

void he leaves in our community will long be felt by all who had the privilege of knowing and working with him. The legacy of leadership he leaves will live on in future generations whose lives he has touched in the most remarkable way.

MEDICARE HMO MARKETING

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the Nation's seniors and low-income citizens are starting to be hit with a tidal wave of sales pitches for managed care health plans.

Some of the information is helpful. A lot of it is just old-fashioned boiler room high-pressure sales pitch.

I've just received the following letter from Dr. Harley Schultz of San Leandro, CA, which explains some of the dangers of this marketing.

Mr. Speaker, before a lot of seniors and disabled and low-income people are hurt by gross sales practices, we need to establish some standards so that people can make rational, careful choices on their health plans—after all, it could be a matter of life and death.

The letter follows:

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: Recently I had the experience where a Medicare/MediCal patient of ours was marketed and sold an HMO plan. Neither the patient or family understood that the plan resulted in a limitation of their choice of hospital, home health service, would result in a co-payment for office visits, and possibly limitations in service available. The salesman told them that since MediCal patients would soon be enrolled in managed-care plans, that they should sign up early instead of later.

Several other patients have commented to me that they signed up for various plans because they eventually succumbed to persistent telemarketing, and didn't know any other way to stop the phone calls from coming.

Many of our elderly citizens are clearly no match for sophisticated insurance salesmen who work on commission.

Inasmuch as you have a long record of interest in fraud and abuse, I would suggest to you that you may wish to direct some of your attention to marketing practices in the health care industry. Specifically, the Federal Government may wish to set certain guidelines for the plans with which they contract with regard to the information that is presented, the way it is presented, and the amount of aggression that can be used in pursuing a potential client.

TRIBUTE TO DR. WILLIAM ALHEIM

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise in recognition of the upcoming retirement of one of the great institutional leaders at Miami-Dade Community College, Dr. William Alheim. He is retiring on December 3, 1995 after some 35 years of superlative service to countless students and the community,

transforming it into the topmost community college in the Nation.

Dr. Alheim virtually epitomized the demonstration of utmost excellence and dedication of the college's athletic department, exemplified by the countless awards his teams garnered during his 25-year tenure as basketball coach. Throughout this period he won 560 games while losing only 176 contests for an excellent .759 lifetime winning percentage. His hoopsters won four State championships, and claimed three State runner-up trophies, while participating 17 times in trips to State championship tournaments. To his tribute, he coached seven junior college all-Americans.

For this enviable record, Coach Alheim was voted Coach of the Year three times in 1968, 1982, and 1984. His finest hour came in 1982 when he led his team to a perfect 33-0 record and the No. 1 national ranking before losing an overtime decision in the national championship. Despite this loss Coach Alheim garnered the Kodak National Coach of the Year, becoming the first junior college coach to be so honored.

He was enshrined into the Florida Community College Activities Association Hall of Fame, the Florida Community College Basketball Hall of Fame, and the National Junior College Association Hall of Fame. Since retiring from active coaching, Dr. Alheim has served as division chairman of the department of exercise science and sports medicine.

This well-deserved retirement will certainly allow him to spend more time with Helen, whom he married 42 years ago. The Alheims are blessed with two sons, along with one granddaughter.

TRIBUTE TO ISRAEL COHEN

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a most distinguished member of the Washington community, Israel Cohen, who died last week at the age of 83. For over 60 years, Izzy, as he was known, helped guide Giant Food, which his father had cofounded in 1936, into the area's largest chain of supermarkets and into one of the most community-oriented businesses in the Nation.

As we honor the memory of this most successful businessman, we must remember him also for his keen interest in the families, schools, and neighborhoods his supermarkets served. His sense of social responsibility and community service is exemplified by Giant's establishing stores in underserved innercity neighborhoods, by sponsoring "It's Academic" TV competitions for our teenagers, by helping area schools purchase needed computer equipment, and by assisting in the fundraising efforts of countless educational and community groups.

The people of the Washington metropolitan area mourn the loss of a great businessman and a great and good neighbor. His commitment, dedication, and generosity will always be remembered. Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending condolences to his family.

IN SUPPORT OF CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY RELIEF ACT

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2525, the Charitable Gift Annuity Relief Act, and H.R. 2519, the Philanthropy Protection Act. These proposals will provide needed clarity to our securities and antitrust laws, and their relation to gift annuities, one of the oldest and most common fundraising methods used by charities throughout the United States.

Presently, one isolated lawsuit in Texas against a charity has been broadened to a class-action suit that has certified over 2,000 nonprofit defendants nationwide. Without this legislation, these nonprofit organizations are vulnerable to lawsuits based on a perceived violation of Federal antitrust and securities laws. This litigation, and the range of nonprofit defendants involved in the lawsuit, underscores the need to draw a distinction between annuity arrangements offered by commercial entities and those offered by charities.

St. Louis University is one of these charitable organizations. Planned giving programs, such as charitable gift annuities, account for roughly 50 percent of its fundraising efforts. The pending lawsuit has jeopardized its ability to offer potential donors these types of programs. Other nonprofit organizations are alarmed as to how they will fund their programs in the future. In addition to S.L.U., the Salvation Army of St. Louis, The Boys and Girls Town of Missouri, and the Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital are just a few of the nonprofit groups in my district affected by this issue. The legal defense fees for the defendants in the pending suit is over \$1 million a month, draining charities of precious dollars that could be used to meet their worthy goals.

Mr. Speaker, the donors who enter into charitable gift annuities do not act to make a profitable return on an investment. Rather, they are acting because they support the mission of the charity, and donate their money to that end. I am concerned with cuts in Federal spending that threaten the ability of our Nation's nonprofit organizations to continue their philanthropic programs. We should not compound their situation by failing to respond to the legal vulnerability they face under laws intended to regulate commercial securities. This legislation, supported by the Securities and Exchange Commission, will protect charities from securities and antitrust-based lawsuits, and allow them to raise funds in the years to come. I strongly urge passage of these bills.

SIDE WITH THE DOCTORS AND SCIENTISTS, NOT THE DOPE SMOKERS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would urge all of my colleagues to oppose legislation—H.R. 2618—to allow marijuana for medical use.

The FDA has repeatedly rejected marijuana for medical use because it adversely impacts concentration and memory, the lungs, motor coordination, and the immune systems. A recent evaluation of the issue by scientists at NIH concluded, after carefully examining the existing preclinical and human data, there is no evidence to suggest that smoked marijuana might be superior to currently available therapies for glaucoma, weight loss associated with AIDS, and nausea and vomiting associated with cancer chemotherapy.

The simply truth is that organizations promoting this bill—normal/drug policy foundation—are intentionally exploiting the pain and suffering of others as part of their back door attempt to legalize marijuana.

Marijuana weakens the human immune system. That is why, oncologists reject the idea of prescribing smoked marijuana for cancer chemotherapy. Crude marijuana contains over 400 different chemicals. Marinol—oral THC—is available for the treatment of nausea associated with chemotherapy. Yet, safer and more effective medications are preferred by physicians.

While marijuana and several other substances can lower intraocular eye pressure associated with glaucoma the medication must be carefully tailored to prevent further eye damage. Besides numerous adverse side effects of smoking marijuana, the dose cannot be controlled.

There are also misconceptions about the use of marijuana in treating treat the wasting syndrome associated with AIDS. It is ineffective in increasing weight gain and further compromises the immune system. It also puts AIDS patients at significant risk for infections and respiratory problems.

For these reasons the American Cancer Society, the American Glaucoma Society, and the American Medical Society all oppose using marijuana for medicinal purposes. Oppose H.R. 2618 and reject those who make empty promises to patients with chronic illnesses.

When you hear from the conspiracy theory dope smokers, who spend most of their time flooding the internet with prodrug messages aimed at kids, keep in mind that the physicians and other health care professionals who care for AIDS, cancer, and glaucoma patients overwhelmingly oppose this ill-advised legislation.

ST. NICK'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corporation 20th Anniversary. One of the corporation's projects is Jennings Hall, a 150-unit residence for senior citizens, which was once a vacant nurses' residence which had been abandoned when St. Catherine's Hospital closed its doors in the early 1970's. Jennings Hall is just one of many success brought forward by the St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corporation—St. Nicks.

St. Nicks opened its doors for business in the rectory of St. Nicholas Roman Catholic Church on May 12, 1975. Three of the original staff members were on hand on May 12, 1995

to present awards to St. Nicks' five founding advisors. Mr. Speaker, the founding advisors deserve special recognition, they are: Erica Forman, Cathy Herman, Jan Peterson, Ron Shiffman, and Brian Sullivan. They were presented with the Founding Members' Award for the creative and forward-looking planning and technical assistance they provided to St. Nicks at its inception and throughout the years. I join Marion Wallin and Marie Leanza in recognizing them for "the invaluable contributions they had each made to the organization and the neighborhood in their unique ways during the past 20 years."

St. Nicks Board Chair, Louis Pellegrino called the commemorative events for the 20th Anniversary of the St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corporation just one more effort "to bring together all those who contribute their time, effort, and support to make the community a better place in which to live and work." Mr. Speaker, I am proud to add my voice to those who recognize the significant contributions of all the St. Nicks members and staff to our community. Groups like St. Nicks galvanize our neighbors and provide the spark necessary to stop the all too common deterioration of communities, neighborhoods, and cultures. Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I can only hope that the 20th Anniversary of the St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corporation will inspire others to follow their lead in making our communities better places to live and work.

IRANIAN REGIME PROVEN TO BE MAJOR VIOLATOR OF HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the Iranian regime has proven to be a major violator of human rights, particularly those of women in Iran. The present regime of Iran is the world's leading state-sponsor of terrorism, has adamantly worked to subvert the peace process in the Middle East, is vigorously pursuing an ambitious nuclear program, and has used every opportunity to interfere in the internal affairs of other nations. This has gone on for 15 long years. There must be an end to this misery for the people of Iran and relief for the rest of the world.

Experience has shown that change must come from within. The Iranian people have demonstrated that they seek a different course than their rulers. Demonstrations, riots, and strikes in Iran within the past year further testify to their reality. Meanwhile, the National Council of Resistance of Iran, as the only alternative to the present regime, has declared that it seeks a democratic, pluralistic and secular Iran.

In March, on the anniversary of International Women's Day, I stated in this chamber that the clerics' number-one enemy is a woman: Maryam Rajavi. She was elected by Iran's parliament-in-exile as the future president of Iran. The unprecedented participation of women in the resistance is the best testimony to the movement's democratic nature.

Recently, Mrs. Rajavi, whose headquarters are in Paris, paid a visit to Norway, where she

was warmly received like a head of state. She met with leaders of all major parties, spoke at the Foreign Relations Committee of Norway's parliament, and attended a Sunday prayer service at Oslo's most famous church, where she was received by a high official of the Norwegian Church. She also attended an enthusiastic gathering of 1,500 of her supporters in Oslo, and addressed dignitaries at the City Hall. In this speech, she outlined the goals and objectives of the Resistance she leads, and eloquently spoke of her vision for a democratic and peace-seeking Iran of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is extremely important for our leaders and citizens to better acquaint themselves with her views. In addition, Norway must be lauded for its firm stance against the Iranian regime, and its support for Maryam Rajavi. I, therefore submit a copy of the text of Mrs. Rajavi's speech, to be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

TEXT OF THE REMARKS BY MRS. MARYAM RAJAVI, THE IRANIAN RESISTANCE'S PRESIDENT-ELECT, OSLO, NORWAY, OCTOBER 31, 1995

Ladies and gentlemen, dear friends, I would first of all like to thank Mr. Lingas, Mrs. Nybaak and all those in the Committee in Defense of Human Rights in Iran for all the work they have done to defend the rights of the Iranian people.

It is a source of great pleasure to be among the leading thinkers, intellectuals and representatives of a nation which for many years heroically resisted against foreign occupation and the reign of Hitler's fascism, liberated itself and instituted a society which is doubtless one of the most advanced democracies in the contemporary world. It is a society wherein women have a leading role in guiding its affairs, in and of itself the most realistic and best hallmark of democracy in today's world.

I am therefore confident that I am speaking to an audience which well understands the suffering of an enchained nation of 70 million, who for the last 16 years have been subjugated by a brutal religious fascism that has eliminated all vestiges of democracy and popular sovereignty. Norway's policy of distancing herself from the conventional conciliatory approach to the Khomeini regime, and paying heed to human rights and the resistance in Iran, assures our people that democracy and justice have an adamant advocate in today's world. The formation of the Norwegian Committee in Defense of Human Rights in Iran itself best reflects this commitment to and respect for the principles of human rights and justice by Norway's political, cultural, social, artistic and literary personalities.

Allow me to use this opportunity to outline the issues which, in my view, must be considered by the international community. What is transpiring in my fettered country, Iran, namely the reign of the mullahs' medieval religious dictatorship, not only represents a national catastrophe for all Iranians, but is also a source of a global problem and danger threatening stability and peace the world over.

Firstly, the mullahs have extended their state-sponsored terrorism across Asia, Africa, the United States, and Europe, including Germany, Switzerland, Italy, France and Norway.

Secondly, the clerics are exporting the cultural and political dimensions of fundamentalism, especially to Islamic countries and various Muslim societies. This is followed by an expansion of the fundamentalist extremist networks.