

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IMPROPER TAXATION OF NATIVE AMERICANS

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2000

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight an ongoing injustice: state taxation of the income of Native American servicemen and women.

The law is clear that a state may not tax the income of tribal members who live on and derive their income from activity within the reservation. Similarly, a state may not tax the income of tribal members who serve in the military and claim their reservation as their home. Nevertheless, these tribal members continue to be taxed by several states. This practice has likely deprived thousands of Native Americans of millions of dollars.

By withholding federal wages of these Native American service personnel for state income taxes, the Department of Defense may unwittingly be assisting this improper taxation. To date, the burden has fallen on individual servicemen and women to press their claims and seek recovery of their federal wages from the states. To redress this wrong on a systemic basis. Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Chairman of the Committee on Resources, Mr. SKELTON, Ranking Democratic Member of the Committee on Armed Services, and I have asked the Secretary of Defense to ensure that federal withholding procedures do not abet or perpetuate this practice.

I submit for the RECORD the letter to the Secretary of Defense:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, March 7, 2000.

Hon. WILLIAM S. COHEN,
Department of Defense, Office of the Secretary,
The Pentagon, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY COHEN: We are writing on behalf of Native American servicemen and women who, with the Department of Defense's (DOD's) aid, are subject to improper taxation by the states. As you know, Native Americans have a strong tradition of military service and have served their country in proportions greater than that of the general population. Nearly 16% of the Indian population 16 years and older—over 150,000 people—are veterans.

It is well-established that a state may not tax the income of tribal members who live on and derive their income from activity within the reservation. See, e.g., *Oklahoma Tax Commission v. Chickasaw*, 515 U.S. 450 (1995); *McClanahan v. Arizona Tax Commission*, 411 U.S. 164 (1973). The Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. App. §574, provides that service members do not lose their domicile for taxation purposes when on military assignment. Accordingly, tribal members who claim their reservation as their home when serving in the military are not subject to state income taxation. See *Fatt v. Utah State Tax Commissioner*, 884 P.2d 1233 (Utah 1994); *Turner v. Wisconsin Department of Revenue*, Tax Appeals Commission, No. I-9755 (June 19, 1986); *Beck v. North Carolina Depart-*

ment of Revenue, Opinion of the Tax Commissioner, No. 99-386 (January 25, 2000).

Although the law is clear, tribal members domiciled on the reservation who are serving their country continue to be taxed by several states. DOD is instrumental in facilitating this improper taxation by withholding federal wages for state income taxes pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §5517. That statute authorizes federal agencies to enter into agreements with states to withhold state income tax from the wages of federal employees.

We are writing to request that DOD review and revise the records of Native American service personnel to ensure that this practice of withholding federal wages for state income tax cease for those claiming the reservation as their home. Over the years, this practice has likely deprived thousands of Native American servicemen and women of millions of dollars. We note that while immediate action on your part will stop this unjust practice and inform states and tribal members of the law, it will not provide retroactive relief for tribal members.

Please let us know of the steps you plan to take to redress this wrong and your progress towards that goal. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

GEORGE MILLER,
Senior Democratic
Member,
IKE SKELTON,
Senior Democratic
Member,
Committee on Armed
Services,
DON YOUNG,
Chairman.

HONORING LEBANON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL'S GIRLS' AND BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAMS

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2000

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the incredible achievements of the girls' and boys' basketball teams of Lebanon Catholic High School in Lebanon, Pennsylvania. For the first time ever, the Lebanon Catholic Beavers have captured district basketball championships with both the boys' and girls' teams.

The boys' basketball team captured their first District Three Class A title after a come-from-behind victory of 51-45. The Beaver girls were also successful in their pursuit of the District 3 title. The girls' victory made Lebanon Catholic only the third school in the history of this district's playoffs to capture the title with both the boys' and girls' teams.

Their success was not bought with a short road to victory. The many hours of practice and hard work that these fine young men and women have invested has paid off as they celebrate not only successful seasons, but district championships as well. The athletes on these two extraordinary teams have, undoubtedly, learned valuable lessons of motivation, dedication, and team work.

These young athletes deserve the admiration of their families, teachers, and fellow students for their great accomplishments. I am proud to represent such a fine group of young people from Pennsylvania's 17th District. I know the entire House of Representatives joins me in congratulating this outstanding group of young people from Lebanon Catholic High School. Congratulations and continued success.

TRIBUTE TO THE EDWIN J. LEYANNA V.F.W. POST 671 HONOR GUARD IN DEWITT MICHIGAN

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2000

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a group of noble veterans.

There is no more honorable cause or purpose than serving one's nation. As history illustrates, our nation has enjoyed unwavering support as millions of men and women have answered the call for duty. It is their sacrifice that has helped build and protect our great nation.

For many, service does not end at discharge. For them serving means honoring those Veterans who pass on. The Honor Guard at VFW Post 671 in DeWitt, Michigan, is composed of 35 selfless veterans who are quick to heed the call for their services when one of their compatriots passes on. Since the group was formed in 1986, these men have performed some 720 military funerals. Whether it rains or snows, these veterans—who average 69 years of age—answer the call to duty.

Appreciation for our military and for the many sacrifices of those who serve does not always get the attention it so richly deserves. Post 671's Honor Guard ensures that proper recognition will be accorded those who so bravely defended our freedom on the occasion of their final internment. Just as the brave men and women being remembered put their country before themselves, the Honor Guard places the needs of the area's veterans and their families ahead of their own.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and the proud citizens of DeWitt and surrounding communities in saluting these great patriots. I thank the Edwin J. Leyanna V.F.W. Post 671 Honor Guard for their dedication to the fallen heroes of this great nation.

SAVE MONEY FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUG RESEARCH ACT OF 2000

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Save Money for Prescription Drug

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Research Act of 2000, a bill to deny tax deductions to drug companies for certain gifts and benefits, but not product samples, provided to physicians and to encourage use of such funds for pharmaceutical research and development. Rather than spending pharmaceutical dollars on these very questionable gifts, the industry should devote these billions of dollars to research and development of life-saving drugs. This bill will enable them to do so.

The magnitude of drug company bribes to doctors is staggering. In its January 19, 2000, issue, the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)* concluded that U.S. drug companies spend more than \$11 billion per year on drug promotion and marketing—an estimated \$8,000 to \$13,000 per physician. These “gifts” include free meals, travel subsidies, sponsored teachings, and even recreational benefits such as sporting event tickets and golfing fees, to name just a few. The *JAMA* article is attached.

JAMA's analysis warns that the present extent of these practices “appears to affect prescribing and professional behavior and should be further addressed at the level of policy and education.” The \$11 billion that drug companies spend lobbying doctors often leads to distorted, inappropriate, overprescribing of drugs.

Over the years, I have personally received numerous examples of drug company gift-giving to physicians. One physician has sent me many particularly outlandish examples of perks he has been offered. The number of gifts offered over the course of 1 week is staggering. One week included an invitation to the races—with a private suite, lunch, and open bar from noon to 3 p.m. Subsequent days of the week featured a free dinner at a fine restaurant where meals averaged \$25/plate and major league baseball tickets for the entire family.

I would also like to insert in the *RECORD* a March 9, 2000, *USA Today* article. This article describes a growing trend among advertising and marketing firms to sponsor physician continuing medical education courses that doctors in 34 States need to keep their licenses. These marketing firms are paid by drug companies and often hire faculty to teach courses and educate medical professionals about their sponsors' products. This provides drug companies with another opportunity to impact physician prescribing practice and increase their company profits—while giving doctors a free, questionable way to meet their recertification requirement.

Drug companies will claim that changes in tax treatment will directly decrease their investment in research. In fact, less than 4 months ago the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service (CRS) analyzed the tax treatment of the pharmaceutical industry. That analysis found taxpayer financed credits contribute powerfully to lowering the average effective tax rate for drug companies—by nearly 40 percent relative to other major industries between 1990 to 1996. With an effective tax rate so much lower than that of other industries, it's hard to feel their pain.

On top of their lowered tax rate, this industry already reaps billions and billions in profits every year. *Fortune* magazine rates the pharmaceutical industry as the most profitable business in America. The average compensation for 12 drug company CEO's was \$22 million in 1998. Likewise, CRS reported that

after-tax profits for the pharmaceutical industry averaged 17 percent—three times higher than the 5 percent profit margin of other industries.

U.S. drug companies claim their exorbitant profits are justified by the high cost of research and development. Yet pharmaceutical companies generally spend twice as much on marketing and administration as they do on research and development. In fact, some companies are guilty of spending even more than that. Merck & Pfizer spent 11 percent of revenues on R&D in 1997, while spending 28 percent on administration and marketing—including gifts and promotions aimed at physicians.

The pharmaceutical industry appears to have its priorities backward. Research and development is much more important than drug company promotions. Our nation has reaped great rewards as a result of pharmaceutical research; pharmaceutical and biotech research have led to the discovery of life-saving cures and treatments for ailments that would have cut lives short at one time. But drug companies can do more. Think of all the additional lives that could be saved if the pharmaceutical industry would dedicate the resources now spent on physician promotions to R&D.

The need for this bill is clear. Denying the pharmaceutical industry the ability to deduct expenditures for gifts (other than product samples) to physicians is a critical step in providing Americans with access to more life-saving drugs. This will discourage drug company gifts that have been shown to sway physician prescribing behavior and free up more pharmaceutical revenue for R&D. By redirecting drug company promotional expenditures to their R&D budgets, the American public would reap the benefit of increased medical breakthroughs. If the companies choose to keep the \$11 billion as company profits, then the additional tax revenue from these increases could be used to provide a much-needed Medicare prescription drug benefit. Any way you look at it, this bill is a winner for the American public.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in support of this legislation to encourage pharmaceutical research and development and to deny drug company tax deductions for gifts to physicians.

[From *JAMA*, Jan. 19, 2000]

PHYSICIANS AND THE PHARMACEUTICAL
INDUSTRY

IS A GIFT EVER JUST A GIFT?

(By Ashley Wazana, MD)

There are few issues in medicine that bring clinicians into heated discussion as rapidly as the interaction between the pharmaceutical industry and the medical profession. More than \$11 billion is spent each year by pharmaceutical companies in promotion and marketing, \$5 billion of which goes to sales representatives. It has been estimated that \$8000 to \$13000 is spent per year on each physician. The attitudes about this expensive interaction are divided and contradictory. One study found that 85% of medical students believe it is improper for politicians to accept a gift, whereas only 46% found it improper for themselves to accept a gift of similar value from the pharmaceutical company. Most medical associations have published guidelines to address this controversy. Perhaps the intensity of the discussion is related to the potential consequences were it confirmed that gifts influence prescription of medication that results in increasing cost or negative health outcomes.

This article addresses the question by way of a critical examination of the evidence.

Two review articles have addressed the factors affecting drug prescribing, but only 1 has focused on the impact of the physician-industry interaction on the behavior of physicians. This article critically examines the literature and highlights articles with rigorous study methods.

METHODS

Studies were identified by searching MEDLINE for articles from 1994 to the present, using the expanded Medical Subject Headings conflict of interest and drug industry, limiting the search to articles in English while excluding review articles, letters, and editorials; each identified study was cross-referenced; a database of 400 articles gathered by the Medical Lobby for Appropriate Marketing was searched; and 5 key informants were sought for their bibliographies on the topic.

A total of 538 studies that provided data on any of the main study questions were targeted for retrieval. Of the 29 studies that were published in peer-reviewed journals and identified as potentially relevant (containing quantitative data on 1 of 3 facets of physician-industry interactions), 10 were from MEDLINE and 19 from other sources. The data extractor (A.W.) was not blinded to the authors of the studies.

Those with an analytical design (having a comparison group) were considered to be of higher methodological quality.

Context. Controversy exists over the fact that physicians have regular contact with the pharmaceutical industry and its sales representatives, who spend a large sum of money each year promoting to them by way of gifts, free meals, travel subsidies, sponsored teachings, and symposia.

Objective. To identify the extent of and attitudes toward the relationship between physicians and the pharmaceutical industry and its representatives and its impact on the knowledge, attitudes, and behavior of physicians.

Data Sources. A MEDLINE search was conducted for English-language articles published from 1994 to present, with review of reference lists from retrieved articles; in addition, an Internet database was searched and 5 key informants were interviewed.

Study Section. A total of 538 of studies that provided data on any of the study questions were targeted for retrieval, 29 of which were included in the analysis.

Data Extraction. Data were extracted by 1 author. Articles using an analytic design were considered to be of high methodological quality.

Data Synthesis. Physician interactions with pharmaceutical representatives were generally endorsed, began in medical school, and continued at a rate of about 4 times per month. Meetings with pharmaceutical representatives were associated with requests by physicians for adding the drugs to the hospital formulary and changes in prescribing practice. Drug company-sponsored continuing medical education (CME) preferentially highlighted the sponsor's drug(s) compared with the CME programs. Attending sponsored CME events and accepting funding for travel or lodging for educational symposia were associated with increased prescription rates of the sponsor's medication. Attending presentations given by pharmaceutical representative speakers was also associated with nonrational prescribing.

Conclusion. The present extent of physician-industry interactions appears to affect prescribing and professional behavior and should be further addressed at the level of policy and education.

[From USA Today, Mar. 9, 2000]
WHO'S TEACHING THE DOCTORS?

DRUG FIRMS SPONSOR REQUIRED COURSES—AND
SEE THEIR SALES RISE

(By Dan Vergano)

At first glance, Harvard Medical School and advertising giant Omnicom Group seem to have little in common. But they share one trait: the right to award medical education credits that doctors need to keep their licenses in 34 states.

Omnicom, working through subsidiary Pragmaton, is one of a growing number of advertising and marketing firms that provide continuing medical education (CME) courses for physicians. The firms are fully accredited, but because the marketing firms often are working for pharmaceutical companies, the practice increasingly is setting off ethical alarms.

"It is unconscionable," says Catherine De Angelis, editor in chief of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Marketing firms "advertise wares under the guise of medical education," she says.

But advocates say commercial CME courses use faculty from top medical schools, ensuring objectivity, while delivering updates on drugs to the medical community more quickly than academic educators.

"Companies live through education" to ensure new products are used appropriately, says Bert Spilker of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America in Washington, D.C.

Without commercial CME firms, "you won't find enough Mother Teresas to provide everything doctors need," says Michael Scotti, a CME official with the American Medical Association. His organization is one of the seven medical groups that charter the Chicago-based Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the office that accredits courses nationwide.

The drug companies provide "unrestricted" grants to the marketers, who hire the course faculty. But growing numbers of critics say there's nothing unrestricted about the involvement of pharmaceutical companies.

They fear that CME firms, which widely refer to course sponsors as "clients," stack their programs with faculty physicians overly friendly to their sponsors' products. Sponsors get a chance to market their products directly to doctors in a venue disguised as education, critics say. In fact, one company, Indianapolis-based Eli Lilly, is directly accredited for CME, raising further concerns.

Regulations going into effect in June promise higher standards of separation between grant providers and course faculty, but critics say they are weak and unenforceable. Meanwhile, attempts to change the practice have been rebuffed even as the number of commercial providers has increased. Last spring, a resolution condemning accreditation of commercial CME firms, signed by educators from 47 medical schools, was offered to the Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education. In November, the document was tabled because of the "possibility or likelihood of grant money to universities being reduced by pharmaceutical companies," says one of its authors, Ruth Glotzer of Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston.

In February, a federal appeals court turned away the Food and Drug Administration's latest bid for oversight of the CME industry, reaffirming a decision made on freedom-of-speech grounds.

PATIENT'S BEST INTEREST?

The concern comes at a time when pharmaceutical influence on doctors is under

scrutiny. A January study in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that company-sponsored courses mentioned positive effects of the companies' drugs 2.5 to 3 times more often than other courses. Swayed by such marketing, doctors prescribed the sponsors' drugs 5.5% to 18.7% more often afterward, according to the study, without giving competitive products a similar bounce.

Critics fear that what's in the patient's best interest won't always be the determining factor when a doctor scribbles out a prescription.

They point to firms such as an accredited company called Interactive Medical Networks (IMN) of Rockville, Md., which promises pharmaceutical companies "a collaborative process with a provider who shares your expectations" on its Web site (www.cmemuscle.com). In translation, that means commercial grant providers can freely recommend faculty for courses, IMN head Jan Perez says. "If they're interested in Dr. Jones or Dr. Smith, we try to work with them."

Under current conditions, "it's up to doctors to identify who's shilling for a company," says cardiologist Richard Conti of the University of Florida at Gainesville, editor in chief of Clinical Cardiology.

Despite believing that the CME system works well overall, Conti wrote an editorial last year calling for all providers to have independent monitoring committees to ensure objectivity.

"We recognize that concern," says Murray Kopelow, head of the ACCME. Under the standards going into effect in June, parent companies of commercial CME firms must possess a mission "congruent" with medical education.

Kopelow says commercial course providers will meet the standards if they maintain a "firewall" between corporate departments whose mission is selling advertising to drug companies and the people preparing medical education courses.

PAYING FOR THE SYSTEM

Accredited course providers report about \$900 million in annual income to the ACCME. More than 40% of grant funding from drug and medical device firms goes to the 25% of those providers consisting of commercial organizations, not the medical schools and societies that control other aspects of physician training.

"We work the same way academic centers work," says Dennis Hoppe of Chicago-based Pragmaton. At the insistence of clients, employees involved with education cannot have a role in advertising activities. In addition, the company hires external doctors and pharmacists to review programs for objectivity.

Pragmaton has higher course standards than his hospital, says psychiatrist Michael Easton of Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago, a review board member.

If the accrediting group arbitrarily banned commercial firms from offering CME, it would result in a class-action lawsuit aimed not only at the organization, but also against critics, says Jack Angel, head of the Coalition for Healthcare Communication, an industry trade group. "As long as we meet the same standards, we have a right to participate," he says.

"Baloney," De Angelis says. "Show me one of their programs where (faculty) physicians push drugs not made by the sponsor."

On the industry side, Angel says academic providers may be complaining about commercial providers more for competitive than altruistic reasons. "They want more of the action."

FEW PHYSICIAN COMPLAINTS

In response to the dispute, Kopelow says, the ACCME has considered requirements that independent monitoring committees oversee all providers. But even with the new standards, critics note other potential problems with the group's oversight:

Providers get to pick in advance which monitors review courses for objectivity.

No requirements ensure that physicians take courses relevant to their specialties.

No explicit requirement exists for physician involvement in CME planning.

"We rely on faculty professionalism to a large extent," Kopelow says. Industry participation in medicine is standard practice, he says, citing such examples as for-profit hospitals and health maintenance organizations as "the way we do things in the United States." Private companies offering CME simply reflect that phenomenon, in his view.

The required disclosure of who finances a course and of any faculty ties to corporate sponsors goes a long way toward ensuring doctors who take CME courses know where advice is coming from, Kopelow says. "We have millions of eyes out there watching" in some 600,000 annual hours of accredited courses.

Over the past three years his organization has received 56 complaints about programs, 14 resulting in warning letters. But some point out that doctors who want to renew their medical licenses have little incentive to call into question a program that helps them reach that goal.

"Patients should be concerned about this," Glotzer says. "The job and responsibility of these firms is to market drugs, not to teach doctors."

Disputes over industry involvement in medicine extend into many areas, some physicians note.

"It's somewhat insulting to think that doctors don't have inquiring minds that can tell the good from the bad," says Dolores Bacon of New York Presbyterian Medical Center.

"There's a huge variability in commercial (CME) programs," she adds. "Ultimately, as physicians, our job is to be informed consumers."

HONORING THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL SCHOOLS (AADS)

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2000

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the tremendous work performed by a group of dedicated and tireless professionals: the members of the American Association of Dental Schools (AADS). Many members, including those from the 10th Congressional District of Georgia, are gathering at the AADS 77th Annual Meeting here in the nation's capital. I congratulate the AADS for its achievements. AADS is the one national organization that speaks exclusively for dental education.

Since 1923 the Association's institutional membership has trained the nation's oral health care providers. The Association has done exemplary work in leading the dental education community in addressing the issues influencing education, research, and the health of the public. Members of the Association including all of the dental schools in the United States, Puerto Rico, and Canada, allied dental

education programs, corporations, faculty, and students. The nation owes a great debt to AADS for its unwavering commitment to excellence in dental education.

AADS works to promote the value and improve the quality of dental education, and to expand and strengthen the role of dentistry among other health professions in academia and society. There is currently more focus than ever on oral health and I hope the nation will understand that oral health is a part of total health.

AADS is dedicated to assisting its membership in providing service to patients of limited means and quality education of future practitioners. Dental schools and programs play a major role in access to oral health care, reaching many underserved low-income populations, including individuals covered by Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). AADS members play a critical role in meeting the oral health needs of the nation. It is with great pride that I honor my distinguished colleagues of the dental profession.

Mr. Speaker, I honor the American Association of Dental Schools for being the leader in dental education. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing AADS many more years of continued success.

THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF
BALTIMORE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2000

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Baltimore Hebrew University, a valuable educational institution in my district, on their 80th anniversary.

Following World War I, in response to a community need for Jewish education and teacher training, Baltimore Hebrew University opened its doors as an institution of higher learning devoted solely to Jewish studies. Today, Baltimore Hebrew University has more graduate and credit students than any other Hebrew college in the nation. The University has the fourth largest Master of Arts program in Jewish Studies in the country with only Yeshiva University, Hebrew Union College and the Jewish Theological Seminary having larger programs.

In addition to teaching Jewish Studies on their Baltimore City campus, Baltimore Hebrew University professors provide Jewish Studies curriculum in other Maryland colleges, including Goucher College, Towson University, and University of Maryland Baltimore County. Next year, BHU professors will begin a new program at John Hopkins University. In addition, Baltimore Hebrew University has begun to offer in conjunction with The Baltimore Jewish Times courses "on line" to provide educational opportunities to students in communities lacking Jewish Studies programs.

Baltimore Hebrew University brings together Jews and non-Jews of all religious backgrounds, providing a diverse, open and community-responsive environment in which students gain an understanding of Jewish literary and historical tradition. Baltimore Hebrew University graduates making contributions in many of my colleagues' communities include:

Stephen Hoffman, president of the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland; Brain Schreiber, Executive Director of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh; Lesley Weiss, Association Director of the Anti-Defamation League in Washington, D.C.; Gail Naron Chalew, editor of the Journal of Jewish Community Service and Larry S. Moses, President of the Wexner Foundation, to name a few.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Robert O. Freedman, president of Baltimore Hebrew University, and the members of the Board of Trustees and the Baltimore Jewish community for their fortitude and foresight in establishing and maintaining Baltimore Hebrew University as a premier institution of higher education.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (House Concurrent Resolution 290) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2000, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2005:

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Chairman, I cannot support this resolution, for two reasons. It fails to do what should be done, for our country and for all Americans. And, it would insist on doing what should not be done for our economy and for future generations.

It does not extend the solvency of either Social Security or Medicare, which we need to do as the first step toward preparing those vital programs to meet the challenges of the years ahead when the "baby boom" generation retires in large numbers.

It does not properly provide for measures to make affordable prescription drugs available to Medicare beneficiaries and other senior citizens.

It doesn't adequately fund essential education programs including Head Start, Pell grants for college students, and special education—in fact, it cuts their purchasing power.

It does not protect programs that are vital for many working families—such as child care subsidies, emergency heating and cooling assistance, or affordable housing—or to improve their access to health insurance. It also does not adequately assist our communities to respond to the problems of growth and sprawl and fails to provide enough funds for saving open space. And it does not provide enough for veterans' programs.

And it does not give the proper priority to reducing the public debt.

But what it does do is to mortgage the future to pay for excessive, unfocused tax cuts that would wipe out almost all of the expected surplus outside of Social Security.

It does cut funding for energy research and conservation programs, even as increased prices for gasoline and heating oil are again

showing the importance of reducing our dependence on petroleum, while allowing dangerous erosion of funding for many other important scientific research activities.

And it does lay down a blueprint for going back to budget deficits.

For all these reasons—and more—we should not make the mistake of passing this budget plan. We can do better, and we should.

That's why I voted for the alternative plan proposed by Representative JOHN SPRATT and other Democratic members of the Budget Committee.

The Democratic alternative would have extended the solvency of Social Security and Medicare, while making a downpayment on a plan to let the parents of children who are eligible for Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance program gain health-care coverage under these programs. It also would have provided for Medicare prescription drug coverage, beginning next year, while maintaining the funds needed to crack down on Medicare fraud, waste, and abuse. It also would have provided more funds for veterans programs, and would have assisted retirees and people who lose their jobs to keep health insurance.

The Democratic alternative would have increased funding for energy research and development, including energy conservation and the development of alternatives to petroleum. And it would have provided more for science, space, and technology programs.

It also would have provided fund to continue assisting local school districts to hire more teachers for overcrowded schools, would have provided nearly \$5 billion more for special education funding, would have provided for tax credits and funding for better school buildings. It would have provided for increases in Pell grants, Head Start, special education, and other educational programs.

The Democratic alternative would fully fund the Lands Legacy Initiative, to save endangered open space and to assist our States and local communities in acquiring parks, conserving wildlife habitat, and protecting sensitive areas.

And while the Democratic alternative would have provided for cutting taxes by some \$200 billion over the next decade, it still would have dedicated \$364 billion over the next decade for paying down the publicly held debt, more than could be done under the flawed plan put forward by the Republican leadership.

Mr. Chairman, after I compared the Republican leadership's budget and the Democrat alternative, my choice was clear. I think that when the American people make the same comparison, they will agree that the Republican leadership's plan is a collection of wrong choices for the House and for our country.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PATRICIA AND JIM GLOVER

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2000

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, Patricia and Jim Glover will celebrate their 35th Anniversary today, March 27, 2000;

Whereas, Patricia and Jim declared their love in a ceremony before God, family and friends in Bridgeport, Ohio;

Whereas, 2000 will mark 35 years of sharing, loving, working together and raising a family of two children;

Whereas, may Patricia and Jim be blessed with all the happiness and love that two can share and may their love grow with each passing year;

THEREFORE: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the Glovers' on their 35th anniversary. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing this special couple many more years of happiness together.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (House Concurrent Resolution 290) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2000, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2005:

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of a fiscally responsible federal budget.

I have been very consistent in what I believe we should be doing with our federal budget and projected surplus.

First, we need to pay down the \$3.7 trillion national debt. Last year, we paid \$230 billion in interest on the debt—that's almost the size of the Defense budget. Families use times of plenty to pay off debt first—the government should as well. We owe it to our children to get rid of this burden.

We must shore up Social Security and modernize Medicare. Social Security faces a huge challenge with the coming retirement of baby boomers and we must prepare for that now. Providing prescription drug coverage, and increasing payments to Medicare HMO's and hospitals will ensure that central coast seniors have the quality health care they deserve.

We must also make critical investments in education, health care, defense, and veteran's programs. Schools on the central coast are overcrowded, putting an extra burden on our teachers and potentially shortchanging our kids. Millions of Americans lack health insurance and this adds to overall health care costs and human misery. Our troops are stretched too thin and we have neglected our veterans' needs for far too long.

And, of course, we must enact some commonsense tax reform. Fixing the marriage penalty, ending the Social Security earnings limit, lifting the estate tax burden from small businesses and family farms—these are all reforms we can accomplish this year.

To meet these goals I will be supporting the alternative budget presented by Mr. SPRATT. While it does not fully reflect all my goals, it comes closest. And it clearly is superior to the leadership plan.

This mainstream budget puts \$364 billion of the non-Social Security surplus toward paying

down the debt. The leadership bill puts none of the non-Social Security surplus into debt reduction and may even begin spending the Social Security surplus once again. The mainstream proposal will extend Medicare and Social Security solvency by at least 10 and 15 years, respectively. The leadership bill does not provide the necessary safety net for the future generations of seniors.

The budget I support provides for prescription drug coverage for all our seniors. The leadership bill is silent on who is covered. The Spratt proposal puts \$1 billion more into law enforcement than the leadership bill. And this budget allows for responsible increases funding for education, science and medical research and development to insure that we provide our kids with the all the opportunities they deserve. The leadership proposal freezes funding for 5 years for all higher education assistance, meaning fewer Pell grants and Head Start slots for our kids. Finally, this mainstream budget provides for critical funding for energy research and conservation programs. The leadership bill, even in these times of high gas prices, actually cuts these budgets.

Simply put, Mr. Chairman, the budget I support allows us to continue on a path of fiscal responsibility, while continuing to meet the future challenges that face our society.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (House Concurrent Resolution 290) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2000, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels; for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2005:

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Chairman, I applaud my colleagues on the House Budget Committee for their hard work in crafting a fiscal year 2001 budget which all Americans can embrace today. Chairman KASICH has shown vision and leadership in guiding the Congress out of the Democrat-led forty year period of budget deficits and into the Republican era of budget surpluses.

I also would like to give credit to Chairman KASICH for his efforts to publish a summary of where the federal government stands now on combating government waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement. Sadly, this document (Reviving The Reform Agenda) shows how much reform is still needed in agencies and programs throughout the federal government from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to various federal housing programs. As a small businessman, I was appalled to read that the most recent audits (fiscal year 1998) showed six major agencies could not provide financial statements that reliably account for the hundreds of billions of dollars they spent. Put another way, these agencies failed to produce the kinds of financial records that the government requires of every private-sector company

that trades its stock publicly. The Budget Committee majority staff point out that the General Accounting Office (GAO) and the inspectors general (IG) of the various agencies believe taxpayers' hard-earned dollars have been wasted and, as a result, beneficiaries of too many federal programs have been deprived of the funding which Congress intended them to receive.

I believe it is important to point to Reviving The Reform Agenda in defense of Republicans' successful push last year for a 0.38 percent across-the-board cut in the fiscal year 2000 spending bills. And, today, as our colleagues across the aisle criticize the fiscal year 2001 Republican budget which will keep spending to about half the rate of inflation, we need to highlight the fact that government waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement still exists. Why should we ask our constituents to support the Clinton-Gore administration budget which calls for spending \$1.3 trillion on bigger government over the next decade when we are having a hard time managing effectively current programs and spending levels?

It is important to note that the fiscal year 2001 Republican budget proposal keeps a lid on runaway federal spending while devoting the entire Social Security surplus, totaling \$166 billion in fiscal year 2001, to a lock box to prevent it from being used to finance other government programs. And, it proposes a \$40 billion reserve fund to be used to reform Medicare and provide prescription drug coverage for Medicare beneficiaries who need it.

In addition, the Republican budget proposal contains \$150 billion in tax relief over five years, including the elimination of the marriage penalty. It also contains tax relief for small businesses, phases out the estate of "death" tax, establishes tax incentives for educational assistance and tax relief associated with pending health care reform legislation.

Finally, I am pleased to report that the Republican budget increases spending for education, national defense, transportation and veterans programs. In response to many of my constituents' concerns, it also decreases foreign aid expenditures. I believe this budget does it all. I hope my Republican colleagues will continue to spearhead a campaign of reform, beginning with the adoption of the fiscally responsible Republican budget.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, 2000 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 29

9:30 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Defense Subcommittee
 To hold closed hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense, focusing on Air Force programs, (to be followed by an open session in SD-192).
 SH-219

Judiciary
 Administrative Oversight and the Courts Subcommittee
 To hold oversight hearings on the handling of the investigation of Peter Lee.
 SD-226

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 To hold hearings on S. 2267, to direct the National Institute of Standards and Technology to establish a program to support research and training in methods of detecting the use of performance-enhancing substances by athletes (pending on Senate calendar).
 SR-253

Rules and Administration
 To hold hearings to examine Presidential primaries and campaign finance.
 SR-301

10 a.m.
 Finance
 To resume hearings to examine the inclusion of a prescription drug benefit in the Medicare program.
 SD-215

Budget
 Business meeting to continue markup a proposed concurrent resolution setting forth the fiscal year 2001 budget for the Federal Government.
 SD-608

10:30 a.m.
 Governmental Affairs
 To hold hearings on how to structure government to meet the challenges of the millennium.
 SD-342

2 p.m.
 Intelligence
 To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.
 SH-219

2:30 p.m.
 Energy and Natural Resources
 Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on S. 1778, to provide for equal exchanges of land around the Cascade Reservoir, S. 1894, to provide for the conveyance of certain land to Park County, Wyoming, and S. 1969, to provide for improved management of, and increases accountability for, out-fitted activities by which the public gains access to and occupancy and use of Federal land.
 SD-366

Indian Affairs
 To hold hearings on S. 1967, to make technical corrections to the status of certain land held in trust for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, to take certain land into trust for that Band; S. 1507, to authorize the integration and consolidation of alcohol and substance programs and services provided by Indian tribal governments; and S. 1509, to amend the Indian Employment, Training, and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992, to em-

phasize the need for job creation on Indian reservations.
 SR-485

MARCH 30

9 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Treasury and General Government Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for Treasury Law Enforcement Bureaus.
 SD-192

9:30 a.m.
 Appropriations
 VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
 SD-138

Appropriations
 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services.
 SD-124

Energy and Natural Resources
 To hold hearings on S. 882, to strengthen provisions in the Energy Policy Act of 1992 and the Federal Nonnuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974 with respect to potential Climate Change; and S. 1776, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to revise the energy policies of the United States in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, advance global climate science, promote technology development, and increase citizen awareness.
 SD-366

Foreign Relations
 To hold hearings to examine the need for nonproliferation policy innovations.
 SD-430

Rules and Administration
 To hold oversight hearings on the operations of the Architect of the Capitol.
 SR-301

10 a.m.
 Judiciary
 Business meeting to markup H.R. 2260, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to promote pain management and palliative care without permitting assisted suicide and euthanasia; and S. 1854, to reform the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976.
 SD-226

Governmental Affairs
 To hold hearings on the nominations of Alan Craig Kessler, of Pennsylvania, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service; and Carol Waller Pope, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority.
 SD-342

Finance
 Business meeting to markup H.R. 6, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the marriage penalty by providing that the income tax rate bracket amounts, and the amount of the standard deduction, for joint returns shall be twice the amounts applicable to unmarried individuals.
 SD-215

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 To hold hearings on S. 1361, to amend the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 to provide for an expanded Federal program of hazard mitigation, relief, and insurance against the risk of cata-

strophic natural disasters, such as hurricanes, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.
 SR-253

10:30 a.m.
 Environment and Public Works
 Superfund, Waste Control, and Risk Assessment Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on the Administration's fiscal year 2001 budget for programs with the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.
 SD-406

2 p.m.
 Judiciary
 Constitution, Federalism, and Property Rights Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine racial profiling within law enforcement agencies.
 SD-226

Foreign Relations
 Meeting to discuss crucial issues before the United Nations.
 SD-419

Intelligence
 To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.
 SH-219

2:30 p.m.
 Energy and Natural Resources
 Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
 To hold oversight hearings on the President's October 1999 announcement to review approximately 40 million acres of national forest lands for increased protection.
 SD-366

MARCH 31

9:30 a.m.
 Energy and Natural Resources
 Energy Research, Development, Production and Regulation Subcommittee
 To hold oversight hearings to examine the Department of Energy's findings at the Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Paducah, Kentucky, and plans for cleanup at the site.
 SD-366

APRIL 4

9:30 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Interior Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Office of the Special Trustee, Department of the Interior.
 SD-138

10 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Transportation Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine the implementation of the Driver's Privacy Protection Act, focusing on the positive notification requirement.
 SD-192

APRIL 5

9:30 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Interior Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of the Interior.
 SD-124

Indian Affairs
 To hold hearings on S. 612, to provide for periodic Indian needs assessments, to require Federal Indian program evaluations.
 SR-485

10 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense, focusing on Army programs.

SD-192

APRIL 6

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SD-138

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the incinerator component at the proposed Advanced Waste Treatment Facility at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory and its potential impact on the adjacent Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks.

SD-366

APRIL 8

10 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense, focusing on medical programs.

SD-192

APRIL 11

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Energy.

SD-138

10 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on S. 282, to provide that no electric utility shall be required to enter into a new contract or obligation to purchase or to sell electricity or capacity under section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978; S. 516, to benefit consumers by promoting competition in the electric power industry; S. 1047, to provide for a more competitive electric power industry; S. 1284, to amend the Federal Power Act to ensure that no State may establish, maintain, or enforce on behalf of any electric utility an exclusive right to sell electric energy or otherwise unduly discriminate against any consumer who seeks to purchase electric energy in interstate commerce from any supplier; S. 1273, to amend the Federal Power Act, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets; S. 1369, to enhance the benefits of the national electric system by encouraging

and supporting State programs for renewable energy sources, universal electric service, affordable electric service, and energy conservation and efficiency; S. 2071, to benefit electricity consumers by promoting the reliability of the bulk-power system; and S. 2098, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets, and to ensure electric reliability.

SH-216

APRIL 12

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Corporation for National and Community Service, Community Development Financial Institutions, and Chemical Safety Board.

SD-138

Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings on the report of the Academy for Public Administration on Bureau of Indian Affairs management reform.

SR-485

10 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense, focusing on missile defense programs.

SD-192

APRIL 13

9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

SD-138

Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on S. 282, to provide that no electric utility shall be required to enter into a new contract or obligation to purchase or to sell electricity or capacity under section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978; S. 516, to benefit consumers by promoting competition in the electric power industry; S. 1047, to provide for a more competitive electric power industry; S. 1284, to amend the Federal Power Act to ensure that no State may establish, maintain, or enforce on behalf of any electric utility an exclusive right to sell electric energy or otherwise unduly discriminate against any consumer who seeks to purchase electric energy in interstate commerce from any supplier; S. 1273, to amend the Federal Power Act, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets; S. 1369, to enhance the benefits of the national electric system by encouraging

and supporting State programs for renewable energy sources, universal electric service, affordable electric service, and energy conservation and efficiency; S. 2071, to benefit electricity consumers by promoting the reliability of the bulk-power system; and S. 2098, to facilitate the transition to more competitive and efficient electric power markets, and to ensure electric reliability.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 2034, to establish the Canyons of the Ancients National Conservation Area.

SD-366

APRIL 26

10 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense.

SD-192

SEPTEMBER 26

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the Legislative recommendation of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building

CANCELLATIONS

MARCH 29

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-366

POSTPONEMENTS

MARCH 30

10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings on medical records privacy.

SD-430

SD-430

APRIL 19

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by hearings on S. 611, to provide for administrative procedures to extend Federal recognition to certain Indian groups.

SR-485