

CONGRATULATING FRANCIS HOWELL CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL FOR ITS PLACEMENT IN THE TOP 25 MISSOURI RANKED HIGH SCHOOLS

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Francis Howell Central High School for its placement in the top 25 Missouri high schools as ranked by U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Francis Howell Central High School for a job well done.

HONORING KATIE ARROYO AND JARED BAILEY OF THE FLORIDA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA FOR RECEIVING THE FLORIDA INNOVATIVE SERVICE AND BEST PRACTICE AWARD OF 2015

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Katie Arroyo and Jared Bailey of the Florida Small Business Development Center at the University of North Florida for receiving the Florida Innovative Service and Best Practice Award of 2015. Katie and Jared received this prestigious award for their hard work and expertise in creating the International Marketing Metrics tool.

Using the International Marketing Metrics tool as part of the network's international trade services, small business exporters are able to quickly compare dozens of markets via the interactive country ranking matrix and illustrative graphing system. Jared and Katie developed this new and progressive tool for the Small Business Development Center at the University of North Florida.

The Florida Innovative Service and Best Practice Award is given in recognition for significant contributions to organizational improvement and enhanced performance in Florida's SBDC network, which is exactly what the International Marketing Metrics tool accomplishes. They were presented this prestigious award by Florida SBDC Network CEO and State Director Michael Myhre in Miami, Florida on June 23, 2015 as part of the Florida SBDC Network's professional development conference. At the annual conference, they recognize top personnel, volunteers, and partners for their contributions to the Network's mission in helping Florida's small businesses grow and succeed.

I am honored to have two such motivated and dedicated individuals living and working in the Fourth Congressional District of Florida. They truly exemplify what it means to work

tirelessly in their effort to provide small businesses with the tools they need to grow and be successful here in Florida and across the nation.

I salute the dedicated work of both Katie Arroyo and Jared Bailey, and their well-deserved recognition upon being selected for this prestigious award.

IN HONOR OF KANNAPOLIS POLICE SERGEANT CHUCK MORGAN'S CAREER

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Police Sergeant Chuck Morgan for his faithful service with the Kannapolis Police Department located in the 8th Congressional District of North Carolina.

Sergeant Morgan began his career with the Kannapolis Police Department as a Patrol Officer in 1986 and was then promoted to the rank of Sergeant on April 7, 1999. As a Sergeant, he has served the Kannapolis community in both the Patrol and Traffic Divisions.

As a result of his exemplary service, Sergeant Morgan has received various commendations from law enforcement agencies, civic organizations, churches, and his peers. To highlight a few, he earned a 10-year safe driving award in 1996 and then the Kannapolis Police Department's Physical Fitness Award in 2013.

Equally as impressive as his excellence in the field was his dedication to becoming a better officer. Sergeant Morgan earned an Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate from the N.C. Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission having successfully completed 2,977 hours of professional training.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in thanking Sergeant Chuck Morgan for his esteemed service to our community and congratulating him on his retirement.

21ST CENTURY CURES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to accelerate the discovery, development, and delivery of 21st century cures, and for other purposes:

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support for H.R. 6, the 21st Century Cures Act which will help advance the discovery, development, and delivery of new treatments and cures for patients and will foster private sector innovation here in the U.S.

Arriving here today has been a long journey—full of lots of steps and some twists and turns along the way. I especially want to thank Legislative Counsel for their tireless efforts in helping translate our legislative aims into legislative language. They worked nights and weekends and were consummate profes-

sionals throughout the process. Specifically, I want to thank the following: Warren Burke, Ed Grossman, Jessica Shapiro, Michelle Vanek, Jesse Cross.

I also want to thank the health care staff of the Congressional Budget Office for all their help in recent months. In addition to their role in estimating the budgetary effects of numerous policies in the bill, they were instrumental in helping us shape a number of proposals the Committee considered. I specifically want to thank Holly Harvey, Tom Bradley, Chad Chirico, and all their colleagues for their diligence and assistance through the process.

And I would be remiss if I did not again thank the outstanding team on Energy and Commerce, and most especially the Health team, led by Chief Health Counsel, Clay Alspach, supported by Josh Trent, Paul Edattel, John Stone, Robert Horne, Carly McWilliams, Michelle Rosenberg, Katie Novaria, Adrianna Simonelli, Traci Vitek and Graham Pittman—without whose expertise, wisdom and counsel, this legislative work would not be possible.

H.R. 6 was reported from Energy and Commerce Committee by a vote of 51–0 and advances conservative fiscal and regulatory reforms. Every dollar of advanced appropriations in the bill (which will sunset at the end of FY 2020) is offset with other permanent reforms—including billions of dollars in mandatory entitlement savings in Medicare and Medicaid.

But this is no ordinary mandatory spending—like the kind we usually see in entitlement spending such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and Obamacare. This mandatory spending is for five years only and then stops or sunsets. This mandatory spending is fully paid for with mandatory spending cuts elsewhere that will not stop in five years, but are permanent reforms resulting in real savings. By comparison, the Ryan-Murray budget deal for health care savings yielded much less.

This innovative hybrid approach allows us to cut mandatory spending (entitlement spending) and use the savings to fund what would otherwise be a discretionary project—but in this case is 5-year dedicated spending on medical research.

Congressional Budget Office determined that H.R. 6 will reduce the deficit by \$500 million over the first ten years, and at least another \$7 billion over the second decade.

The funds provided to the National Institutes for Health (NIH) and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will be subject to explicit review and reprogramming through the annual appropriations process. Congress can review the dedicated funding and allocate it for specific initiatives.

Additionally, all the important policy riders that accompany federal funding through appropriations will be included—such as the Hyde Amendment and the Dickey-Wicker Amendment.

This bill also includes a policy that excludes authorized generics from Average Manufacturers' Price. This is a common sense policy from the President's budget proposal, intended to ensure the appropriate calculation of Medicaid brand name rebates paid by manufacturers. The policy is not intended to effect Medicaid programs' pharmacy reimbursements. Instead, the provision, which many states support, will result in an increase in manufacturer rebates under Medicaid and thus save money for states and the federal government.

H.R. 6 will help America to innovate its way out of our entitlement crisis. The regulatory reforms included in H.R. 6 will accelerate the pace of discovery, development and delivery of new treatments and cures, thereby providing significant health care savings to the federal budget that will only grow over time.

By modernizing clinical trials, eliminating duplicative administrative requirements, and perhaps most importantly, making FDA less bureaucratic by advancing the voice and needs of patients in the drug and device approval process—H.R. 6 will make lasting, positive changes to the entire ecosystem of Cures. Over 250 patient groups have enthusiastically said “yes” and endorsed Cures.

I urge all of my colleagues to think of the patients and vote “AYE” in support of H.R. 6.

21ST CENTURY CURES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to accelerate the discovery, development, and delivery of 21st century cures, and for other purposes:

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Chair, America has been at her best when facing great challenges.

Some of our greatest challenges today are in the area of healthcare.

With over 10,000 known diseases, only 500 have cures.

We need to embrace a national vision of improving lives, and of course, saving money, through a Cures Strategy.

Sepsis is one condition that will benefit from this legislation.

Sepsis is the body's response to an overwhelming infection.

Approximately 250,000 people die from sepsis every year in the U.S. and yet most people have never heard of it.

Sepsis is the #1 most expensive condition treated in U.S. hospitals and in FY11 the aggregate hospital cost for sepsis was more than \$20 billion.

This legislation comes too late for Katie McQuestion and Rory Staunton, both who succumbed to sepsis as vibrant, health young people.

But through the work that the CURES legislation will support, we can find ways to identify sepsis earlier and even find ways to prevent sepsis.

The 21st Century Cures legislation includes language that I have authored with my friend from Texas, Rep. GENE GREEN—the SOFTWARE act.

Getting bureaucracy out of the way and allowing innovation is the goal of SOFTWARE.

SOFTWARE will codify the manner in which FDA approaches health IT—including the wonderful apps that we all use to keep us healthy. FDA is the agency charged with assuring the safety and efficacy of drugs and medical devices.

But data is not a drug or device and it makes no sense to regulate it as such.

However obvious that is, it hasn't stopped FDA from trying to make medical device law fit health IT.

We need to modernize the FDA authorities to reflect the new technology that is health IT. SOFTWARE, as included in 21st Century Cures is an important first step in our efforts to modernize the FDA.

It is common sense legislation to provide opportunity for health IT to deliver on the promise of better health for all Americans.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate to bolster these efforts as SOFTWARE moves through the Senate.

For all the reasons I've outlined, the 21st Century Cures legislation is an important bill. But we must ensure that the new treatments, devices and drugs that will be created as a result of this legislation get to the people that need it the most. And some of the most needy are our nations seniors who get health care through Medicare.

Today, Medicare struggles with the adaption of new technology. Many seniors go years without access to the latest treatment options. We must change that. Congress receives great support from the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) who offers recommendations and policy support to Congress to improve Medicare.

But as we are on the cusp of changing how health care is delivered, MedPAC could use additional policy support including Commissioners that have real-world expertise in this area, and who understand the changes that need to be made in both Medicare payment and regulatory policies to make that happen. I've been pleased to support such candidates in the past, and will continue to do so in the future.

RECOGNIZING FRED DEHARO FOR HIS POSITIVE IMPACT ON IMPROVING HEALTH EDUCATION FOR PRESIDENTS OF THE COACHELLA VALLEY

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize the extraordinary contributions Fred Deharo has made to the health and wellbeing of residents in the Coachella Valley, making a real difference in the lives of the people I serve.

There is a dire need for quality health education and health care in the Coachella Valley. As an Emergency Physician myself, I know how critical it is for this population to have access to health care and education, and have seen first-hand the impact of Mr. Deharo's work.

For the last 35 years, Mr. Deharo has dedicated his life to expanding and improving public health. Upon graduating from UCLA with a Masters of Arts in Health Education-School of Public Health, Mr. Deharo was hired by “El Progreso Del Desierto,” a farm worker health clinic in Coachella, to run their health education program, and eventually became their Executive Director.

Mr. Deharo's genuine passion for our country's medically underserved populations steered him toward his next professional endeavor. In 1993, he began consulting and grant writing, and was instrumental in the opening of the health clinic “Clinicas Del

Pueblo” in Mecca, CA. Mecca, primarily a farming community, lacks access to basic health care and health education facilities.

Continuing with his service to underserved communities of Southern California, Mr. Deharo returned to the Coachella Valley in 1998 and in collaboration with another passionate health advocate, Rosa Lucas, they contributed to the opening of another clinic “Santa Rosa Del Valle” in Coachella, CA. Currently Mr. Deharo is Chief Contracts Officer for Borrego Community Health Foundation. And soon will be the Director of Contracting and Business Development for Clinicas Del Camino Real, Inc. in Ventura County, Ca.

Mr. Deharo recognizes the urgent needs that medically underserved communities struggle with on a daily basis. As a resident of the Coachella Valley, and as a Doctor, I thank Mr. Deharo for his life's work to provide better healthcare access to the rural and underserved communities of the Coachella Valley.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the thousands of families and children who have access to a Doctor through the health clinics that Mr. Deharo helped make possible, I would like to offer my sincerest thanks to Mr. Deharo, and look forward to continuing to support his legacy.

CONGRATULATING TIMBERLAND HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Timberland High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Timberland High School for a job well done.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL SCOTT B. AVERY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Colonel Scott B. Avery, Commander of Martin Army Community Hospital, for his distinguished service to the United States of America. Colonel Avery was instrumental in the partnership between the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Martin Army Community Hospital at Fort Benning, Georgia to greatly improve the healthcare services provided by the VA in the Columbus, Georgia area. On Tuesday, July 14, 2015, Colonel Avery relinquished Command of Martin Army Community Hospital to Colonel Marie A. Dominguez.

Colonel Avery was commissioned as a Medical Service Corps Officer in the U.S. Army