

years. In indoor tack, she was a four time All-New England pentathlete, a three time All-Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) selection, and the winner of the New England Pentathlon Championship title for the past three years. Amanda was also extremely successful in outdoor track. She was a three time All-New England selection, a two time All-NESCAC selection, and an All-ECAC member in 1999. Amanda Rival also competed well enough to earn All-American honors in 1999. This year, Rival recorded the team's season best results in the shot put, long jump, high jump, javelin, 100-meter high hurdles and the 200-meter dash.

In addition to her many athletic achievements, Amanda Rival has also thrived as a student at Trinity College. She was acknowledged for her success as a student-athlete by receiving the prestigious Trinity Club of Hartford award this year. Amanda also received Trinity's award for architecture for her academic achievements in that field of study. Amanda Rival graduated from Trinity College this past spring with a 3.0 G.P.A.

I commend Amanda Rival for the determination and dedication she has shown throughout her life as a student-athlete. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing her nothing but the best of luck in the next chapter of her life, as I am sure she will continue to maintain a strong work ethic throughout her life.

#### SUPPORT OF THE PATIENT BILL OF RIGHTS IN ORDER TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE FOR HISPANICS

##### HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 20, 2001*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, every American is concerned with good health and accessing quality health care. However, far too many Americans including many Hispanics do not have adequate health care options. When Health Maintenance Organizations, HMOs, were first introduced, they were promoted as cost-saving revolutions in preventative health care. However, what subscribers did not anticipate is that their health care options would be restricted. It is dangerous for health related decisions to be taken away from doctors and health care professionals and assigned to HMOs, insurance companies, and corporate bureaucrats.

With 37 percent of the Hispanic population lacking health insurance, access is a huge issue. However, access to coverage does not always translate into access to quality health care. Many Latinos with health insurance experience numerous barriers to quality health care. Anyone who deals with the bureaucracy of managed care plans knows that it is daunting; for those with limited English skills, it is overwhelming. Two-thirds of privately-insured Latinos are enrolled in managed care, while only about half of privately-insured Whites are in managed care. Hispanics are thus, more likely to be the victim of care delayed, or more even disturbing, care denied. In addition, Hispanics are more likely to have limited provider options and limited treatment options.

We must enact patient protections for all Americans in managed care plans. In so

doing, we are not only protecting Hispanics, but all Americans. We must pass the bipartisan Patients' Bill of Rights and return medical decision to patients and their doctors.

Again, I encourage my colleagues to support this important legislation.

#### AARP CRITICIZES BUSH SOCIAL SECURITY PRIVATIZATION PLAN

##### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 20, 2001*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, Next week, the President's handpicked Social Security Commission will issue an interim report, a version of which is already circulating among Commission members, the media and Social Security experts.

It is disappointing, but far from unexpected, that the interim report is attempting to "spin" the American public by claiming that there is a "crisis" in Social Security. The Commission and the Bush Administration are laying the groundwork for next fall's final report, which will call for privatization and individual retirement accounts.

Privatizers are trying to claim that the sky is falling—the only way that they can justify the drastic changes that they are proposing. But the facts are different. Even without any changes, Social Security will be able to pay full benefits through 2038 and, after that, it will be able to pay 73 percent of benefits. Moderate changes are needed but not a privatization plan that will take \$1 trillion out of the Trust Fund and reduce future benefits by up to 54 percent. It's also reasonable to ask President why, if he thinks the situation is so dire, he decided to give a \$1.7 trillion tax break, the majority of which goes to the wealthiest Americans, before taking steps to protect Social Security.

I want to draw my colleagues' attention to a statement by AARP on the interim plan, which I think says it best: the Commission is out of the "mainstream" and the interim report is just a "public relations" ploy to undermine the basic guarantee of Social Security that will lead to "a dramatic overhaul of Social Security that would lead to cuts in guaranteed benefits and shift financial risk to individuals."

STATEMENT BY AARP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILLIAM D. NOVELLI ON THE DRAFT INTERIM SOCIAL SECURITY COMMISSION REPORT

WASHINGTON, July 19.—The following is a statement by AARP Executive Director William D. Novelli on the Draft Interim Social Security Commission Report:

The President's Social Security Commission continues to work toward a predetermined outcome—a dramatic overhaul of Social Security that would lead to cuts in guaranteed benefits and shift financial risk to individuals.

Today's draft interim report puts forward a fundamentally flawed and biased view of the nature and purpose of Social Security. It implies that the program is riskier than private investment. It recycles old alarmist arguments that portray the financial shape of Social Security in the worst possible light. The rhetoric in the report demonstrates how far outside the mainstream the Commission appears to be headed, referring to Social Security as a "novelty" and calling the system "broken."

The draft report lays the public relations groundwork for a campaign to change the fundamental nature of Social Security. It argues for turning Social Security into a system of wealth-building. But Social Security was designed to provide income protection and a floor of financial security. For many, especially women and minorities, Social Security is the only income-protection they will have, providing them with a lifetime, guaranteed benefit that is adjusted annually for inflation. The report ignores the fact that other vehicles currently exist for wealth-building through personal savings and employer provided pensions.

Individual accounts do not address Social Security's long-term financing issues. Add-on accounts—which have merit—can add value on top of Social Security, but taking money from workers' Social Security contributions to fund new private accounts only worsens Social Security's ability to pay today's retirees and advances the date of insolvency.

Social Security is the bedrock of our nation's income security system. To preserve this benefit for future generations, the Commission should focus on all potential options and tradeoffs, rather than a narrow and fundamental restructuring of the program. The sooner the nation begins to address the program's long-term financing needs, the more moderate the changes that are needed and the more time provided for those affected to adjust their plans.

#### INTERNET GAMBLING PAYMENTS PROHIBITION ACT

##### HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 20, 2001*

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, two years have passed since the Congressional-mandated National Gambling Impact Study Commission released its final report on gambling in the United States. A major recommendation of the report, adopted unanimously by the Commission, was a Federal prohibition on Internet gambling. The Commission determined that the traditional approach of state regulation of gambling was inadequate to address the problem of Internet gambling and that Federal legislation was needed.

The bill I am introducing today, the "Internet Gambling Payment Prohibition Act," seeks to implement this important Commission recommendation. However, it does not propose an outright prohibition of Internet gambling, since outright prohibition presents significant technical and enforcement difficulties. Instead, the bill would restrict the electronic payments that permit online betting and, thus, make Internet gambling possible. Regulation of electronic payment transfers and the most traditional check clearance system are Federal responsibilities that, in my view, offer the most effective means to address the unique challenges of Internet gambling.

Any American with a computer and a credit card can find numerous opportunities for high stakes gambling on the Internet. The number of Internet gambling sites has grown geometrically in recent years. The Internet Gaming Council has identified some 1,400 web sites that entice people to engage in some form of gambling. The typical Internet gambling site or virtual casino operates from locations outside the United States, in places such as Antigua