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**SALUTE TO DR. VIRGIL A. FRIZZELL, JR., AMERICAN GEO-PHYSICAL UNION CONGRESSIONAL SCIENCE FELLOW**

**HON. NORMAN Y. MINETA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 3, 1989*

Mr. MINETA. Mr. Speaker, for the last year it has been my privilege to work with Dr. Virgil Allen Frizzell, Jr., the 13th congressional science fellow representing the American Geophysical Union.

Dr. Frizzell came to Congress under the auspices of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Congressional Science and Engineering Fellowship Program. Dr. Frizzell sought his 1-year fellowship in the House of Representatives because, in his words:

Earth scientists generate data that reflect on many important issues. We need to learn to communicate and interpret scientific findings better if we are to help legislators make better decisions concerning those issues.

Dr. Frizzell received his Ph.D. and master's degrees in geology from Stanford University after earning dual bachelors degrees in geology and business from San Jose State University. He has been interested in public policy issues since he first became a working geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey [USGS] in Menlo Park, CA. In 1969, Dr. Frizzell worked as a physical science technician supporting his fellow geologists working on the San

Francisco Bay region study. He subsequently worked on projects of his own and served as a liaison between his USGS colleagues and industry geologists, urban planners, legislators, developers, environmentalists, and academics who used the materials published during the San Francisco study.

Dr. Frizzell's more recent work has included geologic investigations and mineral and petroleum resource evaluations in Washington and California. His current research project, geologic mapping and structural analysis in the southern Great Basin in Nevada, centers on the Nevada nuclear test site and the nearby proposed nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain.

During the past year, Dr. Frizzell has been an exceptional member of my staff, performing the duties of legislative assistant and science policy adviser while working on defense, energy, environmental and telecommunications legislation. In his future professional accomplishments, I am confident that Dr. Frizzell will make significant contributions in such areas as hazards reduction, mineral and energy resources and land management, environmental and Earth science research policy.

Mr. Speaker, during his tenure in my office, Dr. Frizzell became an invaluable member of my staff. Not only did he provide competent and knowledgeable work, but his periodic contribution of donuts added zing to our morning routines, and he would go on to set a high standard for summertime backyard BBQ's. Based upon my experience with Dr. Frizzell, I highly recommend AAAS congressional fellows to my colleagues who would like a highly trained professional to join their staff.