

that consumers have no idea what a hodge-podge of a system the credit card companies have created." He pointed out that the system is mainly designed to extract fees from consumers and businesses, "but very little of it is designed for security."

Even though many states are following California and adopting new laws, we in Congress should not drag our feet on this national issue anymore. We need federal protection for our people, at the very least, consumers have the right to know quickly when their private information is compromised.

In my view, here are the basic elements any protective legislation should include:

(1) Immediate notice of a breach by the card issuer to the card holder.

(2) A reasonable definition of when a "breach" occurs.

(3) Imposition of liability on third party card processors when at fault.

(4) A simple method of immediate assistance by the card issuer to the affected card holder to correct the problem as quickly as possible.

Mr. Speaker, I am assured that the CARD Act will be an important consumer law with teeth to rectify and strengthen consumer credit rights. I hope that this legislation will lessen the injurious liability that many of them face with no compassion from credit card companies, corporations, or the credit rating agencies, due to no fault of their own. I sincerely hope that the financial services industry will not oppose reasonable legislation to correct what is a very real and expanding national problem affecting millions of Americans.

I know some in the industry are saying that the cost of such notification is too great. But that statement flies in the face of the numbers. The Wall Street Journal reports that the nation's largest banks profit each year by more than \$20 billion in transaction fees they charge merchants on every credit card purchase made through MasterCard International Inc. or Visa USA Inc.

Surely some of that huge profit can be used for better and greater credit card security.

TRIBUTE TO TAIWAN PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS FIRST ANNIVERSARY IN OFFICE

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2005

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian on the occasion of his First Anniversary in office. He was elected to a second presidential term last year.

For more than 50 years, Taiwan and the United States have enjoyed a close relationship with each other economically and politically. Taiwan is our 8th largest trading partner and we are Taiwan's largest trading partner. We look forward to continuing this mutually beneficial relationship. Further, we are committed to the Taiwan Relations Act and believe in a peaceful resolution to the Taiwan issue.

Mr. Speaker, I have been informed that in recent days, Taiwan's two major opposition leaders visited China and were well received by Chinese leaders. I am pleased to see that

Taiwan President Chen has been deft in his handling of the current cross-strait relations. Continued peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait is in every nation's best interest.

I join many of my colleagues in thanking Taiwan President Chen and his people for their total support of the United States, especially in the area of combating global terrorism. In the wake of 9/11, the government of Taiwan gave a million dollars to the Twin Towers Fund of New York. Two months ago, Taiwan gave another million dollars to the Pentagon Memorial Fund. To help fight terrorism, Taiwan has joined the United States and other international organizations through participation in anti-money laundering campaigns, the proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) and the Container Security Initiative (CSI). Taiwan Representative David Tawei Lee said it well, "Only by standing together will we succeed in making the world a safer place."

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan Representative David Tawei Lee came to Washington, DC, last July, and since then he has made many friends on the Hill. We are very impressed with his intelligence and industry. Taiwan couldn't find a better diplomat than Dr. David Tawei Lee in representing Taiwan's interest in the United States.

I wish to express my congratulations to the people of Taiwan on the occasion of their President's First Anniversary in office. I hope that high ranking officials from Taiwan, such as President of Taiwan, the Foreign Minister, and the Defense Minister will be able to come to Washington, DC, to communicate directly with members and administration officials on issues of mutual concern.

TRIBUTE TO DON BARBER

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2005

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Don Barber of Memphis, Tennessee who recently retired as Senior Vice President of Air Operations at FedEx Corporation. Don has had an extraordinary career with a remarkable company. Beginning in 1976 as an aircraft mechanic, his career trajectory tracked the success of FedEx Corporation. For 29 years, Don rose through the ranks of the company. He was promoted from mechanic to Managing Director of Engineering in 1982, to Managing Director of Power Plants in 1988, to Managing Director of Airframe Maintenance in 1989, to Vice President of Base Maintenance in 1990, to Vice President of Aircraft Maintenance in 1992 and finally to Senior Vice President of Air Operations in 1998.

Frederick W. Smith, FedEx Corporation's founder, Chairman and CEO put it best when he said, "Don's retirement marks the end of a career that exemplifies FedEx in so many ways, namely that there's little time for the status quo in a company moving at the pace of opportunity around the world."

Don also received accolades from former Federal Aviation Administrator Jane Garvey for his vision and drive and has been praised by his colleagues for his pivotal roles in the company's most important turning points such as the acquisition of Flying Tiger line and the purchase of the A380 Airbus, the world's largest commercial airplane.

FedEx Corporation is an organization known for its effective use of technology, aircraft, efficiency and commitment to customer service, however it is the company's people—individuals like Don Barber—who have made the company a success story that is known throughout the world. Mr. Speaker I ask that an article on Mr. Barber be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and urge my colleagues to join me in honoring him for his service to our community.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF MEDICARE

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2005

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to commemorate 40 years of Medicare. This birthday represents 40 years of dignity for the elderly and individuals with disabilities who depend on this program for their health care. No one in this great Nation should have to suffer because of lack of medical care or become impoverished due to the high costs of that care. On July 30, 1965, Medicare and Medicaid were enacted as part of the Social Security Act to take care of our most vulnerable and needy citizens. On that historic day, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed a law that gave millions of Americans the ability to seek treatment from doctors and in hospitals without fear of destitution.

Today, Medicare provides health insurance security for nearly 42 million Americans, including more than 35 million senior citizens and 6 million individuals with disabilities under the age of 65. Over the past 40 years, 105 million Americans have enjoyed better health and received higher quality care as a result of Medicare.

Who depends on Medicare today? The men and women who served our Nation in time of war; widows and widowers; those Americans who have worked a lifetime to build this Nation and who now live in retirement; the former police officers and fire fighters, nurses, doctors, teachers, lawyers, and small business owners who were the backbone of our communities; our aging parents and grandparents, and in some instances, their disabled children. Medicare is a program that touches all of us.

Medicare is not just another health insurance program, but one of the leading insurers in our Nation. Private health plans have modeled their benefits after Medicare, from quality requirements to payments and reimbursements, to standards for certification. The Medicare program has not only greatly improved the quality and safety of health care for all Americans, but it has proven to be a remarkably efficient program, with administrative costs less than those in private plans.

Last year Congress added prescription drug coverage to round out the services provided by Medicare. Coverage of prescription medications was clearly a needed addition. I believe, however, that the design of the new program may keep beneficiaries from getting what they need. I have deep concerns over the unnecessary complexities of this law and whether it will truly provide affordable access to prescription drugs. I also appreciate that we must update Medicare to meet the changing landscape of health care, but not at the expense