

from the city of Los Angeles; we are very happy that they are here.
[Applause.]

Mr. DORN. Mr. Commander, I want to present now to you a good friend of the veteran and one who has always been interested in the youth of the country and is very commendatory of the Legion for the fine work you have done for the young people of our country, Henry Helstoski.

Mr. HELSTOSKI. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I want to commend the Commander on his very cogent and timely statement.

The American Legion has consistently proven itself to be a responsible and patriotic organization dedicated to service not only for the veteran but also the community, State, and Nation.

The program he spoke on is modest in nature and emphasizes a most important aspect of the problems facing the veteran—rehabilitation.

Without commenting in detail, let me say that I am pleased to say I wish to support the aims outlined in your program and hope for its early legislative enactment.

It is a pleasure to see you here this morning. Thanks for appearing.
[Applause.]

Mr. DORN. Mr. Commander, I am about running out of things to say about my colleagues up here but I do want each of you to know them because this is a nonpartisan committee. I have never heard, in almost 19 years on this committee any reference to partisanship in considering the veterans of our country.

I might say there are men serving in South Vietnam today of whom you never speak as members of one party or the other, but as Americans.

I want to present to you the greatest artist I think there is in the Congress of the United States, and a good friend of all of you, and of us on the committee, Sy Halpern of New York. [Applause.]

Mr. HALPERN. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

He paid me a very nice compliment calling me a so-called great artist. I only wish I had the ability to be able to reflect on canvas the beautiful picture that I see before me today, a picture that reflects a great American spirit, patriotism, determination, dedication, devotion to our great country that no one could convey on a canvas or in any physical sense. It is something you feel. It is a spirit you have.

I, for one, want to extend my enthusiastic compliments and congratulate you, Mr. National Commander, and the great members of the American Legion.

You know, Mr. Chairman, I have always looked forward to this occasion, the appearance of the American Legion's national commander before the Veterans' Affairs Committee. It is one of the great experiences of being a member of this committee.

Today's statement by Commander Galbraith fully fulfills my own expectancy of this occasion and I am sure I can speak for all the other members, most of whom have eloquently presented their own opinion.

I can say without qualification that today's statement was one of the finest presentations ever given before this committee, Mr. National Commander.

I am particularly pleased to be a sponsor of identical legislation as the commander recommended for the development and maintenance