

DO NOT MAKE THE CIA A
POLITICAL PINATA

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, now is not the time for us to make a political pinata out of the CIA. How long ago was it that 9/11 occurred? And what did the commission on 9/11 tell us? It said we did not have adequate intelligence. We had lost an entire generation of intelligence operatives as a result of prior action by this Congress.

We can talk about the Church Committee report. We can talk about what happened during the Carter administration. We can talk about what happened in the Clinton administration. We thought we didn't need human intelligence; we could do it all with electronic.

The way to attract people, bright young people, committed patriots, to this country's intelligence is not to go after the CIA, is not, after the fact, for what appears to be political reasons, to threaten criminal investigations of those who are doing nothing more than trying to save this country from attack by others who would try and kill innocent Americans.

This outrage must stop. Do not make the CIA a political pinata, for whatever purpose.

A GOOD DAY TO STAND UP FOR
COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE
REFORM

(Mr. ELLISON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, what a glorious day and a great time to be in Congress. We have an opportunity to preside in this 111th Congress when we pass comprehensive health care reform with a public option.

You know, the fact is that millions of Americans are looking forward to the day when they don't have to worry about being excluded for a preexisting condition, when they will have true portability, when we can unlock the true entrepreneurial talent of America because people will be able to go and pursue their entrepreneurial dreams without fear of losing health care.

The fact is the other team, look, they had their day. They tried and all we have gotten is sicker at a higher expense, and we've been dying earlier. We haven't seen better outcomes with status quo health care, and people who stand for the status quo, they have had their shot and their time has run.

So, Mr. Speaker, thank you for presiding today. This is a good day to stand up for comprehensive health care reform and a strong, robust public option.

IN TRIBUTE TO WARREN
TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY

(Mr. LANCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Warren Township, New Jersey, for being named one of Money magazine's top 100 places to live for 2009. Warren Township was ranked sixth in the Nation in the magazine's annual rankings.

Located in the heart of the Watchung Mountains 35 miles west of New York City in Somerset County, New Jersey, Warren Township is not your typical big city suburb. Once described as "the greenest place in New Jersey," Warren Township is home to major corporations like Chubb Insurance and Citigroup. Yet the community retains its rural character through open space and its 72 working farms.

Good schools and family friendly township recreation, among other things, make Warren Township just one of the many great places in New Jersey to live, work and raise a family.

Congratulations to Warren Township. I'm proud to be the township's representative in Washington.

DEFENDING ARIZONA VALUES
CAMPAIGN

(Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, wherever I go in my district, I hear the same thing. Folks feel like greater Arizona's values are not being represented in Washington.

In this historic and challenging time, it is more important than ever for someone to stand up for what is important to us. I am determined to give voice to our values.

Today, I am launching my "Defending Arizona Values" campaign to continue my fight for the ideals I was raised with in rural Arizona. I will take on big government to make it more accountable and responsive to our needs, instead of just offering handouts and weighing us down with bureaucracy. I will also work to preserve our tradition of self-reliance.

As part of this effort, I am proud to announce that I have signed on as a co-sponsor to the Federal Reserve Transparency Act. We need more oversight and accountability in our government, and auditing the Fed is a valuable step in the right direction.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
ALBERTA KINNEY

(Mr. LEE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LEE of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the life of Alberta Kinney, an Amherst, New York, resident who answered the Nation's call to service during World War II.

In 1944, Alberta became part of the first group of women to fly military aircraft for the United States. The primary mission of the Women Airforce Service Pilots, or WASP as they came to be known, was to fly noncombat military missions so that their male counterparts could be deployed to combat.

The WASP did much more than fulfill wartime needs, overcoming significant hurdles to carry the torch for Amelia Earhart and pass it on to Sally Ride.

Last month, after the President signed into law a measure that honors Alberta and her fellow WASP with a Congressional Gold Medal, it was our hope that she would be able to travel to Washington in the near future to take part in a ceremony commemorating this honor. But sadly, Alberta passed away this past Friday evening.

On behalf of the people of western New York, I extend my deepest sympathies to Alberta's loved ones and ask the House to join me in honoring this distinguished member of the Greatest Generation.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF HEALTH
CARE REFORM

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the significance of health care reform for our country and to emphasize the importance of keeping the real VIPs, the people, involved in the process.

Health care reform is evolving rapidly, and I want to ensure that the people back home have real input into what is going on here in Washington, DC.

Earlier this year, I set up a Health Care Advisory Committee, which I meet with every month and which my staff deals with on a daily basis. Members of the advisory committee not only receive the news that's happening here on Capitol Hill with respect to health care, but they actually give us their input of what they're hearing and what they want to see in a health care reform bill. Their expert opinions are so valued in our ability to try to decide what to do here. And next week I will hold a town hall meeting where people back home can come and actually give us their ideas and listen to what is going on here with the development of health care reform.

I encourage all of my colleagues to go home and to hold these types of meetings and to listen to what the people really want.

\$18 MILLION CAN'T BUY
CREDIBILITY

(Mr. REHBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)