

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY CHILDHOOD ASSISTANCE, RESEARCH AND EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 2001

SPEECH OF
HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2001

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 717, the Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Childhood Assistance, Research and Education Amendments of 2001. I would also like to thank my colleague Mr. ROGER WICKER and Chairman BILIRAKIS for their leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) is the most lethal childhood genetic disorder worldwide, affecting approximately one in every 3,500 boys. DMD is hereditary and is characterized by rapidly progressive muscle weakness that almost always results in death by 20 years of age. Unfortunately, there has been little emphasis placed on research to find a cure for this horrible disease. I was pleased to see Mr. WICKER take the lead by introducing H.R. 717, and I was proud to sign on as a cosponsor. This bill will create research centers within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to increase data collection, epidemiological studies, and surveillance activities. I am hopeful that the added emphasis and resources this bill provides will speed advances in the treatment of this terrible disease. It is an important piece of legislation that will give hope to those who suffer from DMD and those who care for them. I urge my colleagues to give it their support.

THE INTERNATIONAL VENTURE
PHILANTHROPY FORUM

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues to join in me in recognizing a landmark event that will take place next week in Budapest, Hungary. The International Venture Philanthropy Forum (IVPF), sponsored by the Nonprofit Enterprise and Self-Sustainability Team (NESsT), will bring together social entrepreneurs, corporate leaders, and donors to discuss methods for advancing venture philanthropy in developing nations. This mission merits the attention of all Members of this House, as it is inextricably linked to the role of civil society organizations as advocates for freedom and public welfare in emerging democracies.

We all remember the euphoria that accompanied the collapse of the Iron Curtain a decade ago. We recall the joy of seeing democracy and human rights restored to long-suffering peoples, of watching Berliners dance on the Berlin Wall and Czechs celebrate in the streets of Prague. These revolutions inspired us all; nevertheless, they did not eliminate our fear that these miraculous changes might prove fleeting. The tragedies of the twentieth century justified this concern. As Slovak hero Alexander Dubcek told the celebrating throngs

in Wenceslas Square: "An old wise man said, 'If there once was light, why should there be darkness again?' Let us act in such a way to bring the light back again."

During the years after the demise of the Warsaw Pact, the governments of the United States and Western Europe helped to keep the beacon shining. Billions of dollars in aid and expertise flowed into these new democracies, much of which went to strengthen the work of budding nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) across the region. These NGOs served as the "glue" of civil society, looking out for public interests that otherwise might have been underrepresented in the cacophony of change: environmental protection, small business development, rights for children and the disabled, freedom of the press, and a host of other vital causes.

Mr. Speaker, this international financial assistance helped NGOs to smooth the transition from communism to more vibrant societies. However, the need for nonprofit community support continued to grow throughout the 1990's. The planned doctrines of yesteryear were supplanted overnight by new sets of uncertain rules and unanswered questions: How can social guarantees—albeit unpopular ones—be replaced without dramatically increasing poverty levels? How can entrepreneurship be nurtured in lands that had previously regarded this trait as criminal? What role should enterprise play in encouraging growth, upholding worker rights, and protecting natural resources? NGOs throughout this region often bear the responsibility of answering these questions and helping to fill the gaps passed over by social change.

To this day, available financial resources fail to satisfy these mounting needs. The discretionary income of populations in most emerging democracies is generally not high enough to support philanthropy, especially given the lack of a recent local traditions of private charity. Consequently, many NGOs still depend principally on foreign aid sources, reflecting a lack of financial diversity that foreshadows an array of real and potential difficulties:

As the demand for capital grows, some governments and private funding institutions have reduced their commitment to foreign aid. Given their financial dependence, NGOs are subject to the consequences of these choices. Available funds are often earmarked for specific projects, leaving NGOs with limited resources to build organizational capacity. Given the short-term commitment that such grants usually entail, nonprofits may feel the need to "go where the money is," even at the expense of their missions and operating goals.

Mr. Speaker, the call to expand the nonprofit capital market in emerging democracies is one that must be heard throughout the international community. The IVPF—by exploring the potential of venture philanthropy models and their practical application to developing economies—will address this ever-growing mandate.

What is venture philanthropy? Quite simply, it involves applying the tools of the for-profit sector to expand the reach of the community organizations. Practitioners stretch the nonprofit capital market by asking beneficiaries to act like business people. Venture philanthropists often offer loans and equity equivalents rather than traditional donations; engage nonprofit managers with an array of technical and strategic advisory service; build organiza-

tional capacity through the development of skills and networks; and, most important of all, set clear performance goals and expect "portfolio members" to achieve concrete social and/or financial returns on investment.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that the Roberts Enterprise Development Fund (REDF), recognized worldwide as an innovative force in this field, operates in and around my Bay Area congressional district. Principals from REDF and a wide array of venture philanthropy trendsetters will be featured at the IVPF, and their contributions will be melded with those of George Soros, Karl Schwab, and dozens of leading corporate and humanitarian voices from across the international community. The tragic events of September 11th will make it impossible for me to join them; nevertheless, I am excited by the Forum's role as a catalyst for the expansion of the nonprofit capital market in emerging democracies around the world.

Above all, I would like to pay tribute to the principal sponsor of the IVPF, the Nonprofit Enterprise and Self-Sustainability Team. From its offices in Budapest and Santiago, this organization has emerged as an international leader in the effort to foster social entrepreneurship and venture philanthropy in developing nations. NESsT's co-directors, Nicole Etchart and Lee Davis, direct initiatives that clearly address the challenges and needs of NGOs in Central Europe and Latin America.

Last year, NESsT launched the NESsT Venture Fund (NVF) in Central Europe, which seeks to assist a portfolio of NGOs as they diversify their financing sources through entrepreneurship. The NVF invests both financial and capacity-building assistance to expand these social enterprises and generate new, sustainable income for NGOs to supplement philanthropic support. I am pleased to note that the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is in the process of making a \$300,000 award to support this work. Given the innovative nature of this project as well as the outstanding track record of NESsT's leaders, I can think of few better uses for USAID resources.

During the Forum, NESsT will also introduce "Not Only For Profit: Innovative Mechanisms for Philanthropic Investment," a book analyzing the unique contributions of eleven pioneers to the development of the nonprofit capital market. These organizations—all of which will be represented at the Forum by founders and senior staff—include: The Calvert Foundation, The EcoEnterprises Fund (The Nature Conservancy), Endeavor, the Environmental Loan Fund (Environmental Support Center), FOLADE, Integra Ventures, Investors in Society (Charities Aid Foundation), the Local Investment Fund, New Profit Inc., REDF, and the South-North Development Initiative. I look forward to reading—and learning from—this book.

Mr. Speaker, for all these reasons and many more, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the important mission of the International Venture Philanthropy Forum and the outstanding contributions of its principal sponsor, the Nonprofit Enterprise and Self-Sustainability Team.

HONORING FRANK HARRIETTE
CALDWELL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the loss of a very generous, caring member of our community. Frank Harriette Caldwell died on Sunday, September 16, 2001 after enduring a prolonged illness. A woman devoted to helping others, "Frankie" passed away at the age of 83.

Mrs. Caldwell was born on June 2, 1918 in Galveston, Texas. She received her teaching degree at the University of Denver and began her life of service. She started teaching in Colorado at the Mitchell Elementary School in 1956 and remained there for twenty-seven years. She retired from teaching in 1983. Although her career in teaching contributed significantly to the children in her community, she did not stop there. She was also active in fundraising for charities, an active member of the Denver Links and contributed significantly to other local organizations including the Denver Junior Police Band. In addition to these contributions to her community, she was a loving wife of sixty years and mother to four. Mrs. Caldwell was also the proud grandmother to eleven and great-grandmother to seven.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Caldwell was a valued member of her community and will be missed by many. Her charity has affected so many lives in so many ways. She will be remembered and loved for all that she has done. I would like to express my deep sympathy to her family in this time of mourning and thank her for the contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE HARLEY DAVIDSON
FINAL ASSEMBLY
PLANT OF KANSAS CITY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Harley Davidson Final Assembly Plant of Kansas City for its work and sacrifice in honor of all the people who both survived and who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, their families, and their friends.

These terrorist attacks mark a solemn moment in America's history. American men and women, civilians and soldiers, firefighters and police, mothers and fathers, were slain for a cause so terrible, so heinous, and so despicable that we find it unimaginable and indescribable. United, Americans seek to find meaning and hope in a seemingly hopeless and meaningless act. In the days since these terrible terrorist attacks, America has been shoulder-to-shoulder in a struggle to meet the challenges of a world that is a little less safe, a little scarier, and far less predictable. The efforts of businesses and workers like Harley Davidson the commitment and concern of Americans everywhere. Our nation's strength does not lie in her military might but rather in the collective compassion of its people.

Since the September 11 terrorist attacks, the Harley Davidson Final Assembly Plant of

Kansas City has raised more than \$5,000 from its employees and an additional \$1,800 in T-Shirt and flag sales. Nationwide, Harley Davidson has contributed more than \$1,000,000 to assist in the rescue efforts and to provide for the grieving families. Additionally, 32 police motorcycles have been donated to the New York Police Department. The patriotism and persistence of Harley Davidson and its employees is a lasting memorial to the thousands of victims who perished in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

Through the days, weeks, and months ahead, all Americans must come together and do what they can to assist the nation's war effort. Whether it is giving blood, sending donations, praying for the thousands of grieving families, or simply saying thanks to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line each and every day so that we may be free, it is important that the American people are vigilant in their efforts to overcome this evil. Though our nation has witnessed unspeakable horror, America's virtues, determination, and faith continues to shine brightly on the world.

I am confident that the United States will seek out those that harbor hatred, terror, and depravity in their hearts; and we will defeat them. This is a war that we must, can, and will win. May God bless the families and children grieving across this great Nation and may God bless America.

THANK YOU TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RATTERMAN/SHELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN BRADLEY COUNTY, TN

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in commending the work of a very special group of individuals from Cleveland, TN. The Board of Directors for the Scott C. Ratterman/C. Edward Shell Memorial Scholarship Fund has provided college funds to many high school students in Cleveland and Bradley County area for 15 years.

On June 21, 1986, Scott Ratterman passed away. To honor his memory, his friends and colleagues created a college scholarship fund that would award one deserving Cleveland High School senior \$1,000 for his or her college graduation. When Ed Shell—a very active board member of the Ratterman Memorial Scholarship Fund—passed away in July 1990, the Board of Directors renamed the fund the Scott C. Ratterman/C. Edward Shell Memorial Scholarship Fund. With Mr. Shell's passing, an additional scholarship was added to include Charleston High School.

In 1995, the Board of Directors expanded and created 4-year scholarships. To mark the 11th anniversary of Mr. Ratterman's death and the 7th anniversary of Mr. Shell's death, an additional scholarship to a Bradley County High School student was added to the fund. The Board of Directors has since expanded again to include Cleveland State Community College and Middle Tennessee State University.

Over the past 15 years, the Ratterman/Shell Memorial Scholarship Fund has raised and contributed over \$101,000 to deserving local students. A majority of the contributions come from a golf tournament that is held every second Friday in October. Again this year, many citizens in Bradley County will come together as a community to help raise money to defray the cost of a college education for hard-working students.

When a noble idea is coupled with a dedicated group of people—great things can happen. I want to thank all those involved in the Scott C. Ratterman/C. Edward Shell Memorial Scholarship Fund for their vision and hard work.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I speak today in honor of the 41st anniversary of the Republic of Cyprus. It was on October 1 in 1960, that Cyprus became an independent republic after decades of British colonial rule.

I am very fortunate and privileged to represent Astoria, Queens—one of the largest and most vibrant communities of Greek and Cypriot Americans in this country.

It is truly one of my greatest pleasures as a Member of Congress to be able to participate in the life of this community, and the wonderful and vital Cypriot friends that I have come to know are one of its greatest rewards.

Cyprus and the United States have a great deal in common. We share a deep and abiding commitment to democracy, human rights, free markets, and the ideal and practice of equal justice under the law.

While we are pleased to celebrate this joyous day in Cyprus history, it is with a heavy heart in light of the September 11 terrorist attacks. I am deeply appreciative to the people of Cyprus and the Cypriot-American community who have extended their voices of support and have expressed strong condemnation for the terrorist attacks. In fact, within hours of the attacks, Cyprus President, Glafcos Clerides, strongly denounced the terrorist acts.

Unfortunately, Cyprus is not without its own difficult history; 37 percent of this nation is still occupied by a hostile foreign power, and it has been for more than 25 years.

On July 20, 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus, and to this day continues to maintain an estimated 35,000 heavily armed troops. Nearly 200,000 Greek Cypriots, who fell victim to a policy of ethnic cleansing, were forcibly evicted from their homes and became refugees in their own country.

Every year, on or around July 20, 1, along with my dear friend Representative BILIRAKIS, sponsor a Special Order to remember the anniversary of the Turkish invasion in a tradition that has become one of our proudest traditions.

Despite the hardships and trauma caused by the ongoing Turkish occupation, Cyprus has registered remarkable economic growth, and the people living in the Government-controlled areas enjoy one of the world's highest