

service as a Pastor and community leader in San Antonio, Texas.

Dr. Dailey was born in Anderson, Indiana. He attended the public schools of Duval County Florida, and later graduated from Andrew Jackson Senior High School. After high school, Dr. Dailey received a basketball scholarship to study at Bethune-Cookman College. In college, Dr. Dailey was elected Senior Class President and was also a recipient of the Crown Zellerbach Foundation Scholarship to study one year at the University of California, Berkeley. In 1975, he graduated cum laude with a B.S. in Psychology. Dr. Dailey went on to obtain a Masters of Divinity degree in 1979 from Philadelphia's Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Theology degree in 1991 from San Antonio's Guadalupe College. Dr. Dailey also holds many other honorary degrees for his work in divinity.

For the past 28 years, Dr. Dailey has served many communities as a pastor and community leader. Since 1985, Dr. Dailey has been the Pastor of Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in San Antonio, Texas. He continues to lead the church today and has led many initiatives in Macedonia's major expansion and renovation efforts. Other community projects of Dr. Dailey's have been establishing the Good Samaritan Food Ministry and Youth Scholarship Fund.

Among his many accolades, Dr. Dailey received the 2000 MLK Distinguished Achievement Award Nomination from the City of San Antonio MLK Commission and was the first African American appointed to the Administrative Executive Board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas (BGCT). He is now the newly elected President of the African American Fellowship of the BGCT. His many awards and recognitions attest to the breadth of his service through the years.

Dr. Dailey is married to the former Janice M. Pullen and they are the parents of three daughters named Joy Marie, Jasmine Noelle, and Jeri Nicole. He constantly serves as a role model and inspiration for his congregation and the local community. It honors me today to have the chance to recognize and thank Dr. Dailey for his many years of service and contribution.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY ACT OF 2005

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2005

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with Representatives ANNA ESHOO, LEE TERRY, DAVID WU, XAVIER BECERRA, and JO BONNER in introducing the bipartisan Medicare Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2005. Under current law, Medicare provides coverage for medical nutrition therapy services provided by registered dietitians and nutrition professionals to Medicare beneficiaries with diabetes and renal diseases. Recognizing that many other beneficiaries with diseases and conditions such as cardiovascular disease and obesity could benefit from medical nutrition therapy services, the legislation we are introducing

today gives the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the authority to use the National Coverage Determination Process to expand coverage for other disease and conditions for which these services would be both beneficial and cost-effective.

Providing Medicare coverage for medical nutrition therapy services is sound health care policy. It can prevent unnecessary pain and suffering and save millions of dollars in health care costs by lessening the risk of chronic disease, slowing disease progression, and reducing symptoms. In response to a request in the 1997 Balanced Budget Act, the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences studied the value of adding medical nutrition therapy coverage to the Medicare program and concluded that this coverage would "improve the quality of care and is likely to be a valuable and efficient use of Medicare resources, because of the comparatively low treatment costs and ancillary benefits associated with nutrition therapy."

I urge my colleagues who have not yet cosponsored this legislation to join us in this effort.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIR FEDERAL COMPENSATION ACT OF 2005

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 12, 2005

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, the entire bipartisan regional House delegation of the national capital region introduces today the Fair Federal Compensation Act of 2005 to address the District of Columbia's structural imbalance. The original co-sponsors are: Government Reform Committee Chair TOM DAVIS, Appropriations Subcommittee Chair FRANK WOLF, Democratic Whip STENY HOYER, Former Congressional Black Caucus Chair ELIJAH CUMMINGS and Representatives JIM MORAN, CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, and ALBERT WYNN. Montgomery County Executive Doug Duncan has authorized me to say that he supports this bill as well.

D.C. residents and businesses are proud of eight straight years of balanced budgets that pay for the operations of our government. Yet, residents and Congress probably know little about the city's structural imbalance, which according to the GAO, is entirely from federal sources. However, D.C. taxpayers and Congress are paying for this imbalance in millions of dollars in taxes and interest. Residents and businesses pay to cover a structural imbalance caused by federal mandates and requirements with higher local taxes and the highest debt load in the nation. Our bill will help the Congress and city residents understand what the structural imbalance is and how it affects taxpayers and the D.C. government.

The goal of the bipartisan bill we introduce today is to prevent another fiscal crisis for our city and to relieve some of the unsustainable load on the D.C. government and on residents and businesses. The structural imbalance is the difference between the cost of D.C. gov-

ernment services and operations and the add-on cost to local taxpayers that otherwise would be carried by the federal government or commuters. According to the GAO, (confirming two other major studies; McKinsey, March 2002 and Brookings, October 2002) the resulting imbalance is exclusively federal and has three sources: federal use of the city's most valuable land; the city's continuing responsibility for many costly state functions; and the commuter tax ban, despite services the District must provide to 200,000 federal employees. The GAO concluded that the only options to relieve the structural imbalance are: to "change Federal procedures and expand the District's tax base or provide additional financial support and a greater role by the Federal government to help the District maintain fiscal balance." The Fair Federal Compensation Act of 2005 we introduce today responds specifically to these GAO findings.

Our bill offsets part, though not all, of the annual structural imbalance—found by the GAO to be between \$470 million and up to more than \$1.1 billion—by providing for an annual federal contribution of \$800 million. Unlike the old federal payment, which remained constant and therefore lost much of its value through inflation, the federal contribution would increase annually. The federal contribution funds would go to a dedicated D.C. infrastructure support fund. The District does not have an operating deficit or imbalance and these federal funds could not be used for operating expenses. The bill provides specific uses only for the non-operating and urgent capital needs that are delayed each year in favor of keeping the D.C. government operating. The federal contribution would be available only for stated infrastructure purposes, such as roads and school construction and repairs, and for reducing the District's debt—the highest in the country. High debt and the interest that results, of course, produce excessive taxes. The bill also would improve the District's investment bond rating and thus reduce our present high interest payments, all charged to taxpayers.

In 1995 Congress came to grips with the reality that this city's responsibilities assume it is a state, although it lacks a broad state tax base and that the District could no longer be expected to shoulder the full set of state costs. Congress relieved the District of the costs of some but not all state functions and left the unique federal structural impediments described in the GAO report. Nevertheless, the District has made remarkable progress, maintaining balanced budgets and surpluses every year despite adverse national economic conditions and improving city services. The CFO has ominously warned, however, that looking to the out years, the structural imbalance endangers the city's financial future and cannot continue to be carried by the District alone. It would be tragic for Congress to allow the progress that has been made to be retracted because of dangerous and escalating uncompensated federal burdens. The Fair Federal Compensation Act of 2005 would allow the District to avoid great risks, to continue to build fiscal strength, and to relieve D.C. taxpayers of this federal structural financial burden.