

# INTRODUCTION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE CARE FOR SENIORS ACT OF 2019

## HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2019*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Comprehensive Care for Seniors Act of 2019. This legislation would direct CMS to promulgate the long overdue Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) final rule by April 1, 2019.

PACE is a proven care model delivering high-quality, comprehensive, integrated and coordinated community-based care to both Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries 55 years of age or older, who meet the criteria for a nursing home level of care, but wish to live at home. Multiple studies show that people receiving care from PACE organizations live longer, experience better health, have fewer hospitalizations and spend more time living at home than those receiving care through other programs.

PACE is a comprehensive, capitated, fully integrated, provider-based health plan. At present, there are 124 PACE organizations operating in 31 states, serving over 45,000 elders and those living with disabilities every day. PACE operates based on the fundamental principle that it is preferable in terms of quality of life, quality of care, and costs to public and private payers for PACE-eligible individuals to be served in the community whenever possible. Ninety-five percent live at home in their communities.

The PACE organization assesses each individual upon enrollment and develops a personalized care plan, implemented primarily by PACE staff across all settings of care twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Most PACE participants, 90 percent, are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. The average participant is 76 years of age, and lives with multiple chronic, complex medical conditions, which often significantly limit activities of daily living. Approximately half live with dementia. Thus, PACE organizations enroll an exclusively high-risk, high-cost population, with 85 percent being at least 65 years of age, and 15 percent between the ages of 55 and 64.

When individuals with chronic and medically complex conditions do not have access to care, their quality of life is diminished, which over time leads to increased expenditures. PACE deliberately was constructed to address the chronic care needs of individuals by providing timely and clinically appropriate treatments and social supports.

Currently, PACE programs operate under outdated regulations from 2006. It is critically important that CMS issue the PACE final rule, which will bring much needed regulatory flexibility, allowing PACE organizations to innovate and grow to best serve their participants, their families, and their communities. I urge all of my colleagues to join me to pass the Comprehensive Care for Seniors Act of 2019.

# TRANS-SAHARA COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIP ACT

## HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2019*

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, since 2005, the United States has been actively involved in the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership, which is an interagency program to assist partner countries in the Sahel and Maghreb regions of Africa, including Niger, Nigeria, Tunisia, and Mali, to address terrorist threats and prevent the spread of violent extremism.

This legislation is needed due to the continued high rate of terrorist activity on the continent, and this Partnership helps coordinate our diplomatic, defense, and development efforts to counter those threats.

Recently, the Pentagon, under the President's direction, has been re-evaluating our troop presence in Africa, which means the United States will need to rely more heavily on strategic partnerships built up over years. This bill would do that.

The bill directs the Departments of State and Defense as well as USAID to develop a comprehensive, interagency strategy for U.S.-Africa counterterrorism cooperation. It also improves monitoring and evaluation of the Partnership's programs to help guide whether efforts should be refocused on certain aspects of building partnership capacity.

Success in mitigating terrorism and violent extremism in Africa and elsewhere around the globe is predicated on our ability to work closely with our allies and combat violent extremism in a consistent and effective manner. This piece of legislation allows us to do just that.

I'd like to thank Ranking Member MCCAUL for his important work on this issue and introducing this legislation with me. I urge my colleagues to support this package.

## RECOGNIZING THE 2019 MARCH FOR LIFE

## HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2019*

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I proudly recognize the 46th annual March for Life taking place on January 18, 2019. Thousands of Americans from across our great country have made the pilgrimage to Washington to stand up for the protection of unborn children.

Ever since the Supreme Court's reprehensible ruling in *Roe vs. Wade*, the barbaric practice of abortion on demand has been rampant in our nation. Too often people erroneously conflate abortion with women's health care, presenting a false choice of caring for women or protecting life. It is possible to do both.

I stand firmly with the millions of Americans who believe that we must protect the lives of innocent children. I have long been a staunch advocate for pro-life issues. During my tenure as Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, I shepherded the ban on partial-birth

abortion through Congress. It was one of my greatest honors to watch President George W. Bush sign it into law. I have fully supported every effort in Congress to prevent taxpayer dollars from funding abortions—both in the United States and abroad—and will continue to fight efforts to reverse this practice. I am inspired by all who have traveled to Washington to participate in the March for Life, especially those from Wisconsin, and am grateful for all who believe that every life is precious and must be protected.

## HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF "JUMPIN' JOHNNY" WILSON OF ANDERSON, INDIANA

## HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2019*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of John Edward Wilson, an Anderson legend. "Jumpin' Johnny" Wilson was known for his exceptional drive, hard work, and mentorship displayed both on and off the basketball court. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are forever grateful for Wilson's revolutionary contributions to the city of Anderson, Madison County community, State of Indiana, and our nation.

A life-long Hoosier, Wilson was born in 1927 and raised in Anderson, Indiana, where he attended Anderson High School. During high school, he used his athletic ability to shatter racial barriers. Wilson led the Anderson Indians to their third state title, scoring 30 points in the 1946 championship game, then a state finals record. Wilson's love of sports extended far beyond basketball. He was an all-around athlete and enjoyed playing football, track, and baseball. His tremendous athletic ability led him to be named the state's first African-American Mr. Basketball and earned him the nickname Jumpin' Johnny. True to his moniker, Wilson won the state championship in the high jump.

Upon graduating high school, Wilson aspired to play college basketball. During this time, racial integration was discouraged. Due to public sentiment, Wilson was not afforded the opportunity to play for his dream school, Indiana University. Wilson later passed up opportunities with other schools to play for Anderson College, which was integrated in all aspects of student life. As an Anderson Raven, Wilson earned 11 letters in four different sports, was selected three times in basketball as all-conference and team MVP, was a twice named All-American, and finished third in the nation in scoring in 1949. Anderson College qualified for the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) small-college tournament during Wilson's sophomore and junior years, but the Ravens' integrated team was excluded. He still holds Anderson University's (AU) records for career scoring average (23.3), season scoring average (25.4), field goal attempts in a game (56), and ranks eighth on the career scoring list with 1,540 points. Wilson was also named All-Conference and team MVP in both baseball and track.

Wilson eventually left Anderson University, attending various baseball tryout camps before earning a spot on the Chicago American Giants in the Negro Leagues in 1949. Wilson's