

as the preeminent public policy research organization on issues affecting workers and their benefits.

EBRI has provided me with invaluable objective research, data, and analysis. The Institute is guided by the tenet that policy initiatives cannot “. . . be successful unless they are founded on sound, objective, relevant information.” The information produced by EBRI covers health, retirement, among other economic issues, is thorough and comprehensive.

One of the most important reference materials to come out of EBRI is the Retirement Confidence Survey (RCS). The RCS is an important indicator of societal attitudes toward retirement planning and savings. While the House considers legislative measures, I find the issue briefs and research documents to be a valuable research and information tool.

As increased attention is paid by policy-makers, media, and the benefits community to the unique challenges facing minority groups, I think they are to be especially commended for including the RCS Minority Special Report. This report examines the attitudes of minority groups about preparing for retirement. Such an important effort shines a much-needed spotlight on an issue that is critical to the economic health and well-being of the African American community that is long overdue.

I know many members who are interested in these issues rely on EBRI to provide credible comprehensive data and analysis and use it to make informed decisions about policy initiatives and approaches.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Dallas Salisbury and EBRI continued success as they pursue their quest for the facts.

HONORING JUDGE PHILIP
PASTORE ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, today marks the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Honorable Philip Pastore, a life-long New Haven resident who has served both the City of New Haven and the State of Connecticut with distinction throughout his law career.

Judge Pastore has dedicated his life to making our justice system work. In both his personal and professional life, he has earned a reputation for his fairness, integrity, and commitment to upholding and respecting the law. These qualities are demonstrated in the many judicial cases he has tried, presided over, and rendered judgments on for more than half a century. Judge Pastore retired only three years ago, leaving a legacy which included positions as a Democratic state representative and a Superior Court judge.

It is fascinating to listen to Judge Pastore's stories of the century of history he witnessed, along with the remarkable changes and tremendous progress to the judicial system. Although he no longer practices professionally, he continues to keep up-to-date on current case law, and his wife still reads the Connecticut Law Journal to him. Many seek his advice, knowing his counsel is offered with wisdom, justice and compassion. Plaques cover the walls of his home to honor the services he has

donated to the community. Indeed, his long career has left an indelible mark on the residents of Connecticut, and especially his close friends from the Wooster Street neighborhood. It is difficult to find someone whose commitment to excellence equals his own.

I join with his wife, Margaret, his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren to honor Philip Pastore on his 100th birthday. Best wishes for continued fulfillment and happiness. Happy Birthday!

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE CRANBURY FIRE
COMPANY

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Cranbury Fire Company as they celebrate 100 years of service to their community.

It is my privilege and honor to recognize this group of men and women who have protected the citizens of Cranbury and surrounding towns for the past century.

Since its formation in September 1898, members of the Cranbury Fire Company have placed their lives in harm's way in order to protect their fellow citizens.

We have relied on their selfless sacrifices and have always felt a strong sense of security knowing that they will respond to us when our lives, homes and neighborhoods are in peril.

Many times, we tend to take their services for granted and often do not acknowledge them for their hard work.

I hope that all Americans will reflect on the dedication of our firefighters whenever we pass by their town's firehouse or see a truck responding to an emergency call. We all must recognize the daily sacrifice of these brave men and women.

I extend my deepest appreciation and thanks to the Cranbury Fire Company for their efforts during the past century. It is my great pleasure to be able to recognize their work. Congratulations to all who have served in the company, those who presently serve and those who will carry on the Cranbury Fire Company's tradition of service into the new millennium.

A LIFETIME OF SERVICE—A TRIBUTE
TO REV. ROBERT L. BROWN
OF ALBION, MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for his many years of service to the community and to his church as educator, counsellor, and administrator that I am proud to salute Rev. Robert L. Brown.

Rev. Brown served as pastor at the Gethsemane Temple Church of God in Christ for 11 years. Bishop Earl J. Wright appointed him Superintendent of the Albion District in 1985, overseeing several churches in the Albion

area. He chairs the Elder's Council in the jurisdiction and is the Chairman of the Second Jurisdiction of Southwest Michigan Church of God in Christ, Inc.

As pastor of Grace Temple Church of God in Christ in Albion, Michigan, Rev. Brown has inspired many to become personally involved in doing God's work and making more gentle man's life on Earth. Led by his preaching and example, they in turn light the lives of even more people, even reaching as faraway as Port au Prince, Haiti—where their missionary ministry has built a church and a school to help others discover God's love.

He married missionary Lillie B. Kemp in December 1948 and they'll be celebrating their 50th anniversary this year. The Browns have five adult children and fifteen grandchildren.

In honoring Rev. Brown today, we honor the principles of virtue, moral courage, and sacrifice which he and others in the spirit of peace and the spirit of Christ have long espoused. As an inspiration, strength, and a blessing to those whose lives are touched by his, he helps others understand the place of faith in their lives and discover how to love God and one's fellow man.

Therefore, the Congress of the United States is proud to join with his lovely wife, fine family and his many admirers in extending highest praise and congratulations to Rev. Robert L. Brown.

NATIONAL BIPARTISAN COMMISSION
ON THE FUTURE OF MEDICARE

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following testimony.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to the National Commission. Your work will have a profound impact on the health care of millions of Americans, and I encourage you to seek broad input from Medicare beneficiaries and providers around the country.

Medicare is one of our great success stories; it provides quality health insurance to 38 million Americans at a low administrative cost. Today Medicare is serving as a model provider of consumer protections. In the future, it can be the foundation for increased access to health care for all Americans.

Three months ago, I sponsored two town hall meetings on the future of Medicare in my home district of San Francisco. Hundreds of individuals came to share their thoughts and concerns about Medicare, and to talk about the important role the program plays in their lives.

The consensus in the San Francisco Bay Area was clearly for Medicare for all. Medicare must be preserved, improved and expanded for future generations. People who came to these meetings urged elected officials to protect the long term financial health of the program. But they also shared their visions of what Medicare can be—a more comprehensive program that better meets the needs of beneficiaries, and provides health insurance to many of those who have difficulty purchasing private insurance.

To design a Medicare program that improves services as well as meets the financial bottom line, we need to listen to people who are benefiting from Medicare now, and to