

THE AMERICAN LAND
SOVEREIGNTY PROTECTION ACT

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, as a cosponsor of H.R. 901, the American Land Sovereignty Protection Act, I am confident that the bill makes a firm commitment to protecting America's public lands against overreaching international bureaucracies, like the United Nations. I particularly commend Chairman DON YOUNG for his leadership on this bill.

My district in California includes three national parks—Yosemite, Kings Canyon, and Sequoia. Therefore, any question of threatened sovereignty over public lands and its potential impact on adjoining private property is of critical concern to me and my constituents. The United Nations should not be operating in our backyard in the absence of congressional oversight. H.R. 901 reasserts Congress' constitutional role in the making of rules and regulations governing lands belonging to the United States and its people.

It is arrogant for the United Nations to believe that undermining the United States' hard won sovereignty is in the best interest of world peace. Preserving every measure of U.S. sovereignty is crucial to maintaining American leadership abroad and at home. I urge the House to pass H.R. 901.

HONORING CLARA PADILLA
ANDREWS

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month to recognize an outstanding individual, a constituent, and friend of mine in the First Congressional District of Oregon, Ms. Clara Padilla Andrews. Ms. Andrews has dedicated her life to serving others.

Ms. Andrews is the owner and publisher of the *El Hispanic News*, a bilingual English/Spanish weekly community newspaper in Oregon. Previously, Ms. Andrews has served as a Community and Family Services integration of services supervisor and the Hispanic services coordinator for Multnomah County in Portland. Through her tenure with the county, she demonstrated her strong will, dedication, and commitment to sharing her talents and knowledge to promote networking and partnerships. Her ability as a community organizer and strong encouragement of project collaboration were essential ingredients in the work she did and continues to do in creating a better society for all.

Ms. Andrews is known for her behind-the-scenes advocacy on behalf of disenfranchised Hispanic families in Multnomah County. She was instrumental in obtaining monetary support to staff positions at three high schools to reduce the Hispanic student dropout rate.

She was also essential in the renovation of the Galaxy apartment complex. This cluster of

apartments in their original condition were a northeast Portland neighborhood eyesore in deplorable condition with a prevalence of drugs and prostitution, crime, and poverty.

Today the Galaxy apartments are the Villa de Clara Vista apartments named in honor the Hacienda Community Development Corp. and recruited board members to spearhead the renovation effort to make affordable family housing available. The project today also includes a one-stop center for coordinated social services for area occupants. This project now serves as a national model.

Ms. Andrews has worked at all levels of government. Her civic involvement is admirable, as she served as the secretary of state for New Mexico from 1983 to 1986 and was the highest ranking Latina elected official at that time. When Ms. Andrews lost her granddaughter, Susana Gurule, to cancer, she founded the Susana Maria Gurule Foundation which focuses its efforts on increasing the number of minority volunteers for the National Marrow Donor Program registry. As a result of her work, she has also been named to the National Marrow Donor Program board.

Ms. Andrews is a 1986 recipient of a Congressional Hispanic Caucus Distinguished Service Award, the 1994 Doernbecker Hospital Hero's Award, Executive Women in State Government Distinguished Award, and several others. She has also been named 1 of the 100 Most Influential Hispanics four times.

Ms. Andrews is an exemplary citizen. Her lifetime of achievements and contributions to making society a better place for all serves as a model for all of us to learn from and follow. In recognition of National Hispanic Heritage month, it is my honor to recognize my friend, Ms. Clara Padilla Andrews.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JUDITH MAY
COOK

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exemplary citizen and beloved public servant, Judith May Cook. Her endless contributions to the small community of Little Compton deserve proper recognition as she prepared to retire from her position as town clerk.

Judith was born to Clarence F. and Lucille Hambly on November 25, 1947. At 29 years old she began her distinguished career as a public servant. On April 1, 1976, Judith was first appointed to fill the unexpired term of retiree, Olive R. Kneeland, as treasurer of Little Compton. She committed her invaluable efforts to this office for 6 years and her hard work and dedication were not soon forgotten. After the tragic death of Philip B. Wilbur, the town clerk, Judith was appointed to fill his unexpired term. Since her appointment on December 4, 1986, she has run unopposed in every election for this position. Besides fulfilling the duties of her appointments, Judith was elected to participate on the town's budget committee for a term and a half. Ms. Cook has played a vital role in the government's stability

and financial security of the small community of Little Compton.

Little Compton is a sparsely settled, seaside community populated by only 3,367 permanent residents. While the town entertains an influx of summer residents, the economy does not rely on tourism, but agriculture is its largest significant component. Little Compton has remained free of many of the political and economic pressures of the 20th century. In a town that celebrates its natural evolution as much as its picturesque landscape, a defining citizen like Judith May Cook proves to be a true role model.

When Judith May Cook retires on January 1, 1998, it will be a great loss for the community of Little Compton. Her professional success and dedicated service will always stand as a model of commitment for which we may strive to emulate. I ask my colleagues to join me to salute and thank Judith for her years of outstanding public service.

PERMANENT LEGAL RESIDENCY
FOR JESSICA KOCH

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced a bill crucial to Jessica Koch, a high school senior in my district. This bill will provide for the permanent legal residency of this well-rounded, ambitious girl whose world has been irrevocably changed after recently discovering her status as an illegal immigrant.

Jessica came to this country with a tourist visa in 1981. Shortly thereafter, when she was 18 months old, she was abandoned by her biological mother, the only parent she had ever known. Fortunately, she was taken into the caring home of David and Diane Miller, who were awarded legal custody of her when she was 5. Oblivious of her status as an illegal immigrant, the Millers raised her, supported her, and cared for her as one of their own. It was not until this year that Jessica's life and hopes for a successful future were turned upside-down.

On August 13, Jessica went to replace a lost Social Security card that the Millers obtained for her when they were given custody. She was stunned when she was denied a card and was told she was an illegal immigrant. Until that moment Jessica took pride in acting as a responsible citizen by working part-time while in school and registering to vote. Now, upon learning of her illegal status, she was forced to stop working to help support herself.

Because Jessica came to this country as an infant and became a member of the Miller family at a young age, she was raised with the impression that she was an adopted member of the Miller family and that she was a U.S. citizen. This is a case to which Congress can bring a happy resolution. By introducing this bill, I am hopeful that Jessica can remain in the United States, the only country she calls home.