

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DEFUND PLANNED PARENTHOOD ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 2015

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, today, I would like to talk about the Republican effort to defund Planned Parenthood and restrict access to health care services.

Planned Parenthood is an invaluable resource for working Americans across the country. In my home state of Minnesota, Planned Parenthood operates 18 clinics, an online health center, and serves over 54,000 people every year.

If funding for Planned Parenthood is eliminated—as my Republican colleagues are demanding—the consequences would be devastating. The elimination of Planned Parenthood's services would mean that millions of women and men would lose access to primary care services, contraceptive services, breast and cervical cancer screenings, and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases. These families—especially those in rural and high poverty areas—would have nowhere else to go.

My colleagues who support defunding Planned Parenthood say that working families could go elsewhere to receive care. This claim is false. Community Health Centers and other clinics that serve low-income Americans would not be able to provide care for all of the patients that would flood their offices should Planned Parenthood lose their federal funding.

Not only would defunding Planned Parenthood create barriers to accessing care, but it would limit the ability of women to achieve economic security. A recent Guttmacher Institute study showed that access to contraception helped women complete their education, keep or get a job, and take better care of their families. For example, the children of mothers who had access to contraception have higher family incomes and college completion rates. Moreover, research also shows that access to birth control contributed in a 30 percent rise in the number of women in skilled careers between 1970 and 1990. The positive effects of widespread access to reproductive and primary care services for women, families and Americans is immeasurable.

Unfortunately, the recent attacks on Planned Parenthood are nothing new. This is just another attack on working families and low-income women. In 1976, Congress passed the Hyde Amendment which restricts the use of federal funds for abortion. This policy directly harms the wellbeing and safety of low-income women, and limits their personal autonomy. It is a policy I strongly oppose. Three decades later, Republican talking points about Planned Parenthood ignore the very real impact defunding the organization will have on every day Americans—both on a large economic scale, and on the personal health and autonomy of Americans. It is a reminder that my

Republican colleagues in Congress do not trust women to make decisions that are best for them. That must change. We must trust women to do what is best for their bodies and their families. Republican tactics also ignore the consequences of shutting down the government simply to make an ideological point.

Putting the wellbeing of millions working Americans on the line is unacceptable. Supporting policies that restrict women's—specifically low-income women's—personal autonomy is unacceptable. That is why I support the Planned Parenthood and the working families it serves.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL LATINO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Latino Behavioral Health Association Scholarship Recipients for their commitment to promoting the health and well-being of the members of their communities as they pursue a college degree in behavioral health.

The National Latino Behavioral Health Association (NLBHA) was established to strengthen the national voice for Latinos in the behavioral health arena and to bring attention to the great disparities that exist in areas of access, utilization, practice based research, and adequately trained personnel. The NLBHA Scholarship provides financial resources and mentorships to students to achieve their goal of college graduation. This year, the NLBHA Scholarship Luncheon recognizes the scholastic achievements of eleven students working toward a degree in behavioral health with a commitment to serving the communities of New Mexico.

During Hispanic Heritage Month, it is an honor to support these young Hispanic students as they embark on their journey in higher education. I commend their dedication to addressing the great disparities that exist in the areas of funding, access, and quality of care for Hispanics needing professional mental health and substance abuse services. And while I applaud NLBHA's efforts to recruit and support Hispanics dedicated to behavioral health, and to the students pursuing higher education with the goal of supporting the behavioral needs of New Mexico, I congratulate them on receiving the NLBHA Scholarship and wish them luck in their college and future endeavors.

HONORING THE JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE OPERATIONS ENGI- NEERING AND TECHNICIAN PRO- GRAM

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joliet Junior College and the launch of their Operations Engineering and Technician (OET) Program.

In today's workforce and economic environment, being career ready is more important than ever. With the number of retirees increasing almost daily, companies and employers are searching for talented individuals who can hit the ground running on day one in their new roles. The skills students will learn and develop in OET are first class and as a result, the Joliet Junior College OET program will ensure graduates from the program will spur competition, productivity, and ingenuity in the next generation of workers. Programs like OET and similar technical education programs are vital to leading our economy and our workforce into the future.

I have witnessed firsthand the quality education that Joliet Junior College provides my constituents and our surrounding communities, and I am proud to represent many of these wonderful individuals in Congress. On behalf of the 16th District of Illinois, I wish to express our deepest thanks to the Joliet Junior College for their commendable service and constant dedication to higher education.

RECOGNIZING KENT STATE UNI- VERSITY'S LIQUID CRYSTAL IN- STITUTE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an Ohio institution that has made scientific and technological strides that have had an impact on every single one of our lives. The Glenn H. Brown Liquid Crystal Institute at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio celebrates its 50th anniversary this month after decades of scientific advancement in the development of liquid crystal technology that is used in devices like flat screen TVs and mobile devices.

The Kent State University Board of Trustees authorized the creation of the Liquid Crystal Institute in 1965, subsequently garnering grants from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and agencies of the U.S. defense sector. Glenn Brown, a Chemistry professor at the University since 1961, served as the Institute's director until his retirement in 1983. Under the direction of Director Dr. Hiroshi Yokoyama, the Institute continues its tradition of scientific excellence.

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