

having one of the finest athletic programs in the state of New Jersey.

During Coach Anderson's extraordinary career, he led the Summit High School football team to nine Suburban Conference Championships, four State Championships and two State Sectional Championships. He was twice named New Jersey Football Coach of the Year. In 1972, the Newark Star Ledger named him Baseball Coach of the Year for leading the baseball team to three conference championships and one state championship.

But to those who know Howie Anderson best, he is extraordinary not because of his numerous awards and honors, but because he is a hardworking individual and a devoted friend. I know I speak for everyone in the Summit community when I say thank you for your dedicated service. Best wishes for a prosperous and healthy retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 1998

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday in my Congressional District I was hosting a jobs fair. Due to returning to Washington later than I had anticipated I missed three Suspension votes on the following bills: H.R. 4614, Conveyance of Federal Land in New Hampshire; H.R. 1154, Indian Federal Recognition Administrative Procedures Act of 1997; and H.R. 4655, Establishing a Program to Support a Transition to Democracy in Iraq.

Had I been present I would have voted "nay" on H.R. 4614, "yea" on H.R. 1154, and "yea" on H.R. 4655.

MEDICARE ANTI-DUPLICATION AMENDMENT

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 1998

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that would correct an unintended result of the Medicare anti-duplication statute. This very narrow legislative change would allow chronically ill New York residents to take control of their own lives by guaranteeing them access to a variety of health care options in New York State at lower prices.

A combination of Federal and state laws have unintentionally "locked in" about 400 Medicare-eligible, disabled New Yorkers into an expensive, fee-for-service health plan. They cannot leave the plan because they require needed medical coverage and, because of Federal laws, they actually are prohibited from changing plans. They literally are trapped in a health plan and my legislation allows them to leave the expensive policy and give them the quality health care they want at the prices they can afford.

This legislation is predicted not to cost anything and actually could save Federal dollars. By allowing disabled citizens to purchase private insurance with their own money, this legislation ensures that these citizens will have

access to the benefits that will keep them healthier longer. The longer these individuals stay healthy, the longer they will be able to avoid using hospitalization covered by Medicare. This will save the taxpayer money. Also, by allowing them to purchase less expensive insurance, they will not be forced to "spend down" their resources in order to qualify for Medicaid.

If this proposal becomes law, these New Yorkers will be free to choose from more than 30 state-mandated managed care or point of service plans. Wherever they choose to go, they will be guaranteed identical benefits to the ones they currently have at much cheaper costs.

This initiative is strongly supported in New York by the New York State Department of Insurance, the Long Island Breast Cancer Action Coalition (1 in 9), the National Alliance of Breast Cancer Organizations, Gay Men's Health Crisis, Medicare Rights Center, and New Yorkers for Accessible Health Coverage, among many others. These are the consumer groups that represent the individuals locked into the fee-for-service plan and each fully supports giving consumers options and lowering their health care costs.

Americans should be able to choose their health care. We should give them the tools they need to stay independent for as long as possible and give them access to affordable, quality health care. This will allow them to have more money to buy other important things and keep them in control of their lives and their future. They will worry less about whether they can afford their health insurance premiums and give them the financial security to take care of their families. I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation because it will provide health care security to these individuals who need it the most.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES F. MCCONNELL UPON HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE FLUSHING SAVINGS BANK

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 1998

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents of the Fifth Congressional District of the State of New York and the staff of the Flushing Savings Bank as they honor James F. McConnell upon his retirement as the bank's president and CEO.

Mr. McConnell's background is both diverse and effective. Prior to his election as president of the Flushing Savings Bank he held prominent management positions with AMBAC Industries of Garden City, New York and the EDO Corporation of College Point. He joined the Flushing Savings Bank in 1974 as Vice-president and Treasurer. Realizing his keen sense of leadership and a most effective approach to getting things done, the bank appointed him president in 1981, appointed him to its board of directors in 1983 and elected him Chief Executive Officer in 1990.

Mr. McConnell's multiple leadership talents reach far beyond the Flushing Savings Bank. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Community Bankers Association of New

York State from 1987 to 1997 and served as the Association's Chairman from 1990-1991. He was highly instrumental in negotiations which led to the successful merger of the Savings Bank Association of New York State with the New York League of Savings Institutions, thereby creating the Community Bankers Association.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join with me and rise in honor of James F. McConnell, who has imparted a sense of professionalism, leadership and community responsibility. His record is one of dynamism and productivity which readily emerges as a yardstick by which all such future efforts are measured.

HONORING GENIE EIDE

HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 1998

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to say a few words about Ms. Genie Eide, a fellow Arizonan, who is receiving national recognition for her contribution to home health and hospice nursing. Today, in Atlanta, Georgia, Genie is being inducted as a Fellow in Home Care and Hospice at Home Care University. Only five leaders, nationwide, in home care and hospice are being so honored.

Genie always says that she has been in nursing for "about a hundred years," which is a remarkable achievement for someone who also claims to be thirty-nine years old. How she accomplished so much in so little time is truly a mystery. Genie has been a nurse for over 50 years. She is a graduate of Arizona State University and has served on the faculty of ASU. She has held management positions in a number of Arizona hospitals, home care agencies, and hospices. She has published numerous works, presented workshops and seminars in Arizona and other states and has received many awards. She has been listed in Who's Who in Nursing.

The reason, however, that I am rising to speak about Genie Eide is that, in my mind, Genie is a great example of what's right about America. Genie has made a life and a career out of her commitment to public health and public service. She has worked with the American Red Cross and spent two years in India with The World Health Organization as a nursing consultant. When Maricopa County Health Services made its initial commitment to provide home health services to the county's disadvantaged elderly population, Genie was called on to develop the program. When a number of hospitals in the Phoenix area recognized the need for the development of a hospice program to provide care and comfort for dying patients, Genie was involved. Throughout her entire career, Genie has been there to help.

Genie Eide represents one sterling example of hundreds of thousands of dedicated care providers who live each day to provide health care when and where it is needed. Genie is unusual in the energy that she devotes to her calling and the broad scope of her vision. But she is a leader and a representative of a large group of Americans who still believe that individuals can make a difference.