

Medicaid Services to include malnutrition electronic clinical quality measures in Medicare quality programs as well as include measures related to malnutrition in care transition programs.

I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me and rise in commemoration of Malnutrition Awareness Week. I wish to also salute the many groups and organizations who are involved on a daily basis in the fight against malnutrition, especially the bipartisan Defeat Malnutrition Today coalition and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

RECOGNIZING ALEX BARRIO

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, today, we honor Mr. Alex Barrio, the District Director of Flor-

ida's Ninth Congressional District. Alex is a dedicated public servant who has committed his life to the betterment of others. For over a decade, Alex has been at the forefront of fighting for Florida's constituents and the injustices they face. As District Director, Alex has continuously found ways to advocate for Florida's most vulnerable communities.

After the Trump administration implemented the "Muslim ban" barring citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries from entering the United States, Alex immediately went to the Orlando International Airport to defend the rights of Central Florida's Muslim community and ensure their safe return to Florida.

In late September 2017, Hurricanes Irma and Maria destroyed areas of Puerto Rico, forcing tens of thousands of families to flee the island and move to Florida's Ninth Congressional District. Without hesitation, Alex united local community leaders to provide the necessary support for the victims of these natural disasters. For over a year, Alex has led

the charge to guarantee that recent arrivals from Puerto Rico had the resources they needed to find affordable housing, helping thousands easily transition into the Central Florida community.

In April 2018, the Trump administration launched a "zero tolerance" policy on America's southwest border causing thousands of children to be separated from their parents. In the face of this devastating impact on families, Alex's persistence prevailed when he demanded answers from the Department of Health and Human Services and successfully urged them to comply with a federal judge's order to reunify these children with their parents.

Alex has proven time and again that he will not hesitate to fight for what is right. His hard work and dedication are a testament to his values and commitment to improving the lives of others. I thank Alex for his continued service to Florida's Ninth Congressional District.