections of the ADA. This is unacceptable.

The bipartisan legislation that I am introducing today will enable disabled Americans utilizing the ADA to focus on the discrimination that they have experienced rather than having to first prove that they fall within the scope of the ADA's protection. With this bill, the ADA's "clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination on the basis of disability" will be properly restored and the ADA can rightfully reclaim its place among our Nation's civil rights laws.

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#### TRIBUTE TO MS. VIRGINIA DAY

### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 29, 2006*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Virginia M. Day of Altoona, Pennsylvania, who will receive the 2006 John Riley