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MESSAGE FROM CONGRESSWOMAN PATSY T. MINK for the 2000 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Banquet Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom

June 27, 2000

Warmest aloha and congratulations to the finalists and winners of the 2000 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards. You are the role models who will inspire and set the standard for Hawaii's rising entrepreneurs.

The business acumen and hard work of the outstanding entrepreneurs being honored today led to the success and leadership positions they enjoy today. Creativity, independent thinking, and the willingness to assume risk in pursuit of one's vision, idea, or dream characterizes the entrepreneurial spirit. Entrepreneurs develop new products, services, and markets and are a vital source of new jobs in Hawaii.

I commend Ernst & Young for sponsoring this banquet to recognize Hawaii's business leaders. I regret that my congressional schedule prevents my joining you for this special evening.

Best wishes for a wonderful banquet!

PATSY T. MINK Member of Congress