and complete health care coverage that they need and they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to become cosponsors of H.R. 135 and H.R. 164 and to reassert our commitment to protecting the health of American women.

CONGRESS SHOULD OPPOSE INCREASES IN WHALING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington [Mr. METCALF] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, for the last 3 days I have been in Monaco at my own expense to try to prevent the renewal of whaling in the continental United States.

From the beginning of this debate over whether the Makah Indian Tribe in Washington State should be allowed to resume the practice of hunting whales after a 70-year cessation, I have maintained what is being described as ''aboriginal subsistence whaling'' is not that at all. It will in fact lead to a tragic resumption of commercial whaling and a geometric increase in the number of whales killed worldwide.

Without now addressing whether the Makah Tribe itself is motivated by the $1 million value of a gray whale in Japan, other powerful evidence exists that indicates that we are on the threshold of a dramatic increase in whaling. The official U.S. delegation to the IWC has been asking for a change in the definition of aboriginal subsistence whaling, the only type of whaling now legal under the International Whaling Commission, which the United States has ratified.

In their shortsighted attempt to legalize the intentions of the Makah Tribe, the United States is asking the other nations at the IWC to expand the definition of subsistence whaling to permit cultural issues to be addressed. Why? Currently aboriginal whaling is solely for the physical nutrition of the tribe in question. In other words, they need the food. It is obvious the Makah do not need to eat whales to survive.

What is the problem with expanding the definition into the cultural realm? There are villages and people all over the world who have a cultural history of whaling but who do not now qualify under the current definition of subsistence.

Saturday at the IWC hearings, the Japanese repeatedly asked the United States delegation: What is the difference between the Makah request and the desire of four villages on the Taiji Peninsula to resume whaling? It is obvious the Japanese are going to use this loophole that our own delegation is attempting to create to increase their commercial harvest of the whales. Other nations will undoubtedly follow suit if the Makah are successful.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot allow this to happen. The killing of whales around the world is on the increase. For this fraudulent cultural subsistence to become a legal authorization for further killing would be a tragedy. In addition, staff members of other IWC delegations have indicated resentment at the tremendous pressure the U.S. delegation is putting on other nations to support this fraud.

However, this pressure may not be changing votes. Observers today have informed me that the United States is now attempting to set an even more dangerous precedent of lobbying to increase the Russian gray whale quota. This new tactic would allow, this under-the-table deal would allow the Russians to give the Makah five whales at no loss to themselves. More importantly, this backroom style deal would not require a vote of the IWC. In other words, when they ran into trouble they are trying to go around the system.

A new whale hunt could then occur without IWC authorization. This is dangerous and dishonorable, Mr. Speaker. Frankly the tactics of this administration have been an embarrassment. They depicted the 43 Members of Congress who signed the letter that I took there that oppose the Makah as the only opponents in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, does anyone really believe that 389 Members of this House support the killing of whales in the continental United States? When pressed, the U.S. delegation could only name two Members of Congress who support the Makah hunt.

Mr. Speaker, they are not representing the best interests of our Nation or the sentiments of the vast majority of our people. It is now time for Congress to speak in a large, loud, bipartisan voice in condemnation of this blatant attempt at the expansion of commercial whaling. The vote will be tomorrow, and this is a critical issue.

ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR RESEARCH NECESSARY TO SOLVE PFIESTERIA PROBLEM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, Pfiesteria has plagued North Carolina for many years and experts now think that this organism was first observed in our waters almost 20 years ago in 1978.

While the Old North State has made multiple efforts to address this pestilence through estuary studies, nondischarge rules, phosphate bans, rapid resource teams, nitrogen load reduction, nutrient limit reductions, source wetland restoration programs, and a 2-year moratorium on new and expanding swine farms, Pfiesteria is an enigma for us all as it has been found in many Atlantic waters from the Chesapeake Bay south to Florida and west to Texas.

We must work together constructively and effectively, Federal, State, and local governments and agencies, academic researchers, concerned citizens, to attack and find rapid and workable solutions to this predicament.

Mr. Speaker, now is the time to find additional funds for Dr. Burkholder, one of the leading researchers in the area, as well as other scientists and researchers like her, in order to answer the remaining questions concerning the effects of Pfiesteria on humans, animals, and watersheds.

The waters of North Carolina have certainly felt the effects of the Pfiesteria outbreak, especially in the Neuse River, the Tar River, the Pamlico River, as well as the entire Albemarle-Pamlico Estuary, parts of which are in my congressional district. There have been more than 1 million fish killed in our State and many reports of human health problems. Given the adverse impact of such significant fish kills upon my district, North Carolina, and the mid-Atlantic, we need to seek solutions through aggressive research.

Mr. Speaker, we face a very serious threat that must be addressed immediately. We should not rush to judgment, however. Scientific inquiries are ongoing, but we should not waste time. Further research and testing should be undertaken at once. It is my hope that funding for critically needed research and testing will come as a result of recent hearings in the Committee on Resources and the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

Only through funding will come opportunities for a solution. Additionally, several of my mid-Atlantic colleagues and I introduced H.R. 2565 on September 26, 1997, the Pfiesteria Research Act of 1997. This bill appropriates a minimum of $5.8 million in fiscal year 1998 and 1999 for the establishment of a research and grant program for Pfiesteria through EPA, USDA, and HHS.

All North Carolinians and others who live, work, and play in the affected waters look forward to successful results of this research, and that is because many of their lives and their livelihood depend upon it.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL FRANK WORTH ELLIOTT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. EWING] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, I come here tonight saddened with the responsibility of informing this House of the loss of a great American, a man who served his country for many years, a man who reached the rank of Major General in the Air Force, a citizen of the 15th district of Illinois and a friend and somebody who will be missed a great deal by all who knew him.

Mr. Speaker, memorial services for U.S. Air Force Major General Frank Worth Elliott of Rantoul, Illinois, will be held at the United Methodist Church

in that community on Friday of this week. Private burial will take place at a later time.

Mr. Elliott was born on December 2, 1924, in Statesville, North Carolina, son of Frank W. and Lois Young Elliott. He married Evaughn ''Bonnie'' Close on January 7, 1950, at Rapid City, South Dakota. His wife survives him. He is also survived by two sons, Frank Elliott of Santiago, Chile; Jeff Elliott of Albany, Georgia; and a brother, Jim Elliott of North Carolina, along with five grandchildren in whom he took great pride and affection.

General Elliott graduated from high school in 1941, and he attended college in California and in North Carolina, before he enlisted in December of 1942 in the U.S. Air Force. He later did complete his college work at Charleston, Illinois, at Eastern Illinois University in 1973.

He completed pilot's training and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in March of 1944. He completed a tour of combat duty as an air crew commander of B–24s with the 15th Air Force in Italy during April of 1945, and he was promoted to Captain in that same year.

General Elliott remained in the service after World War II. He served in a number of different capacities, in operational supply and aircraft maintenance positions, until 1963 when he was promoted to the grade of Colonel while serving as the Deputy Commander for an operations wing of B–52s based in California.

He has attended the War College right here in Washington, D.C. General Elliott commanded the 92nd Bomb Wing at Fairchild Air Force Base in Washington from January 1969 to January 1970, when he was promoted to Brigadier General. He was the commander of the 14th Strategic Air Division at Beale Air Force Base, California, and from 1970 to July of 1971, he was assigned to the Air Force base in Thailand as Commander of the 307th Strategic Wing.

General Elliott was promoted to Major General and then as Commander of the Chanute Technical Training Center at Chanute, Illinois, which brought him into Illinois again, and into the 15th Congressional District. He served there with distinction. He retired from the Air Force in September of 1975 after completing 33 years of active service.

Later, after a few years of retirement, we were so pleased when General Elliott returned to Rantoul to serve as an economic development consultant to the Village of Rantoul. This was at a time when the community of Rantoul was quite fearful. There was a great deal of concern in the community because the Chanute Air Force Base was being closed under the base closure passed by this Congress. A large number of jobs were being lost to the community.

General Elliott was a man for all seasons, a man who came to the rescue of his adopted community. He served them well. He will be greatly missed. I am glad to come here tonight to put this in the RECORD for his memory.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. FROST] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. FROST addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

IN HONOR OF THOMAS HENDRICKS, ONE OF THE LAST LIVING BUFFALO SOLDIERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. BARRETT] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to an outstanding member of my community and one of the last surviving Buffalo Soldiers of the United States Army, Mr. Thomas Hendricks. The story of Thomas Hendricks and his fellow Buffalo Soldiers who served before him will forever be a significant part of the history of America.

The legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers dates back to post Civil War days. Although African Americans have fought with distinction in all of this country's military engagements, their future in the Army was even in doubt after the Civil War. In July 1866, however, Congress passed legislation establishing two cavalry regiments and four regiments of infantrymen, later merging two, whose composition was made up entirely of black soldiers.

The troopers of the 9th and 10th Cavalries developed into two of the most distinguished fighting units in the Army. The fierce fighting techniques of these soldiers and their bravery on the battlefield inspired Native Americans to call them Buffalo Soldiers. Although history has often overlooked the contributions of the Buffalo Soldiers, I am proud to salute one of its finest cavalrymen, Thomas Hendricks. He is a man of courage and wears the name Buffalo Soldier with honor and great pride.

Thomas Hendricks was born on February 14, 1920, in Evanston, Illinois. As a young boy, he was strongly influenced by his grandfather, James Hendricks, who was also a Buffalo Soldier and served our country with distinction. It was actually his grandfather who inspired him to become a Buffalo Soldier and carry on the legacy of the hundreds of thousands of African Americans who have given their lives for the sake of freedom in our country.

Thomas Hendricks joined the 10th Cavalry of the U.S. Army in 1938 as a volunteer after receiving extensive military training under the tutelage of his grandfather. A few years later, he was sent to Ft. Hood for training and went on to pursue a distinguished military career which extended more than a decade.

Throughout his career as a Buffalo Soldier, Tom Hendricks has received numerous honors, including Battle Stars, for his valiant efforts in World War II. He was engaged in military conflicts including the Normandy Invasion and the Battle of the Bulge. Although much has changed since the days of the Buffalo Soldiers, including the integration of all military servicemen and women, the story of Tom Hendricks and his fellow Buffalo Soldiers who served before him will remain one of great patriotism and unsurpassed courage.

I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting Thomas Hendricks for his accomplishments as a Buffalo Soldier. We owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude for his service to our country, and we should all be proud of his contribution to our Nation's military history.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York [Mrs. MALONEY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to participate in the special order organized by my colleague, the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO] and the gentlewoman from California [Ms. ESHOO] and others to salute October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

We all know too well the devastating facts. With nearly 200,000 cases of breast cancer diagnosed last year, breast cancer is the most common cancer among women. I was pleased earlier this year that Congress enacted, as part of its balanced budget, my bipartisan bill, the Breast Cancer Early Detection Act, to allow for annual mammograms for Medicare women. This bill was first introduced in 1992 along with Barbara Vucanovich, who is herself a survivor of breast cancer.

We were very pleased that it was included in the balanced budget this year. It certainly makes a very wise investment that will save women's lives. But there is much more that needs to be done.

Once breast cancer is diagnosed, sometimes it is too late. But sometimes when treatment is available, a woman can undergo a mastectomy which may save her life. Unfortunately, very often we have seen women who have been forced to leave the hospital with drainage tubes still attached and just like the drive through delivery bill, a national outcry forced us to look at the safety of women who were sent home hours after a radical mastectomy.

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of H.R. 135, the Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act. This bill will eliminate the so-called drive-through mastectomies by requiring insurance companies to provide at least 48 hours of inpatient hospital care following a mastectomy, and a minimum of 24