

and need this assistance. Second, the five month window which exists before the conditions are applied should not lead to throwing all of this money at Belgrade rapidly beforehand, because the conditions may not be met. I could see this happening next February, in the event that insufficient progress has been achieved by that time. Let's hope that progress will take place allowing for certification in accordance with this bill. Third, progress in the rule of law must include addressing the hundreds of ethnic Albanians currently in Serbian prisons and encouraging president Kostunica to continue to look for ways to resolve this issue.

In conclusion, I believe a case can be made that the reformists coming into power at this time may not be able to surrender Slobodan Milosevic to the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague. Sooner or later, however, they will need to do so. To do otherwise would not only be an injustice to the literally millions of victims in the former Yugoslavia. It would send the absolutely wrong message to Croatia, Bosnia and Montenegro all of whom are cooperating with the Tribunal. It would delay the time by which the people of Serbia will have to reckon with the hideous atrocities committed in their name this past decade, a reckoning which will be absolutely necessary for Serbia to make significant progress in building a society in which the rule of law is respected and tolerance of others is embedded.

It is important when discussing these issues to recall that there are also indictees beyond Milosevic living in Serbia. Let us recall exactly what these people are alleged to have done. Three individuals living now in Serbia were directly responsible for pulling over 200 people out of a hospital in Vukovar, Croatia, after the city had been surrendered and guarantees of safety were made, beating them severely and then executing them en masse in a field in late 1991. Another individual, the well known Ratko Mladic, was at the scene when as many as 7,000 Bosnians were similarly executed after being taken from the so-called "safe haven" of Srebrenica in 1995. Even if one could find some way to justify the conflicts surrounding these incidents—which I personally cannot do, but maybe some can—these acts were nevertheless heinous crimes, and we cannot put accountability for them at risk.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to read the indictments issued by the Tribunal, particularly the indictments of those responsible for the massacres in Vukovar and Srebrenica. They are available at <www.un.org/icty/indictment>. It is too easy to put the issue of the Tribunal to the side in light of foreign policy objectives, but, if you read what happened, I believe you will agree that justice must remain a pillar of our policy in the Balkans.

RETIREMENT OF HON. TILLIE FOWLER

SPEECH OF

HON. NORMAN SISISKY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. SISISKY. Mr. Speaker, I want to take just a moment to express my appreciation for Congresswoman TILLIE FOWLER.

She has served her country and her Florida constituents remarkably during her time in Congress.

As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, we have worked together on projects and programs of particular benefit to the Navy.

This is to be expected: Both of us represent Navy towns and naval personnel.

But TILLIE FOWLER's dedication to American servicemen and women in whatever branch of the military is exemplary.

She has labored long and hard to ensure that every branch of service received the equipment they needed, the training they required and quality of life for themselves and families.

I don't know what she will do in the future. I do know I hope she continues in some form of public service. And if it happens to be in a defense related area, I will look forward to the opportunity to continue helping build a better, more secure future for this great nation. Mrs. Sisisky and I wish TILLIE and her family our very, very best in the days ahead. We will miss her.

HONORING ANN FORKIN

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise before you to congratulate Ann Forkin on her retirement after 22 years of service at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Ann has been an invaluable asset to the Stony Brook community. In 1981, she was appointed as the first and to this point, the only Director of the Office of Conferences and Special Events.

In her 18 years as Director, she managed and orchestrated over 20 commencement ceremonies. On the day of the first commencement she planned, Mother Nature did not cooperate, and it rained. The following year, she devised plans for a ceremony in the sun, rain or drizzle. Ann made sure that no weather condition hindered this commencement ceremony or any ceremony thereafter.

Ann will be truly missed by the faculty, staff and students of SUNY Stony Brook.

IN MEMORY OF AL HADLEY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Al Hadley, a person who was one of the most influential men in my life, and, I am positive, hundreds of other lives.

"Skipper" Al Hadley died this week at the age of 96 years young. As my Sea Scout, BSA, Scoutmaster, he bestowed upon me a lifelong love of the ocean and a respect for myself and all life. He taught me to challenge myself beyond my expectations and instilled in me the values of patriotism and public service.

Skipper was a lifelong friend and mentor who dedicated himself to our youth. He stayed involved in Sea Scouts long after his two sons

were grown, and even after he retired. When I was a Scout, we restored a 36-foot World War II surplus Navy boat, which we sailed to Catalina Island on many a weekend. We pitted our seamanship skills against other Scouts from across California at the annual Rendezvous.

Each year, we left the sea for a survival hike in the desert, living off only what we found on the land. Not surprisingly, the Boy Scouts of America awarded Skipper Hadley numerous awards and recognitions over the years.

Many of those Scouts with whom I sailed with many years ago remain friends today. Skipper came to visit me at the Capitol after I was elected to Congress. His oldest son Pete, who recently retired as a colonel in the Army, remained in contact throughout the years.

Skipper Hadley will remain a role model for me until the day I die. Mr. Speaker, Skipper Hadley is survived by his wife, Cecelia; sons, Pete and David; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. I know my colleagues will join me in sending condolences to Skipper's family, and in thanking Skipper for upholding the ideals of a Scout leader; for molding generations of strong, motivated men and women; and for being a guiding light on the sea of life.

HONORING REVEREND CARLETON GILES FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I today join the congregation of the First Baptist Church in Milford, Connecticut as they pay tribute to an outstanding member of the Milford community and my dear friend—Reverend Carleton Giles. Throughout this past month, which the First Baptist Church has designated as "Pastor's Anniversary Month," the congregation and Milford residents have gathered on several occasions to honor Reverend Giles' tenth anniversary as their pastor.

For many years, Reverend Giles has been an outstanding leader in the Milford community. As a pastor, teacher and police officer, he was shown unparalleled commitment and dedication to all members of the community. With his extensive record of service, Reverend Giles has led an impressive and unique career—one which has made a real difference in the lives of many.

The clergy has always played a vital role in our community and Reverend Giles is a sterling example. His commitment to the service of our community through religious leadership that has brought him to this day is admired by many and rivaled by few. His involvement, not only with the congregation of the First Baptist Church, but with the entire community, has produced a legacy that will last for years. For ten years, Reverend Giles has ministered to the spiritual needs of hundreds in the Milford community—strengthening our bonds of faith and helping to build stronger neighborhoods of which we can all be proud.

In addition to his duties at the First Baptist Church, Reverend Giles has served as a law enforcement officer for the City of Norwalk for

the past twenty years. Responsible for the implementation of drug and gang prevention programs such as D.A.R.E. and G.R.E.A.T., Reverend Giles has had a profound impact on Norwalk's young people. Because of his good work, our children are learning the dangers of drugs, gangs, and youth violence. Reverend Giles' efforts have gone a long way in opening the doors of communication between students and local law enforcement officials, a crucial link in the fight to end youth violence.

Even with the incredible responsibilities Reverend Giles takes on in his professional career, he has still found time to serve on several community organizations, including the Interdenominational Ministers Alliance of Greater Bridgeport and Vicinity, Milford's Board of Police Commissioners, and New Haven's Annual Yom Hashoah Community Observance in remembrance of the Holocaust. I have had the privilege of having him serve on my Military Advisory Committee where he has taken the time to interview students from around the Third Congressional District who are interested in attending our nation's military academies.

I am proud to stand today and join Reverend Giles' wife, Stephany, family, friends, and the First Baptist Church of Milford in extending my sincere thanks and appreciation for his outstanding leadership and invaluable contributions to our community. My sincere congratulations, Reverend Giles, on your tenth anniversary and best wishes for continued success.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER
AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT
ON H.R. 2614, CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT
COMPANY PROGRAM
IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition of H.R. 2614. I am deeply disturbed that this legislation was assembled by the Republican leadership without consultation with either the President or the Democrats in Congress. It is a partisan package of tax breaks for a variety of special interests. It ignores the needs of middle-class families and does not appropriately deal with the struggles of rural and teaching hospitals under the Medicare program.

This legislation does not contain the bipartisan school construction tax credit bond provision that would provide \$25 billion in interest-free school construction bonds to help our crumbling schools. Instead it provides far less help to school districts, while giving the greatest tax cuts to wealthy bondholders, not average taxpayers.

This bill also fails to address the marriage penalty and reform of the estate tax to protect small businesses and family farms. Both are tax cut priorities around which there is broad bipartisan agreement.

H.R. 2614 does not provide an adequate tax solution for people who lack health insurance. Instead, it offers a sham deduction that could lead to many families paying more for the health insurance that they already have. Ac-

ording to the Joint Tax Committee, the deduction for buying health insurance will only succeed in helping about 5 percent of the 43 million uninsured purchase health insurance. Furthermore, this provision could lead employers to either cut back their contribution to health insurance premiums or drop coverage completely for many employees. In short, this tax deduction is very costly at \$10 billion per year, yet has very little positive impact.

While this bill would increase the minimum wage 50 cents in 2001 and another 50 cents in 2002, all other provisions to help workers by altering overtime and other protections of the Fair Labor Standards Act have been dropped. Instead, the bill contains numerous small business and special interest tax breaks—such as \$25 billion for an increase in the business meals deduction, repeal of 4.3 cents of the diesel fuel excise tax for railroads at a cost of \$1.58 billion and a \$250 million tax break for timber companies.

Instead of providing relief for those health care providers who really suffered harm from the 1997 Balanced Budget cuts this legislation would pass along 41 percent of the increase in Medicare spending to HMOs. This money could otherwise be directed toward beneficiary and health care providers needs. There is not even a guarantee that HMOs will stay in the communities they now serve. Each dollar that goes to the HMO industry in this bill is a dollar that won't go to improve coverage for a Medicare beneficiary or go to help a rural hospital remain open.

I cannot support this inappropriate use of increased Medicare dollars. I support meaningful assistance to health care providers and targeted managed care payment increases to low-reimbursement counties, like many in Wisconsin, in exchange for their commitment to remain in the communities they serve for at least three years and not abandon seniors like so many have.

This Congress has failed to pass any meaningful health reform, such as the Patients' Bill of Rights or a Medicare prescription drug benefit, and instead has chosen to provide tax breaks for special interests and millions of dollars in Medicare spending to HMOs. I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER
AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT
ON H.R. 2614, CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT
COMPANY PROGRAM
IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2614. While I believe that there are many good provisions in this bill, I must object to it because it does not restore Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) benefits to legal immigrant women and children. In 1995, Congress imposed a 5-year ban on providing Medicaid and CHIP coverage to recently qualified immigrants. In 1996, Congress passed an immigration bill that split families; threw out due process; and took away discretion. But, worst of all, Congress took away compassion.

So, I'm not here just as a Member of Congress or as the Chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Health Task Force. I'm here as an American upset with the laws that discriminate against my fellow human beings. Today we stand before you to defend the women and children who fled tyranny and poverty only to be denied the health care afforded other Americans. We are talking about people that came here legally, play by the rules, and pay taxes. I firmly believe that we should include a provision that give states the option to provide SCHIP and Medicaid benefits to lawfully present immigrant low-income pregnant women and children. Children and pregnant women who are denied coverage through the SCHIP and Medicaid 5-year ban usually can't get other vital health care coverage. As a matter of decency, as a matter of economics, as a matter of public health, legal immigrant children and pregnant women deserve the same access to essential health care coverage offered to citizens. For pregnant women and their children, regular prenatal care and early intervention saves lives and dollars.

Children who have routine office visits and immunizations grow to be healthy adults with less medical complications. Children monitored by pediatricians are less likely to be victimized by chronic and communicable diseases. Preventive care minimizes emergency room visits, a costly and inefficient way of providing health care. Remember, diseases do not ask to see a passport. The 5-year ban on providing Medicaid and CHIP coverage has been the greatest barrier to health care for legal immigrants. It's time to make the system fair for everyone.

IMPORTANCE OF THE ONGOING
U.S. CONGRESSIONAL FORUM ON
LAOS WITH THE APPROACHING
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
COMMUNIST REGIME

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am very concerned about the deteriorating political, economic and security situation in Laos which remains under the brutal control of one of the world's last remaining Stalinist regimes. More is needed to promote democracy, basic human liberties and human rights—and to stop the serious, ongoing intervention by Vietnam's military and security forces in the internal affairs of Laos. This is needed to serve the interests of the American people and the freedom-loving people of Laos, Vietnam and Thailand.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Center for Public Policy Analysis and its Executive Director, Mr. Philip Smith, as well as Colonel Wangyee Vang of the Lao Veterans of America for their leadership in helping to convene the U.S. Congressional Forum on Laos. Many of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle have participated in this important forum series on Capitol Hill over the course of the 106th Congress. It has helped to develop enhanced awareness and understanding of the serious developments in Laos by policymakers. I am proud to have participated in a