

of the National Honor Society, Michael excelled academically and served as a class officer, chairperson for float building and homecoming committees, and cochairperson for the prom committee. Additionally, Michael was all-conference in both football and wrestling, and did local volunteer work.

In special tribute, therefore, I am proud to join with his many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Michael Bush for his selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation contributed to his success. To this remarkable young man, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all his future endeavors.

SPURGEON CLOCK COMES TO LIFE

HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the rededication of the Spurgeon Clock which will be held in downtown Santa Ana on May 16, 1996. As Californians, we have precious few pieces of architecture that predate the start of World War I. The Spurgeon Clock is one of those prized remnants of our past that once overlooked the vast orange groves of Orange County.

William H. Spurgeon, the founder of Santa Ana, had built a series of buildings downtown. The last building erected was graced with a bell tower and an exquisite turn-of-the-century clock. Sometime during the 1970's the 3-foot-long hands on the Spurgeon Clock stopped working.

After all these decades of neglect and decay, the sheer determination of many volunteers and organizations ensured the restoration of the Spurgeon Clock. Through very successful fundraising efforts and the enlisting of volunteer help from clock and construction professionals, this monumental task was completed. The replacement motor to the clock was purchased from the original company, the Electric Time Co., of Medfield, MA. The electrical system was replaced and upgraded by a local craftsman, and a musical carillon was obtained from the South Coast Plaza and installed in the clock. So now the people of Santa Ana will be able to hear the chime and beauty of this historical town clock.

On behalf of the citizens of Santa Ana and of Orange County, I sincerely wish to thank all of the citizens who volunteered their time and expertise. I especially want to thank Tim Rush, who organized the fundraising requirements of this renovation project, Don Krotee of the Downtown Santa Ana Business Association [DSABA], Dick Pridham of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors [NAWCC], Bob Patterson of Patterson & Associates, Raul Gonzales and the Ray Wilson Co., and Dave Morton of Morrow Meadows Electrical.

I would also like to thank the efforts of the following companies and organizations who were very involved in the restoration efforts: First American Title and Trust Co.; Waste Management of Orange County; Santa Ana's Fireman's Benevolent Association; Chapter 69

of NAWCC; Santa Ana Host Rotary Club; Downtown Santa Ana Business Association; the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; the Ray Wilson Co.; Perrini Building Co.; Orange County Wholesale Electric; Hubbell Lighting Co.; Brown Colonial Mortuary; Andres and Andres; the Wilshire Square, Washington Square, French Park, and West Floral Park Neighborhood associations; and C.J. Segerstrom & Sons.

Finally, we all owe thanks to Ann Berkery, a local artist who has donated her rendition of the Spurgeon Tower as a lithograph, which is given to those who made a generous contribution.

IN HONOR OF RUBEN PABON, JR.

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ruben Pabon, Jr., for his distinguished and dedicated service to the community. Mr. Pabon will be honored today by the Cabinet of Lions District 16-E, the Newark Borinquen Lions Club, the Newark Pan American Lions Club, and the Elizabeth Cubanos Lions Club, the Newark Portuguese Lions Club. The gala dinner dance being held in Newark, NJ, will pay tribute to this unique individual.

Today's commemoration recognizes the numerous contributions Mr. Pabon has made to the community. Born in New York City, Mr. Pabon served as a sergeant in the Armed Forces during the Korean war. He was stationed in Germany where he served his country with courage and distinction. After his career in the Armed Forces, he pursued a career that placed him in contact with the community.

Mr. Pabon's community involvement began in 1981, when he joined the Newark Borinquen Lions Club. The club serves the large Hispanic community of the city of Newark. While a member of the club, Mr. Pabon began to get involved with various community issues, including his advocacy for the Association for Retarded Citizens, Bergen-Passaic County unit. He also serves on a Bergen County task force working to establish a multicultural center for Hispanic senior citizens.

Mr. Pabon serves as a fourth degree member of the Knights of Columbus, Chapter 1345 of Dumont-Bergenfield and as a treasurer of the Spanish-American Cultural Association. He has been honored on special occasions for his wonderful work with the Lion's Club. Among his many awards are: the Governor's Award; the International Presidents Award; and the Ramiro Collazo Award.

Ruben Pabon, Jr., has distinguished himself with his contributions to the elderly and disabled citizens of New Jersey. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this outstanding individual.

MINIMUM OBSTETRICAL MEDICAL SECURITY ACT OF 1996

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 1996

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce the MOMS Act, the Minimum Obstetrical Medical Security Act of 1996.

The legislation would guarantee that insurers provide coverage for new mothers and their newborn children to remain in the hospital for a minimum of 48 hours after a normal delivery and 96 hours after a Caesarean section, unless the attending provider and the mother together decide that this is not the best course of action.

This bill responds to the concerns of pregnant women and their physicians in my district who have become increasingly concerned about the risks involved for mothers and their children when they are sent home from the hospital too soon. This is happening more and more frequently because insurance companies are deciding that an early hospital discharge is in their best interest—even if both the doctor and the new mother believe that the longer stay is medically appropriate. Length of stay for new mothers and their babies ought not to be based on the financial concerns of an insurer, but on the health and welfare of the new mother and her new baby. Studies have shown that early release of infants can result in feeding problems, respiratory difficulties, mental retardation, brain damage, and infections of the ears, eyes, and navel cords. Premature hospital discharge also puts mothers at risk for hemorrhaging, infected episiotomies, urinary tract infections, and exhaustion.

The American Medical Association has urged hospitals and insurance companies to allow the discharge of mothers and infants to be determined by the clinical judgment of attending physicians, not by economic considerations. Over 80,000 physicians in the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecologists and the American Academy of Pediatricians have endorsed legislative measures addressing these same concerns.

This bill would prevent insurance company policies that result in the premature hospital discharge of mothers and their newborns. The increasing reluctance of some insurance plans to adequately cover obstetric hospital stays in accordance with current medical society guidelines has, and will continue to have, serious implications for the health and well-being of many mothers and newborns.

The bill does not preempt responsible State legislation that either meets or exceeds the minimum requirements of this bill or guidelines established by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American Academy of Pediatrics, or other medical professional associations. I commend this legislation to my colleagues and urge its passage.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1. Short Title: The act is named the "Minimum Obstetrical Medical Security Act of 1996", or MOMS Act.

Section 2. Findings: The findings section states that: (1) the length of post-delivery inpatient care should be based on unique characteristics of each mother and her newborn child, and (2) the decision to discharge a mother and newborn from the hospital should be made by the attending provider in consultation with the mother.