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PAYING TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY PREITE -- HON. SCOTT McINNIS
(Extensions of Remarks - July 22, 2003)

HON. SCOTT McINNIS
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
July 22, 2003

Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to recognize Anthony Preite for the integral role that he has played in the economic development of the Western United States. Anthony's long and distinguished career has made an indelible mark upon the State of Colorado and the Western United States. In recognition of his widely renowned public service, he was recently recognized with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Award, in addition to being selected as the Outstanding Fifty State U.S.D.A. Director.

Anthony began his career in Montana as a teacher and coach after graduating from Northern Montana College in 1963. In 1968, Anthony accepted a position as Community Development Specialist, where his responsibilities included implementing an economic development plan for a portion of north central Montana. He proceeded to serve as Special Project Director of the Economic Development Administration for the U.S. Department of Commerce for much of the Western United States. Many of Anthony's initiatives resulted in infrastructure improvements and the creation of hundreds of job opportunities.

Fortunately, Anthony has not gone unrecognized throughout his life. The Denver Regional Office of the Economic Development Administration selected Anthony as the 1993 winner of the Forrest Koch Award for Excellence in Economic Development. Subsequently, President Clinton appointed Anthony as the State Director of Montana, Farmers Home Administration in 1993. In his role as Head of Rural Development, Anthony oversaw Rural Housing Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, and Rural Utilities Services. He was selected to serve as the Denver Regional Office Director for the Economic Development Administration in December of 1999 and currently oversees activities in ten different states as the Regional Director.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to recognize Anthony Preite before this body of Congress and this nation. His dynamic career and selfless public service have advanced the well being of thousands of Americans through economic development programs and initiatives. I congratulate Anthony on the awards that have been bestowed upon him and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.