

to a case in which a national bank has no branches in a second State.

HONORING THOSE FIRE FIGHTERS, EMERGENCY PERSONNEL, AND VOLUNTEERS WHO CONTAINED THE LOGAN VALLEY MALL FIRE IN ALTOONA, PA ON DECEMBER 16, 1994

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 11, 1995

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a group of people who exemplified the utmost professionalism and courage in their efforts to battle the devastating Logan Valley Mall fire in Altoona, PA during the early hours of Friday, December 16, 1994. These firefighters, emergency personnel, and volunteers all came together in a desperate time of need to contain this fire which has left an everlasting impression on the Altoona economy and its people. Over 300 firefighters, from 63 departments, stationed in Blair and four surrounding counties were called upon to extinguish the fire. Considering the fact that there are 81,000 firefighters in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 73,000 of which are volunteer, one can realize the magnitude of this fire by the number of personnel involved. Along with these numerous firefighters were emergency assistance workers and volunteers on site to provide any needed support throughout the ordeal. I applaud the job done by the local police, sheriffs, dispatch centers, and community organizations which all played a part during the fire and the aftermath.

Due to the quick action by all of the participating fire departments the powerful blaze was contained, saving a majority of the mall stores, and even allowing a handful to reopen in the following days. Hopefully, the reconstruction of the mall will be completed by the fall of 1995 thanks in part to this team of people.

I know I speak for everyone involved in this tragedy when I say that without the support and cooperation demonstrated by this crew of professionals and volunteers the damage sustained from the fire surely would have been greater, and we are all very thankful that no one was seriously injured from the dangerous blaze. In fact, with hundreds of people on the scene, only one minor injury was reported. Even though a disaster such as this is never welcome, it is reassuring to know that there are top notch emergency services in central Pennsylvania, committed to a profession in which they face life and death situations every time that station bell goes off.

I hope that in the future our communities will be able to maintain the necessary resources needed to maintain such readiness when called into action in times of serious emergencies. The Altoona region is indeed fortunate to have such a dedicated fire and rescue service on hand.

IN MEMORIAL: SHANNON LOWNEY AND LEANNE NICHOLS

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 11, 1995

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, the violence continues and the death toll rises once again. In the wake of the recent clinic violence in Massachusetts, 25-year-old Shannon Elizabeth Lowney and 38-year-old Leanne Nichols are dead, five people are injured, and an entire Nation sits paralyzed by fear and shock.

I wish to extend my deepest sympathies to the families of Shannon and Leanne. To them we offer this promise: We will not allow these women's lives to be lost in vain and we will not allow their sacrifice to be dismissed as mere casualties of a political conflict. These were not combatants—these were health care professionals. They were brutally murdered by those that seek to do through terrorism what they can never do through the ballot box.

The time has come for an end to clinic violence. An end to the lame excuses offered on behalf of the offenders. An end to the fear that grips professionals, patients, and ordinary Americans throughout our Nation. An end to the sick belief that violence will reap political empowerment.

Our Nation must act quickly to bring to justice both the assassins and those who incite them. Make no mistake: There is no greater threat to our national security today than the domestic terrorists roaming America under the cover of anti-choice politics. Dr. David Gunn, Dr. John Bayard Britton, Lt. Col. James Barrett, Shannon Elizabeth Lowney, and Leanne Nichols are gone forever, but their cause, the cause of freedom, lives on in all of us.

Our challenge is clear, our resolve unwavering, and our cause is just. We pause now to remember those who have died, but we will not give up our freedoms and we will not capitulate to terrorism. These women expect better of us, and better we must do to honor their memory.

THE ANTI-COP-KILLER BULLET ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 11, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that would impose a tax and import controls on bullets expressly designed to penetrate the bulletproof vests of law enforcement personnel.

This legislation, the Anti-Cop-Killer Bullet Act, would impose the same tax which currently exists on controlled firearms, such as submachine guns and sawed-off shotguns, to high-technology cop killer bullets like the rhino and black talon bullet. If enacted, the bullet manufacturer would be taxed at the rate of \$200 for each bullet—a tax so high that the bullet obviously would never be produced.

Over 10 years ago, a Teflon-coated bullet designed to pierce soft body armor was introduced. Due to strong public reaction, Congress in 1986 enacted the very first law to ban

a round of ammunition. Since then other bullets manufactured from different materials but designed with the same purpose have been introduced. Only after threatening or actually carrying out our threat to ban these cop-killer bullets, have we in Congress been successful at stopping them from reaching our streets.

However, as soon as we in Congress go through the motions of preventing a cop-killer bullet from going into production, along comes another manufacturer with a new bullet designed to penetrate protective armor. This pattern will continue as long as bullet manufacturers are allowed to exploit the loophole that exists in the 1986 law banning cop-killer bullets. Under the law, only metal alloy and Teflon-coated bullets were singled out leaving the door wide open for companies such as the Signature Products Corporation to develop plastic-based ammunition like the rhino bullet.

My legislation would prevent these unscrupulous bullet manufacturers from taking advantage of this loophole in existing Federal law. Rather than attempting to add another amendment to the 1986 law, the Anti-Cop-Killer Bullet Act proposes an across-the-board tax on all bullets expressly manufactured or advertised to penetrate normal quality bulletproof vests worn by law enforcement personnel. The tax at \$200 per bullet would surely make the business of manufacturing cop-killer bullets an economic impossibility.

America's law enforcement officers are already out-gunned as it is. Having to worry about a bullet piercing their protective armor should be the last thing on their mind.

By passing the Anti-Cop-Killer Bullet Act, we will be giving our law enforcement the support they need. I urge my colleagues to join with me to pass this legislation so that we can prevent these cop-killer bullets from endangering the lives of America's law enforcement officers.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 11, 1995

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to commend the League of Women Voters for their recently celebrated 75th anniversary, which we recognized in Syracuse last month with a ceremony and exhibit at our beloved Erie Canal Museum.

The league has steadfastly dedicated itself to informing voters about the choices they have and the process they are most certainly a part of.

It is fitting that our celebration in Syracuse was held at the Canal Museum, inside a symbol of our regional—and in fact our national—history and our local heritage. Decisions by elected government are by their nature best made after consultation with an informed citizenry. Just as the Erie Canal was the work of governmental leaders enlightened by a populace requiring economic salvation, so too is democracy exercised best when groups such as the League of Women Voters have done their work.

My personal experience with the Syracuse Metro League has been positive. I believe I have benefited by their efforts. They have

sponsored debates in which I have taken part. They have provided forums for discussion, most recently on health care. And more generally, but perhaps most important, they have been willing partners in the push to keep people interested and involved in the responsibilities of democracy.

I want to encourage the league, and to cooperate. I would ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the League of Women Voters for their hard work and in wishing them well for many years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 449, THE
PRIMARY HEALTH CARE EDU-
CATION ACT

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 11, 1995

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, it's a well-known fact that America's growing emphasis on specialization in the physician work force has driven up the costs of health care and fragmented access to medical services. What is not widely known is that America will have a shortage of 35,000 primary care physicians by the year 2000 and a projected surplus of 115,000 specialists—Department of Health and Human Services. To reverse current trends in medical education and lower the rate of inflation on health care costs, I have introduced H.R. 449, the Primary Health Care Education Act.

In the past year, two separate Government-funded studies have produced substantial evidence that medical schools must respond now to compensate for our primary care needs of the 21st century. H.R. 449 is based on the findings and recommendations to the Congress found in both reports. These reports include: First the General Accounting Office's [GAO] October 1994 report to congressional requesters entitled "Medical Education: Curriculum and Financing Strategies, Need to Encourage Primary Care," and second, the Council On Graduate Medical Education's [COGME] fourth report to Congress and the Department of Health and Human Services entitled "Recommendations to Improve Access to Health Care Through Physician Workforce Reform."

At this time, I would like to briefly summarize the GAO's findings. Medical career decisions are usually made at three specific times during a student's education: First, at the end of college when students typically apply to medical school, second, during the fourth year of medical school when students choose the area of medicine to pursue and enter residency training, and third, at the end of residency training when residents decide to enter practice or to train further for a subspecialty. H.R. 449 attempts to encourage primary care as a career choice at all points in a student's academic career.

The choice of career paths in medicine were found to be significantly influenced by the curriculum and training opportunities students receive during their medical education. Foremost among these factors was whether the medical school had a family practice department. Students attending schools with family practice departments were 57 percent more likely to pursue primary care than those attending

schools without family practice departments. Second, the higher the ratio of funding of a family practice department in relation to the number of students, the higher the percentage of students choosing to enter primary care. Students attending medical schools with highly funded departments were 18 percent more likely to pursue primary care than students attending schools with lower funding. A third factor was whether a family practice clerkship was required before career decisions were made in the fourth year. Students attending schools which required a third-year clerkship were 18 percent more likely to pursue primary care. Fourth, a significant correlation was found between residents who were exposed to primary care faculty, exposed to hospital rounds taught by primary care faculty, and exposed to rotations which required training in primary care—and residents who were not—in choosing to enter general practice.

Given the health care needs of the 21st century, COGME recommends we attain the following physician workforce goals by the year 2000. First year residency positions should be limited to the number of 1993 U.S. medical school graduates, plus 10 percent. At least 50 percent of residency graduates should enter practice as primary care physicians. And, steps should be taken to eliminate rural and inner city primary care shortages.

To reverse the current trends toward specialization, the Traficant Primary Care Education Act directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to give preference to medical schools which have established programs that first, emphasize training in primary care, and second, encourage students to choose primary care. Under H.R. 449, the Secretary must consider the GAO's findings when establishing the conditions a medical school must meet to receive preference.

The Secretary, however, is by no means limited to the GAO's findings. H.R. 449 was designed to give the Department of Health and Human Services the authority to shift the current trends in medical education to meet existing and future needs. It does this by giving preference, or awarding grants and contracts to schools which have designed curriculum that has been proven to increase primary care. The Traficant bill, however, by no means dictates, to the administering agency or medical schools, the best way to achieve the desired results. The Traficant bill, in fact, follows the intent of language of the Public Health Service Amendments of 1992, which was passed only by this body. It is my hope that HHS, as the expert agency on this issue, in consultation with medical schools, GAO, and COGME, will attain the health care and physician workforce needs of the 21st century.

If you support improved access to services and lower health care costs, I urge you to co-sponsor H.R. 449, the Primary Care Education Act.

NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY
REASSESSMENT ACT

HON. BARBARA F. VUCANOVICH

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 11, 1995

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, today I'm introducing the Nuclear Waste Policy Reas-

essment Act of 1995. Congress has shown little concern for the science of Yucca Mountain. Instead, the siting of the Nation's high-level nuclear waste repository has become nothing more than a political football.

My bill prohibits site characterization of Yucca Mountain for 3 years while the National Academy of Sciences conducts a study to determine if the current process of studying only Yucca Mountain makes scientific sense, or whether alternatives should be looked at. I believe that a body concerned with scientific objectivity can not possibly endorse the further site characterization of Yucca Mountain and the current exclusion of other options.

During the suspension of work on the Yucca Mountain site the legislation provides for funding of dry cask storage at existing reactor sites. As the deadline approaches for the Federal Government to take possession of this waste, we must provide some type of storage; onsite storage appears to be the most workable solution.

In recognition of slippage in the deadlines for study and construction of a high-level nuclear waste facility, this legislation moves the deadline for opening any nuclear waste dump back to 2015.

I have been consistently opposed to siting the Nation's high-level nuclear waste repository in Nevada, and I will continue to fight Congress' abuse of Nevada with all means available. It's not fair for Congress to make Nevada into the nuclear dumping ground for the rest of the country. I hope my colleagues will support my efforts to see that science prevails over politics.

TRIBUTE TO MUSICIAN/COMPOSER
GEORGE KATSAROS

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 11, 1995

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, we owe a great debt of gratitude to those ancient Greeks who forged the notion of democracy and thus gave us a blueprint for our own democratic heritage. We owe another debt of gratitude to a man who has been called the greatest Greek folk song composer and singer of the 20th century. It is that man, my good friend George Katsaros, for whom I rise today to pay tribute.

Ironically, it was the promise of opportunity inherent in democracy that beckoned George to this country from the island of Amorgos in 1913 at the age of 25. Stepping off a steamship at New York Harbor with all his belongings in one hand and his guitar in the other, George Katsaros began a musical career that continues even today. Within hours of his arrival he was accompanying a Salvation Army street band and was invited to stay on. Now, more than 80 years later, his strong, nostalgic, mellow voice and unique style on the guitar have been heard in every corner of the world: in ballrooms, hotel clubs, coffeehouses, concert halls, steamships, private yachts—anywhere people gather to hear their memories and dreams and experiences put to music and sung from the heart.

Katsaros became so popular that in 1919 RCA Victor signed him as a recording artist. Contracts with Columbia and Decca followed,