

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BOB BEVERLY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize a remarkable citizen of Grand Junction, Colorado, Bob Beverly. Bob has for over three decades worked tirelessly, promoting the sport of skiing on the western slope of Colorado. Recently Bob was inducted into the Colorado Ski Museum Hall of Fame and I would like to honor his contributions to the State of Colorado.

Bob is a native of the Colorado ski country growing up in Steamboat, Colorado. After moving to Grand Junction in the 1950's he actively worked to help promote skiing in western Colorado. He was an instrumental player in founding the Grand Mesa and Mesa Creek ski areas, two areas that are unfortunately no longer in existence. Despite the difficulties with these two resorts he continued to promote skiing in the capacity of constructing volunteer ski patrols, in order to ensure the safety of Colorado's skiing community.

Bob's greatest contribution to the Grand Valley came when he founded the highly popular and successful Powderhorn ski area. He not only worked tirelessly to raise money to fund this enormous undertaking, but also helped to clear the area's first ski runs.

Bob's contributions to the Grand Valley and the Colorado ski community are immeasurable and he is well deserving of this distinguished honor. On behalf of the State of Colorado and the U.S. Congress I congratulate Bob on his induction into the Colorado Ski Hall of Fame and wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

CONCERNING VIOLENCE IN
MIDDLE EAST

SPEECH OF

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, as a co-sponsor of this resolution, I rise in strong support of its passage today. This important measure, introduced by my colleagues International Relations Committee Chairman BENJAMIN GILMAN and Ranking Member SAM GEJDENSON, expresses the United States' solidarity with the State of Israel and condemns the recent acts of Palestinian violence in the Middle East.

H. Con. Res. 426 calls upon the Palestinian leadership to honor its obligations under the Oslo Accords, to resolve its concerns peacefully at the negotiating table, and to cease inciting its people to violence. This resolution also calls for the Palestinian Authority to vigorously employ its security forces to restore order and to safeguard holy places of all

faiths. Without Chairman Arafat's adherence to these basic obligations under Oslo, efforts to salvage the peace process and improve the lives of both Israelis and Palestinians will surely fail.

This resolution was offered in response to weeks of tension in the Middle East and sends a clear message condemning Palestinian violence. This resolution will not only signal to Chairman Arafat that America abhors his calculated use of violence, it will also signal to nations across the Middle East and around the world that the American people stand by Israel—our democratic ally and closest partner in Middle East peace. At a time when Hezbollah leaders are broadcasting appeals for the murder of Israelis, and when the rogue states of Iraq and Iran are renewing calls for Israel's destruction, the United States must transmit a clear, unmistakable message of support for Israel.

This legislation compliments another measure—H.R. 5522—which I recently offered with my colleagues ANTHONY WEINER, MATT SALMON, and PETER DEUTSCH, to cut funding for the Palestinian Authority pending a peaceful resolution to the conflict in the Middle East and full renunciation of violence. H.R. 5522 would immediately cut approximately \$33 million in non-humanitarian U.S. aid directed to the Palestinian Authority projected to be included in the Fiscal Year 2001 budget. The bill contains a provision allowing the President to waive the proposed sanctions upon certifying that the Palestinian Authority has renounced violence as a means of political expression, and that the violence has actually subsided. I believe this bill, in conjunction with the resolution we are considering today, appropriately signifies the breadth and scope of U.S. resolve.

The acts of violence committed by the Palestinian Authority has again plunged the Middle East into a deep crisis. The progress realized through years of difficult negotiations in the Middle East offered hope to all Israeli's who desire a final peace with true security, while offering Palestinians the hope of greater sovereignty. This progress was achieved because both sides negotiated in good faith, and developed trust and understanding. The Israeli government demonstrated its commitment to peace at Camp David, when it offered unprecedented compromises to end the conflict. At this time of great peril, the U.S. must state its strong commitment and support for the State of Israel.

I urge my colleagues to support Israel and vote for this passage of this resolution.

IN MEMORY OF GARY MCPHERSON

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Colorado State Representative Gary McPherson—a husband and

father of three, a public servant, a self-made individual, and a leading citizen of Arapahoe County and the great State of Colorado, who recently passed away.

On October 12th of this year, Colorado suffered a tragic loss with the passing of my friend, Gary McPherson. Gary represented State House District 40 for the last six years and was considered a rising star in Colorado's political realm. At 37 years of age, he was a respected lawyer as well as a distinguished lawmaker. He always had a smile on his face and was willing to share advice on anything from legislation to how well the Nebraska Cornhuskers were going to do next season. His legislative accomplishments run the gambit from protecting property rights and seeking tougher criminal sentencing to returning TABOR tax surpluses to Colorado taxpayers, reducing the State income tax rates, and bringing a special civility and decorum to the State House floor.

Gary was the quintessential citizen legislator, he began his public service as a precinct leader in southeast Aurora and hosted local caucuses for the surrounding precincts. During this time, gained the respect of the community and was appointed, in 1995, to fill the vacancy in his local House District. Gary established himself as a leader in the State Legislature, becoming the chairman of the 13 member House Finance Committee as well as serving on the Appropriations and Judiciary committees.

His honesty and forthright approach to every endeavor was highly valued and respected by his colleagues. His dedication to the Colorado Civil Air Patrol, where he participated, has led his family to ask that contributions be directed to them in his memory.

Let the permanent RECORD of the Congress of the United States reflect that Gary McPherson was a gentleman of proud Scottish heritage, a father to three lovely daughters: Christina, Elizabeth, and Ashley, and loving husband of Shelley, and that he will be missed by one and all.

HONORING DR. DEAN TUTTLE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, Today I rise to recognize before the House the accomplishments of Dr. Dean Tuttle of Greeley, Colorado. At a ceremony in Madison Square Garden this evening, Dr. Tuttle will be presented the American Foundation for the Blind's 2000 Migel Professional Award. The award is the Migel Medal was established in 1937 by the late M.C. Migel, the American Foundation for the Blind's first chairman, to honor volunteers and professionals whose dedication and achievements have significantly improved the lives of people who are blind or visually impaired. Each year, only two

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

people of such high character are presented the Migel Medal.

Dr. Tuttle is a retired Special Education professor at the University of Northern Colorado. He has written extensively on visual impairment. For the past nine years, he has consulted the Hadley School for the blind on its curriculum planning and evaluation. He holds masters degrees from San Francisco State College and Columbia University Teachers College in Special Education. Dr. Tuttle earned his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, and San Francisco State University in Educational Psychology. Dr. Tuttle's writings and lectures consistently inspire young teachers entering the fields of education and rehabilitation for the blind to do all they can to make life better for the visually impaired.

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national nonprofit organization whose mission is to eliminate the inequities faced by the ten million Americans who are blind or visually impaired. This is an organization to which Helen Keller devoted forty years of her life, and it is no surprise that this wonderful organization is now honoring one of our country's most dedicated educators. Dr. Dean Tuttle selflessly devotes his time to benefit the blind and visually impaired, and it is with great pride that I stand here today to speak to his vast achievement and success.

HONORING DOVE CREEK
COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize a remarkable group of individuals responsible for expanding the Community Health Clinic in Dove Creek, Colorado. These talented individuals have, through determination and dedication, brought the citizens of Dolores County and surrounding communities a medical center that can accommodate the areas medical needs.

This unique medical facility is a federally qualified rural health clinic that serves the citizens of southern Colorado, living in Dolores County, parts of Montezuma and San Miguel Counties, as well as San Juan County in Utah. In the past year these individuals have been monumental in acquiring the much-needed funds that allowed the clinic to expand its size in order to better serve its patients.

The new addition to the clinic will now allow it to house the Dolores County Health Nurse's office, Emergency Medical Services and the Coroner's office.

The addition that is now being added will expand the clinic in immeasurable ways including added expansions of pharmaceutical, laboratory, radiology and emergency facilities. Without such incredible compassion and commitment to their community these individuals may not have made this clinic into the impressive medical facility it is today.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to honor Dianne Smith, Executive Director; Betty Sernadeni, Health Board President; Martin Neubert, Physician's Assistant and Dan Fernandez, a Colorado State University Extension Agent. They have benefited their commu-

nity in immeasurable ways and have ensured that the citizens of southern Colorado are able to receive the best medical treatment around and for that I commend their efforts and thank them for their commitment to the citizens of our great state of Colorado.

TRIBUTE TO FBI SPECIAL AGENT
DENNIS CONWAY

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent Dennis Conway, who has served with distinction in the Bureau's Kansas City Division since 1989.

Special Agent Conway will retire on December 31, 2000, concluding a career during which he was responsible for the successful investigation, arrest, and prosecution of over 200 criminals.

From 1972–1976, Special Agent Conway was assigned to the FBI's Oklahoma City Division, where he investigated violent crimes. Then, from 1976–1983, he was Bank Robbery Coordinator in the Bureau's Minneapolis Division. From 1983–1989, Special Agent Conway was assigned to the FBI's Detroit Division, where he was case agent on an undercover illegal drug investigation which resulted in the conviction of a high profile drug distributor, who was convicted after a six week trial.

From 1989 to the present, Special Agent Conway has been assigned to the Bureau's Kansas City Division. During that time, he served as case agent on undercover drug operation "Plazop," which focused on sources of illegal drug supplies from Colombia, the Philippines, the Dominican Republic, Los Angeles and San Diego. This investigation resulted in 32 criminal convictions which significantly reduced the quantity of illegal drugs on the streets of Kansas City, Kansas, and Missouri. For the past six years, Special Agent Conway has investigated illegal drug crimes and crimes of violence within the U.S. Penitentiary in Leavenworth, Kansas, where his efforts have resulted in over 60 indictments.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to pay public tribute to my constituent, FBI Special Agent Dennis Conway, as he completes a distinguished career of service to the Kansas City community and our nation as a whole. The public at large and the law enforcement community are better for his efforts, and we wish him well as he concludes his career with the FBI.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIRE-
MENT OF ROBERT J. CLARKSON

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Robert J. Clarkson. On November 3, 2000, Mr. Clarkson will retire from the United States Postal Service after 61 years of federal service. In the entire 224-year history of the Postal Service, Mr. Clarkson is only the 25th person

to serve over 50 years and the only one from the State of Alabama.

Robert Clarkson began his postal career at age 14 as a special delivery messenger with the post office in Anniston, Alabama. That was in 1940. To put this in perspective, at that time, a regular stamp cost 3 cents and a special delivery stamp cost 10 cents. Mr. Clarkson was paid 9 cents for every special delivery letter he delivered. He was a city carrier from 1942 to 1955 at which time he transferred to the Piedmont, Alabama Post Office as a Rural Letter Carrier. He has been a rural career since that time, for 32 years out of the Piedmont Post Office and then 13 years out of the Anniston Post Office.

During his career as a Rural Letter Carrier, Mr. Clarkson, was Committeeman of the Third District for the Alabama Rural Letter Carriers Association as well as a local Steward for many years. He was given a Special Achievement Award by the Postal Service in recognition of his job performance.

Within the span of his employment, Robert Clarkson served 2 years in the United States Navy. When he was discharged, he returned home and completed high school and then college by going to night school.

Mr. Speaker, I want to salute Robert Clarkson for his remarkable career with the Postal Service and to thank him for his service to the residents of Calhoun County, Alabama. His tradition with the Postal Service is being carried on by his son, Michael, a Rural Carrier in Oxford, Alabama.

THE VACCINE INJURY COMPENSA-
TION PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT
ACT OF 2000

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Vaccine Injury Compensation Program Improvement Act of 2000," legislation designed to revise and improve the standards applied to petitions for compensating injuries associated with vaccines administered to children when the claims are deemed not to be covered by the "Vaccine Table." The Table is used in the program to create presumptions favoring compensation coverage under very limited circumstances and pursuant to specific criteria.

Mr. Speaker, I have chaired oversight hearings of the House Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources devoted to problems and issues in the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program. Our full committee, the House Committee on Government Reform, also has been actively engaged in oversight of this important program. As a product of our hearings and extensive oversight activities, members of the subcommittee and full committee in a bipartisan manner and without objection, passed on October 5, 2000, the report entitled, "The Vaccine Injury Compensation Program: Addressing the Needs and Improving Practices."

Among the recommendations of this report is the need to devise an alternative standard for determining compensation for petitioners who claim vaccine-related injuries, but whose petitions are not covered by the Vaccine