

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HEMOPHILIA FOUNDATION OF MICHIGAN FOR ITS SUPPORT OF INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED BY BLEEDING DISORDERS

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan for its efforts to provide services and support to individuals affected by bleeding disorders. HFM has played a key role in improving care and helping drive advancements in care for these diseases.

The Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan was founded in 1956 to promote awareness and improve the welfare of individuals afflicted with bleeding disorders. The organization has expanded substantially from the original group of volunteers and now features a full-time staff that handles federal funding for treatment centers in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. HFM also offers a multitude of support services to help improve the quality of life of those suffering from bleeding disorders. HFM hosts camping programs and retreats for children and adults that educate individuals about their bleeding conditions and help provide a support network for individuals in need. The organization also provides subsidized dental insurance and financial assistance to help patients afford treatment for their diseases.

The Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan plays a key role in bringing together researchers, patients and providers to facilitate effective and affordable care for those affected by bleeding disorders. This integrated care can have significant effects in improving quality of life and providing support that allows patients to better cope with these diseases. The commitment of the staff and volunteers for HFM has helped build a world-class organization that continues to effectively serve the Midwest and ensure that individuals with bleeding diseases receive the support they need. I am inspired by the activism and dedication of HFM to advocate on behalf of individuals with these diseases. Their work has impacted countless lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan for its outstanding work on behalf of the people of Michigan. It has been key to providing care and support services to individuals with bleeding disorders.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT SANCHO

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Robert Sancho, an experienced Urban Affairs Specialist and cultural activist who has dedicated his career to serving his community.

For the past forty-five years, Mr. Sancho has fought to improve the quality of education in New York City's public schools, and to make healthcare services more accessible in

New York City neighborhoods. Today, Mr. Sancho continues his fight as a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Center of Educational Innovation, Icahn Charter Schools, and the Multicultural Committee of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Mr. Sancho was born and raised in the South Bronx. After completing his primary and secondary education in the New York City public schools, Mr. Sancho went on to earn his Bachelor of Arts degree in Education and Political Science at the Inter-American University in San German, Puerto Rico, where he was also offered a teaching fellowship. Later, Mr. Sancho was granted a scholarship to the reputable Graduate School of Urban Affairs at Hunter College, where he earned his Master of Science Degree.

Mr. Sancho was appointed to serve as Deputy Superintendent of Schools in Community School District 4 in East Harlem, which is responsible for roughly 24,000 students. During his time in office, the district rose from 32nd place in reading and math achievements among New York City public school districts, the lowest ranking at the time, to 13th place. This unprecedented rise is considered one of the most successful educational turnarounds in our nation. Thanks to Mr. Sancho's bold success, Community School District 4 was awarded national competitive grants under his leadership.

Mr. Sancho became a community activist in the late 1960s, when then-New York City Mayor John Lindsay tried to shut down the Metropolitan Hospital Center, a public hospital which provided low cost vital health services to the community in East Harlem. Mr. Sancho helped organize the East Harlem community to reject the proposed closure. After a two-year struggle, the city decided to keep the hospital open.

In 1981, Mr. Sancho was appointed Vice President of Development and External Affairs at the Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center, which is located in the poorest Congressional District in the nation. As Vice President, Mr. Sancho helped the hospital secure over \$240 million in funding, which helped to finance three new hospital buildings and repair existing buildings. Additionally, Mr. Sancho's department helped raise almost \$15 million in the past few years for various hospital programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the extraordinary work of Robert Sancho has done for the great city of New York.

ROSS COUNTY COMMISSIONER JIM CALDWELL

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Ross County Commissioner Jim Caldwell on a distinguished career serving the residents of Ross County and southern Ohio.

Jim has served as Ross County Commissioner since 1977, making him the longest serving County Commissioner in the State of Ohio. During his 39 year tenure of serving our community, he has made an incredibly positive impact, serving in nearly every capacity imaginable.

From teaching our youth, to guiding our communities' finances, to leading the efforts of redevelopment and revitalization, Ross County is a better place because of Jim Caldwell.

We are certainly lucky to have had Jim's commitment and service in our community, and I wish him a very happy retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. ANDREA P. THAU

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Dr. Andrea P. Thau, President-Elect of the American Optometric Association (AOA), who will be installed as its 95th President during the 119th Congress of the AOA's House of Delegates.

Dr. Thau, a native of the 12th Congressional District in New York, was first elected to the American Optometric Association Board of Trustees in 2007, and has served as its vice president, Speaker of the House Pro Tem, and Chair of the AOA Investment Committee. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, a Fellow of the College of Optometrists in Vision Development, a Distinguished Practitioner on the National Academies of Practice, and a Diplomate of the American Board of Optometry. Dr. Thau is also a faculty member, associate clinical professor, and former chair of the Admissions Committee at SUNY College of Optometry, where she received her doctorate.

Prior to her election to the AOA Board, Dr. Thau broke new ground as the first woman president of the New York State Optometric Association, the New York Academy of Optometry, and the Optometric Society of the City of New York. She has continually used her expertise and success in her field to serve the public, especially children. She is a founding member of the New York Children's Vision Coalition as well as the AOA's InfantSEE committee, a national program that provides vision assessments to babies at no cost. She has advocated for children's vision at both the state and national level. Dr. Thau is also the owner of a private practice in Manhattan, Dr. Andrea P. Thau and Associates, which serves as a full-scope primary care practice with a special emphasis on children's vision and vision therapy.

Dr. Thau has been lauded by her peers for her excellence in optometry and has received numerous awards for her outstanding work, including the 2005 New York State Optometrist of the Year and SUNY Optometry Alumna of the Year. She has also been recognized twice as Vision Monday's 20 Most Influential Women in Optical.

Dr. Thau has long stood out as an example of extraordinary dedication and brilliance in her field. She was a stellar student at the Bronx High School of Science and completed her undergraduate studies at SUNY Albany before attending the SUNY College of Optometry. Since then, Dr. Thau has practiced optometry for nearly three decades, consistently providing first-rate eye care to her clients.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Andrea P. Thau for her outstanding work in the field of optometry and her