

This forum will engage junior high school and high school students living in the Douglas area who are eager to gain leadership experience through volunteer initiatives tied to the improvement of health care in rural areas.

I hope that many young people in Cochise County and elsewhere in Southern Arizona will take this opportunity to participate in this very worthwhile endeavor.

During the forum, attendees will hear from established youth leaders. Also speaking will be long-time Douglas leaders who support the advancement of youth into leadership roles.

The Arizona Rural Health Association is sponsoring this important event. Other sponsors are the city of Douglas, Chiricahua Community Health Center, Cochise County Health Department, Cochise County Youth Health Coalition, Douglas Family Care, Douglas High School Health Occupation Students of American, Douglas High School Med Club, People's Choice Hospital, Southeast Arizona Area Health Education Center, Southeast Arizona Medical Center, Students Against Destructive Decisions, University of Arizona Center for Rural Health and the Voice of Douglas.

I am proud to recognize the first Douglas Youth Leadership Development Forum and encourage residents of my district to fully support it.

#### HONORING JARED DALE GOULD

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2013*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jared Dale Gould. Jared is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1393, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jared has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jared has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jared has earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Jared has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jared constructed a fire pit at Heartland Presbyterian Center outside of Parkville, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jared Dale Gould for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2013*

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding my absence from the House for votes on the evening of November 18, 2013, due to a medical issue. I would like to submit how I would have voted had I been in attendance for the following votes:

Rollcall No. 588, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, the Digital

Accountability and Transparency Act (H.R. 2061): I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 589, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, a bill (H.R. 272) to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense joint outpatient clinic to be constructed in Marina, California, as the General William H. Gourley Federal Outpatient Clinic: A Joint VA-DOD Health Care Facility: I would have voted "yea."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2013*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall no. 589, I was unable to be present for the vote on H.R. 272.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

#### KEEP YOUR HEALTH PLAN ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

### HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2013*

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a temporary, one year extension of health care plans in the individual market. Although this bill isn't perfect, I believe it is important that Congress works together to give Michigan residents certainty and stability in their healthcare choices while the Administration works out the problems in the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

I want to emphasize my support for health care reform. I voted for this important law in 2010, and have voted 40 times against efforts to repeal and dismantle health care reform. However, many of my constituents have called my office confused by the cancellation letters sent by insurers. Compounding this confusion is the ongoing technology glitches that are keeping people from signing up on the exchanges and learning about new options for health insurance.

At a time when too many Michigan families are still struggling economically, it is important that we keep our promises that the law would allow you to keep your insurance and doctor if you want to.

The President announced his plan to grandfather in health care plans that have been recently canceled, but I believe that Congress must also vote to support that decision legislatively. I believe that this temporary, one year extension of health care plans is necessary while people can get the information they need to make the right choices for their family on the benefits of the Affordable Care Act.

I support the President's requirement to have insurers disclose better information about these grandfathered plans and new plans that might be available. That is why I also joined in sending a letter to Secretary Sebelius stating that we must require insurers to explain to policyholders what benefits they would be losing under the grandfathered plans, and the tax credits and subsidies they could be eligible for

in the new insurance marketplace. We must ensure that insurance companies provide a clear explanation when any future changes to plans are not a requirement of the Affordable Care Act.

As I have always said, I am willing to work in order to make improvements to ACA as they are needed. Clearly a fix is needed to ensure that people can keep their insurance if they like it. It is important that we work together to give certainty on this issue, and Congress should pass a bipartisan bill to achieve this goal.

#### RECOGNIZING ZORAIDA RIOS-ANDINO

### HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2013*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize the public service of Zoraida Rios-Andino. Zoraida was born in East Chicago, Indiana. Her passion for social justice started when she was studying at Saint Joseph's College where she received a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Education. As a student, she was the founder of an organization called "Palante" and was the assistant director of a college TV program, "Know Your Community," which informs Latino students about issues affecting the Hispanic community. She is the proud mother of her two children Carolina Raquel and Gilberto Antonio. Her pride and joy is her granddaughter Analiz Diana Balderas.

In 1979, Zoraida moved to Puerto Rico and worked for several community services companies. In 1986, she returned to Indiana and began advocating for the rights of the Puerto Rican and Latino community. She served as President of Madre Atrevete Muevete Ahora (MAMA) and Secretary of the Latino Historical Society. She was also active with the Northwest Indiana Voter Registration and Education Foundation, United Citizens Organization, and United Farm Workers. Zoraida was the co-founder and President of the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women and received their Lifetime Achievement Award in 2000. She also received the Roberto Clemente Community Service Award from the Northwest Indiana Coordinating Counsel.

After moving to Florida with her family, Zoraida became the founder and President of the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women's local chapter in Orlando. She is also a member of the Asociación Borinqueña and La Casa de Puerto Rico. In 2008, she got involved with various social justice groups and served as Vice President for Frente Unido 436 and Vice President of the National Council of Puerto Rican Rights. She is also involved with the Black, Latino, Puerto Rican Alliance for Justice and is founder and co-director of the Orlando chapter of the National Congress of Puerto Rican Rights. She is currently working on her project "Boricua," a tool to unite the worldwide Puerto Rican community.

I am happy to honor Zoraida Rios-Andino for her public service to the Hispanic community.