

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO REQUIRE AN ACCREDITATION PROCESS FOR EDX TESTING

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill that will combat bad actors taking advantage of Medicare by requiring an accreditation process for electrodiagnostic studies or EDX testing.

EDX testing is used to diagnose and guide treatment for neuromuscular conditions that range from the uncomfortable, such as carpal tunnel syndrome, to the life threatening, such as ALS and muscular dystrophy. Current Procedural Terminology requires that a clinician trained in EDX testing personally perform invasive needle electromyography and either perform or directly supervise nerve conduction studies. These requirements ensure proper testing is guided in real time based on biofeedback from active study and a knowledge of health history and potential diagnoses.

An ongoing challenge for EDX testing has been an increase of fraud and abuse when mobile labs send "technicians" to provide an excessive number of tests that are often not medically necessary and tend to be performed poorly, providing inaccurate results that are not clinically relevant. A 2014 report by the HHS OIG entitled "Questionable Billing for Medicare Electrodiagnostic Tests" found \$139 million in annual suspicious spending in this area.

This bill will require that professionals performing EDX testing first demonstrate that they have the proper equipment to conduct the test. Second, professionals must demonstrate that they have the proper training to interpret the results by going through an accreditation process managed by government entities and professional societies. Accreditation has been successful in combating fraud in other patient areas such as mammography and sleep labs.

This bill will protect patients seeking treatment by ensuring they receive the most accurate results possible and I strongly urge my colleagues support for its passage.

CELEBRATING THE ALLIANCE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Mr. CASE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the longstanding friendship and continued alliance between two great nations: the United States and the Republic of Korea.

Seventy years ago, American and Allied servicemembers and civilians bravely came to the defense of South Korea, fighting alongside so many brave Korean citizens against North Korean aggression. While three long years of bitter conflict yielded only a stalemate, from the shared sacrifice and courage of millions emerged an enduring alliance and friendship between the United States and South Korea

based on a common vision for the world and shared values for our peoples. The Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States and the Republic of Korea endures to this day as a pillar of stability for the entire Indo-Pacific region. And in just the three generations since the Korean War, South Korea has emerged as one of Asia's great success stories, building a dynamic and diverse economy with a vibrant civil society and popular culture celebrated the world over.

However, the relationship between the American and Korean peoples goes even deeper than the Korean War. In 1882, representatives of the United States and the Joseon Dynasty established diplomatic relations between their countries through the Treaty of Peace, Amity, Commerce and Navigation. This was the first treaty Korea signed with a Western power, a treaty that first acknowledged Korea's status as an independent country.

My Hawaii has also played and continues to play a major role in the strong relationship between our two countries. In 1903, the first Korean immigrants arrived in the United States through Hawaii, and I am proud of Hawaii's history and present as the gateway for new generations of Korean American immigrants and as a major bridge between our countries and peoples. Today, there are over two million Korean Americans across the United States, with almost 35,000 residing in my home state of Hawaii. It is a true honor to represent such a diverse and accomplished community that has contributed so much to the richness of Hawaii.

Today, this House passed two resolutions recognizing the importance of the U.S.-South Korea alliance. H. Res. 809 expresses the importance of the United States alliance with the Republic of Korea and the contributions of Korean Americans in the United States, and H. Res. 1012 recognizes the 70th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War and the transformation of the United States-Korea alliance into a mutually beneficial, global partnership.

I am proud to support both resolutions and will continue to pursue opportunities to strengthen this crucial relationship, as well as to support Korean American communities in Hawaii and across the country.

Thank you: (Gam-sa-ham-ni-da and mahalo)

RECOGNIZING WAUKEGAN TO COLLEGE

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I am so pleased to rise today to celebrate an amazing program in my community, Waukegan to College, and to honor this year's class: Alexis Valdovinos, Moises Arreola-Malagon, Daisy Camacho, Maurice Davison Jr., Diana Diaz, Justin Garcia, Jesus Murillo, Jose Ochoa, Giselle Palomar, Emilio Salgado, and Gabriela Serna-Gutierrez.

A year-round college readiness service, the Waukegan to College program, or W2C for short, launched in 2009. Over the course of students studies, W2C seeks to advance individual's intellectual and emotional development, cultivating a strong commitment to com-

munity and a profound belief that they can build a brighter future for themselves, their families and their communities. By establishing high academic expectations and counseling students and their families on the college application process, W2C helps students realize their full potential by making the dream of college a reality.

All of these students will be the first in their families to attend college, and were selected for the W2C program due to their impressive academic achievements and their contributions to their local communities. As leaders inside and outside the classroom, these students show tremendous dedication and potential.

Strengthening our communities requires building new ladders of opportunity so that all Americans can succeed and thrive. This begins with providing every child, regardless of zip code, access to a high quality, affordable education, and continues by ensuring all families can afford to send their sons and daughters to college.

When our nation's talented young people pursue their passions and follow their dreams, they accomplish far more than personal growth. They serve as role models in their communities and their achievements inspire and motivate other young people to equally strive and achieve.

These students truly are Champions of Change. I wish them the very best of luck in their academic studies and in all their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING JERRY THORNE

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize my friend, Jerry Thorne, on the occasion of his retirement from service to the City of Pleasanton, California, one of the largest cities in my congressional district.

Jerry has made public service a way of life. After completing commitments to the United States Army and the Army National Guard Officer Corps, he left the military holding the rank of captain. He then transitioned into the tech world with a decades-long career in global operations management, facilities design, and environmental engineering for some of the most recognizable names in Silicon Valley. During that time, Jerry settled in Pleasanton, where he has made his home for over 40 years.

His service to the city began in 1995 when Jerry became Parks and Recreation Commissioner. He chaired that commission for ten years before making his first successful run for the Pleasanton City Council. After three terms on the council from 2005 to 2012, he decided to take the reins and run for mayor. He won that race and Jerry dutifully served as mayor of the City of Pleasanton for four two-year terms.

During Jerry's tenure, Pleasanton went through a remarkable period of growth. It is now home to numerous start-up and established technology and biotechnology companies, enabling employees to work near where they want to live. He also helped oversee the