

his desire to help others and improve the quality of life for his constituents.

Finding a career as librarian prior to coming to Congress in 1983, I can vividly remember how wise and articulate he was. Often times during a special order, Major would control the entire time speaking about issues impacting those in his district and the broader African American community.

While in Congress, Major was a champion for many issues. Among his greatest accomplishments was securing over \$100 million for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, helping pass the Americans with Disabilities Act, and consistently ensuring the voices of the disenfranchised did not go mute during his tenure.

My continued thoughts and prayers are with his wife, children, family, friends, and colleagues during this difficult time. I pray that they find solace in knowing that Major lived a great life in which they and many others, can be proud of and inspired by.

A man who believed in God, provided for his family, and served his country. Major was the absolute epitome of what it is to be a model citizen.

There is an old gospel song that says . . . "May the works I've done speak for me." There is no doubt that the great things Major accomplished during his 24 years as a Member of Congress will surely speak for him. May his soul rest in peace and legacy forever live on.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable man, a twenty four year distinguished Member of this body and an outstanding American, Congressman Major Owens.

It was through his work in the community as a librarian, chief administrator of New York City's anti-poverty program and a State Senator where he learned the benevolence of kindness and value of public service.

In Congress, Congressman Owens worked tirelessly to improve education for all. His dedication to this cause extended further than the boundaries of our country and touched countless lives.

Mr. Speaker, it is incumbent upon this body to acknowledge Congressman Owens service which has improved our Nation.

On behalf of the people of the 30th Congressional District of Texas and the United States Congress, I extend my heartfelt sympathy to his family and celebrate his life of service.

ACA RAISES COSTS ON YOUNG AND HEALTHY COVERAGE

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius is scheduled to testify before the House Energy and Commerce Committee on the massive technological failures of the online rollout of the Affordable Care Act; and while some of my colleagues would lead you to believe that these are only minor Web site glitches, I rise to address a more basic, fundamental flaw in the construct of the Affordable Care Act.

The structure of the design, admittedly by an MIT economist who helped create ObamaCare, was to increase rates for the young and healthy while decreasing rates for the elderly or sick. The problem is this only serves to deter young Americans from purchasing health care when faced with the costs of education, a first home, and the prospect of starting a family.

We all want Americans to be covered, but higher premiums for the young and healthy to subsidize those who are greater consumers of health care was not the bill of goods the American people were originally sold. Mr. Speaker, young Americans deserve better.

IMMIGRATION AND WOMEN

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

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, achieving immigration reform is not just an issue of security or economics; it is also an issue of women's rights. It is women who disproportionately bear the brunt of our inability to fix the immigration system. Undocumented women are more likely to suffer from domestic violence, poor work conditions, or be victims of human trafficking. They are afraid to demand justice for crimes that are committed against them, and they are afraid of retaliation and deportation.

A pathway to citizenship is critical to putting an end to a system that encourages the exploitation of women. Far too many mothers have been separated from their children because our immigration system does not value family unity and parental rights. Family values are American values. Women waiting decades to reunite with their families is not acceptable.

Ensuring that our family-based immigration policies are strong and that they come with rights to employment are key to promoting the well-being of women. We benefit as a Nation when women have the ability to reach their full potential. With the help of women, it is projected that comprehensive immigration reform will reduce our deficit by \$1 trillion over 10 years.

I know that my neighbors care about women's rights and care about keeping families together. That is why we need to pass comprehensive immigration reform now.

COMMEMORATING CHLI'S 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to commemorate the 10-year anniversary of the Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute, known as CHLI.

Through his vision and leadership, former Congressman Lincoln Diaz-

Balart has guided CHLI in its mission to advance our community's diversity of thought, while preparing young Hispanics to become the leaders of tomorrow.

CHLI's programs and initiatives focus on a wide variety of issues, from public service to commerce and technology. This month, I spoke at CHLI's Trade and International Affairs Symposium to highlight the importance of our community's contribution to the global economy. As the fastest growing group of both consumers and producers, Hispanics can benefit from reducing trade barriers and opening new markets.

CHLI has also helped many young people and provided them with the necessary tools to succeed in this increasingly globalized world. Through CHLI's Global Leaders Internship and Fellowship Program, students from across our Nation have expanded their professional horizons and enhanced their understanding of the public and private sectors.

As a CHLI board member, I am proud of the opportunities that CHLI provides to our youth and its commitment to ensuring that we continue to prosper as a Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF YVONNE "BONNIE" GONZALEZ OF SOUTH TEXAS

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

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Yvonne "Bonnie" Gonzalez, an extraordinary public servant who has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of south Texas residents.

As CEO of Workforce Solutions, she has played a vitally important role in leading transformational change in the Rio Grande Valley and in the workforce industry. In fact, due to her exemplary leadership, Workforce Solutions has become one of the highest performing workforce boards in Texas.

Prior to joining Workforce Solutions as their CEO, Ms. Gonzalez served as founding president and CEO of the RGV Empowerment Zone Corporation. Under her direction, the Empowerment Zone took a \$40 million Federal investment and leveraged an additional \$416 million in local, State, national, and private sector investment into the Empowerment Zone communities.

As a devoted public servant, Ms. Gonzalez has inspired others to strive for excellence and to put the needs of our community first. Today I congratulate Ms. Bonnie Gonzalez on her new venture as president of the Knapp Community Care Foundation and thank her for the many years of public service to south Texas residents.