

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH REFORM ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the NIH Reform Act and congratulate Chairman BARTON on his hard work to develop the consensus product before us today. Without a doubt, the work performed at the NIH is invaluable. The groundbreaking research supported by NIH has provided a lifeline of hope to countless Americans living with diabetes, cancer, HIV/AIDS and many other illnesses.

Congress has not reauthorized the National Institutes of Health in more than a decade. Since its last reauthorization, the NIH has seen its funding double—a testament to the high priority that Congress places on the important research being performed at NIH. This reauthorization is an extension of our commitment to ensure that the NIH has the resources and proper management structures to conduct the kind of research that will ease the burden of disease in this country.

These days, Americans live with chronic conditions that cannot be remedied by studying one particular organ, or one part of the body. Obesity and diabetes, for example, affect virtually the entire body, and we need to facilitate increased cooperation among the NIH's Institutes and Centers to achieve real progress on these pervasive conditions. The bill before us would do just that by creating a Common Fund, through which the Director of the NIH could support the important research that involves several institutes and centers at the NIH.

While the Common Fund is an innovative approach toward trans-NIH research, Chairman BARTON also worked to ensure that this new fund did not overshadow the important research being performed at the individual institutes and centers. To strike this balance, the bill stipulates that only 50 percent of funding increases appropriated by Congress each year can be dedicated to the Common Fund. I would like to see an authorization level high enough to ensure adequate funding for the Common Fund and individual institutes and centers; however, in this tight budget environment, this provision is an important assurance that institutes and centers don't find themselves in a zero-sum game with the Common Fund.

As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I was proud to vote for this bill during our committee markup last week. My hometown of Houston is home to the world-class Texas Medical Center, which houses many facilities that conduct groundbreaking NIH research. The Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital conduct more NIH pediatric research than any other NIH grantee. The University of Texas's MD Ander-

son Cancer Center also conducts critical NIH research and is frequently recognized as the top cancer center in the country.

This bill will ensure that the NIH research performed at the Texas Medical Center—and other impressive research facilities across the nation—will yield continued contributions to our understanding of disease and the development of effective treatments to improve the health and well-being of all Americans. I encourage my colleagues to join me in support of this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO MALLORY REALTY COMPANY

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2006

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring a momentous occasion in my district to the attention of the House. It is not every day that any corporation in the United States reaches the milestone of 100 years in business. And Mallory Realty Company in my district has reached that milestone this year while still being operated by the same family.

LaGrange, Georgia was a very different place than it was when Arthur Eugene Mallory started his business in 1906 after graduating from business school in Atlanta. The Mallorys were not new to LaGrange. They had first come in 1827 and had been involved in the community for years.

1906 was boom time for LaGrange with the opening of new cotton mills and lots of construction of additional houses. It was the perfect time to open a realty business, and Arthur Mallory quickly became busy buying lots and managing rental properties.

As the business grew, more of the family became involved, and its influence in the community also grew. The Mallorys have served in the military, served on boards of local banks, and helped bring economic development to LaGrange.

Three generations of the Mallory family have served the community by working for Mallory Realty. Today, Mallory Realty is the oldest continuously family-owned business in LaGrange. Today they handle over 600 rental units for 52 property owners.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the entire House will join me in congratulating Mallory Realty on its 100 years of service, and wishing them all the best as they move into their second century of service to my state and our Nation.

NUCLEAR MEDICINE WEEK

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2006

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues that October

1–7 is Nuclear Medicine Week. Celebrated annually during the first full week of October at hospitals, clinics, imaging centers, educational institutions, and corporations around the world, Nuclear Medicine Week encourages members of the molecular imaging and nuclear medicine community to take pride in their profession by recognizing their colleagues for their hard work and to educate the public about molecular imaging and nuclear science.

I am proud to note that the Reston, Virginia-based Society of Nuclear Medicine is in my District. The Society of Nuclear Medicine represents over 16,000 physicians, technologists, and scientists specializing in the research and practice of molecular imaging and nuclear medicine. Since the organization's founding in 1954, the Society of Nuclear Medicine has been dedicated to promoting the science, technology, and practical application of molecular imaging and nuclear medicine. I commend the Society and its members for their outstanding work to ensure that the 20 million people annually who rely on molecular imaging and nuclear medicine procedures to diagnose and manage diseases like cancer and Alzheimer's receive quality care.

Nuclear medicine is an established specialty that performs noninvasive molecular imaging procedures to diagnose and treat diseases such as cancer and to determine the effectiveness of therapeutic treatments. It contributes extensively to the management of patients with cancer, including cancer of the brain, breast, blood, bone, bone marrow, liver, lungs, pancreas, thyroid, ovaries, and prostate. Nuclear medicine treatments such as positron emission tomography (PET) scans are crucial in effectively identifying whether cancer is present or not, if it has spread, if it is responding to treatment, and the cancer is in remission.

Molecular imaging also continues to provide critical information to help doctors, technicians, and other health care personnel manage abnormalities of the heart, brain, and kidneys. In fact, recent advances in the detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease can be attributed to nuclear medicine imaging procedures. These advances—which were made possible by research performed by nuclear medicine professionals—helped lead the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to extend Medicare coverage to include PET scans for some beneficiaries who suffer from Alzheimer's and other dementia-related diseases.

From advances in cancer diagnosis and treatment to recent breakthroughs in Alzheimer's and dementia research, nuclear medicine is improving lives. I applaud the Society of Nuclear Medicine and its members for their efforts to educate others on these major healthcare innovations during Nuclear Medicine Week, and I urge my Colleagues to join me in supporting policies that will keep our Nation on the cutting edge of molecular imaging and nuclear medicine research.

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