

them to struggle financially. Then the hospitals must look to Medicare and to their local communities to help them financially—and all because these joint ventures are skimming high profits for their investors, including physicians.

Mr. Speaker, these situations not only harm hospitals, they violate the spirit of Medicare self-referral laws. Lawyers have found a loophole in the self-referral laws, and physicians are taking advantage of it.

Today, Rep. KLECZKA and I are joining together to introduce the Hospital Investment Act of 2001 to close the loophole. Our bill would continue to permit physician ownership in these joint ventures and specialty hospitals only if the ownership or investment interest is purchased on terms that are generally available to the public at the time. This amendment would not prohibit physicians from purchasing shares to stock, but it would make sure that such stock purchases are not the result of a sweetheart deal available only to physicians, but set up in a way to skirt the law. My amendment would make it harder for hospitals and physicians to skim profits from hospitals leaving the hospitals worse off financially.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to close this loophole in the Medicare physician self-referral laws, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

TRIBUTE TO 2001 LeGRAND SMITH  
SCHOLARSHIP FINALISTS

**HON. NICK SMITH**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2001*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is a sincere pleasure to recognize the finalists of the 2001 LeGrand Smith Scholarship Program. This special honor is an appropriate tribute to the academic accomplishment, demonstration of leadership and responsibility, and commitment to social involvement displayed by these remarkable young adults. We all have reason to celebrate their success, for it is in their promising and capable hands that our future rests:

Nicole Albain of Deerfield, Michigan  
Laura Banks of Adrian, Michigan  
Zoe Bliss of Jackson, Michigan  
Jonathan Chapman of East Leroy, Michigan  
Bethany Decker of Adrian, Michigan  
Elizabeth Flack of Jackson, Michigan  
Benjamin Green of Morenci, Michigan  
RaeAnn Herman of Manistowick, Michigan  
Alexander Kennedy of Adrian, Michigan  
Chelsey McConn of Bronson, Michigan  
Ingrid Meyer of Pittsford, Michigan  
Martin Muntz of Manchester, Michigan  
Rebekah Preston of Quincy, Michigan  
Lisa Sellers of Battle Creek, Michigan  
Kristen Taddonio of Manchester, Michigan  
Bethany Wheeler of Morenci, Michigan

The finalists of the LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship Program are being honored for showing that same generosity of spirit, depth of intelligence, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan. They are young men and women of character, ambition, and initiative, who have already learned well the value of hard work, discipline, and commitment.

These exceptional students have consistently displayed their dedication, intelligence,

and concern throughout their high school experience. They are people who stand out among their peers due to their many achievements and the disciplined manner in which they meet challenges. While they have already accomplished a great deal, these young people possess unlimited potential, for they have learned the keys to success in any endeavor. I am proud to join with their many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to the finalists of the 2001 LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship Program.

SPEECH BY AHMET ERTEGUN

**HON. ROBERT WEXLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2001*

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following speech given by Ahmet Ertegun, Chief Executive Officer of Atlantic Records, on May 18, 2001, after receiving the Prestigious Federation of Turkish American Associations (FTAA) Cultural Lifetime Achievement award during the FTAA's Turkish Cultural Week.

As co-founder of the House Caucus on U.S.-Turkish Relations and Turkish-Americans, I believe there is no individual more deserving of the FTAA Cultural Achievement Award than Ahmet Ertegun who is a leading voice in the Turkish-American community and an extraordinary humanitarian.

It would be an understatement to say that Mr. Ertegun is the epitome of the American dream. As a successful businessman and self-starter, he co-founded one of the most successful international recording studios, Atlantic Records. Mr. Ertegun has also been deeply involved in many worthwhile philanthropic activities. Thousands of individuals in the United States and throughout the world have benefited from his commitment and involvement in charities and civic organizations.

The Turkish-American community should be extremely proud to have Mr. Ertegun as a leading spokesman to promote Turkish culture and history in the United States. He, along with the Federation of Turkish American Associations, are the heart and soul of a dynamic Turkish-American community. Finally, I want to thank Mr. Ertegun and the FTAA for their commitment to strengthening the relationship between the United States and Turkey. Like Mr. Ertegun and the FTAA, I believe that the friendship and strategic partnership between America and Turkey are essential to both countries and will grow even more important throughout the 21st century.

Again, I join the Federation of Turkish American Associations and the Turkish-American community in celebrating Mr. Ertegun's extraordinary achievements and congratulate him on receiving the FTAA Cultural Lifetime Achievement award.

Thank you.

Your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen:

It is a great honor for me to be recognized by the Federation of Turkish American Associations.

I deem it a great honor to have been introduced by my dear friend, Arif Mardin.

Arif, as our musical director, has made the key monumental record hits that have been the highlights of Atlantic's history: "Respect" by Aretha Franklin, the Saturday

Night Fever album by the Bee Gees, and "Wind Beneath My Wings" by Bette Midler just to name a few.

I was recently invited to a white-tie gala banquet in Nashville to get a music citation. This was a period when I was using crutches to walk.

As they called my name and I started to walk up to the podium to receive the award, this southern lady turned to me and said: "You must be mighty proud. This is the first time we've given this award to a foreign cripple."

But to be serious, it is wonderful to see such a large group of Turkish Americans. Each and every one of you is an important part of what has become the beginnings of a group which could have some political influence in the near future, both here in America and also in Turkey, through our family and friends.

It is most important that we, as Turkish Americans, champion the causes of freedom and justice, both here and in Turkey.

As you all must know, Turkey is now going through a terrible time because of economic mismanagement. We are all aware of the rumors and accusations in the Turkish press, of chaos and corruption, in both the public and the private sector.

But what has been the savior of Turkey has been the selfless and honest dedication of so many of its citizens, and the ever-present vigil of the Turkish Army, to protect the legacy of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk. They have been our saviors through the many difficulties since the formation of the Republic in 1923.

With the coming of the current crisis and the devaluation of the Turkish lira, President Bulent Ecevit sent for a top economist from the World Bank, Mr. Kemal Dervis, to establish reforms and to encourage economic help from our friends in America and in Europe.

He has been promised over 16 billion dollars, but with stringent conditions, which require drastic changes in the economic and political systems initiated by Ataturk at the beginning of the Republic.

Ataturk's dream was to bring his country and its people into the modern world's mainstream, and shortly before he died, he left this important message and I quote:

"I am leaving no sermon, no dogma, nor am I leaving as my legacy any commandment that is frozen in time or cast in stone. Concepts of well-being for countries, for peoples, and for individuals are changing in time. In such a world, to argue for rules that never change would be to deny the reality found in scientific knowledge and rational judgement."

It is my fervent hope that all of you support Mr. Kemal Dervis' mission and support President Ecevit in this critical moment. It is an important moment in Turkish history which will disengage the economic system from the political, which will bring about transparency and accountability in government, and help Turkey reach its destiny as an important member of the modern democratic world.

May the army and the Turkish people persevere in their pursuit of Ataturk's dream.

IN HONOR OF MR. DONALD  
FREJOSKY

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 12, 2001*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Donald R. Frejosky. During the