

\$3,726, while in Texas average payments were \$6,539—70 percent more.

I urge my colleagues, especially those in rural states to consider this bill and its intent to bring equity and access to the outdated Medicare system.

A BILL TO PERMIT THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TO HONOR ITS CITIZENS WITH STATUES IN STATUARY HALL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to permit statues honoring citizens of the District of Columbia in the same manner as statues honoring citizens of the States are placed in Statuary Hall in the Capitol. This legislation would amend two acts of Congress governing the submission and placement of statues in Statuary Hall to allow the District of Columbia to offer two statues to the Congress on behalf of D.C. residents. The District of Columbia was born with the nation itself after the War for Independence. The city has more than two centuries of its very own rich and uniquely American history. It goes without saying that the almost 600,000 American citizens who live in the nation's capital deserve the honor of having two of its history makers represented in the halls of the nation's Capitol just as citizens who live in the 50 states have long enjoyed.

This bill would allow the Mayor and the Council of the District of Columbia to devise the method for determining the identity of the honorees. Mayor Anthony Williams has already agreed to find funds in the District's budget for these statues upon the passage of this legislation. While D.C. residents have not yet obtained full political equality with the states, they have all the responsibilities of the states, including paying all federal taxes and serving in all wars. D.C. residents are second per capita in federal income taxes. They have served in every war since the Revolutionary War. In World War I, the district suffered more casualties than three states, in World War II, more casualties than four states, in Korea, more casualties than eight states, and in Vietnam, more casualties than in 10 states. These responsibilities and sacrifices speak best to some of the important reasons for this bill.

After more than 200 years, this bill offers District residents the opportunity to enjoy the same pride that all other citizens experience when they come to their Capitol—the opportunity to view memorials that commemorate the efforts of deceased local residents who have made significant contributions to American history. I ask for prompt passage of this mark of simple dignity and respect to the residents of the District of Columbia.

COMMENDING THE GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA ON THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in commending the service of the Girl Scouts of America on their 90th Anniversary. I salute them for their dedicated service to the young women of this nation.

Girl Scouting began in March of 1912, when founder Juliette Gordon Low assembled 18 girls from Savannah, Georgia, for a local Scouting meeting. Ms. Low strongly believed that all girls should be given opportunities to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually. These ideals continue in the organization today as girls acquire self-confidence, take on responsibility, and are encouraged to think creatively while acting with integrity.

As many of us know, the mission of the Girl Scouts is to help all girls grow strong. The organization works hard to empower our nation's young women to develop to their full potential as leaders and to set a foundation of values for sound decision-making. The Girl Scouts have continued to expand programs to address contemporary issues while still maintaining their core values.

Membership in the Girl Scouts has reached 2.7 million, making it the largest organization for girls in the world. Well over 30,000 girls are involved in the Girl Scouts in South Florida alone. The numbers continue to grow as more girls across the nation are exposed to the incredible experiences that the Girl Scouts provide.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank and commend the Girl Scouts for their efforts over the past 90 years in providing invaluable opportunities for girls' growth and development as citizen leaders.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES LIFE-SAVING SERVICE HERITAGE ACT, H.R. 4115

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the United States Life-Saving Service Heritage Act, legislation to celebrate one of the most inspiring periods in America's maritime history. This legislation would establish a comprehensive program to inventory, evaluate, document, and assist efforts to restore and preserve surviving historic lifesaving stations. I am pleased that my Jersey Shore colleague Representative Frank LoBiondo has joined me in this effort.

The history of lifesaving in the United States dates back to 1785, when the Massachusetts Humane Society began building huts along the Massachusetts coast to aid shipwreck victims. These huts were later fitted with surfboats, beach-carts, and other lifesaving equipment. Beginning in 1847, the Federal government recognized the importance and necessity of lifesaving efforts when Congress provided a

series of appropriations to establish lifesaving stations equipped to render assistance to shipwrecked mariners and their passengers. These stations were first established along the Atlantic coast with the assistance of Representative William Newell, who during the 31st and 39th Congresses represented some of the same areas of New Jersey that I represent today. Representative Newell's efforts contributed to the establishment of a network of lifesaving stations along the Jersey Shore from Sandy Hook to Cape May. In 1871, Congress approved the first appropriation for the Federal government to employ crews of lifesavers. On June 18, 1878, the "Act to Organize the Life-Saving Service" was enacted. In 1915 the Life-Saving Service merged with the Revenue Cutter Service to form the Coast Guard. At that time, there were over 275 lifesaving stations to aid shipwreck victims on the Atlantic, Pacific, Gulf, and Great Lakes coasts.

The volunteer and professional lifesaving personnel who staffed these stations risked their lives to prevent shipwreck casualties. Winslow Homer immortalized these great heroes of the American coast in his painting *The Life Line*. Walt Whitman celebrated their inspiring actions in the following excerpt of his poem *Patrolling Barnegat*:

Through cutting swirl and spray watchful
and firm advancing,
(That in the distance! Is that a wreck? Is the
red signal flaring?)

Slush and sand of the beach tireless till day-
light wending,
Steadily, slowly, through hoarse roar never
remitting,

Along the midnight edge by those milk-
white combs careening,

A group of dim, weird forms, struggling, the
night confronting,

That savage trinity warily watching.

An outstanding example of this period survives today in my district. The historic Monmouth Beach lifesaving station, established in 1895, is a Duluth style station designed by the architect George Tolman. On one occasion, every member of the station's crew was awarded a gold lifesaving medal for rescuing victims of two shipwrecks on the same evening. Recently, this historic structure was slated for demolition to make way for a new parking lot for beachgoers. Fortunately, the entire community came together to save this important structure. However, much work needs to be done to preserve the station's history and the inspiring stories of those who served there.

It is not certain exactly how many stations like the one in Monmouth Beach remain. Many surviving historic lifesaving stations are of rare architectural significance, but harsh coastal environments threaten them, rapid economic development in the coastal zone, neglect, and lack of resources for their preservation. The heroic actions of America's lifesavers deserve greater recognition, and their contributions to America's maritime and architectural history should be celebrated.

That is why I have proposed the United States Life-Saving Service Heritage Act. This legislation would provide the resources necessary to inventory, document, and evaluate surviving lifesaving stations. It would also provide grant funding to assist efforts to protect and preserve these maritime treasures.

The United States Life-Saving Service Heritage Act would authorize the National Park

Service, through its National Maritime Initiative, to inventory, document, and evaluate surviving historic lifesaving stations. These activities would be conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Life-Saving Service Heritage Association, a Massachusetts based non-profit educational organization that works to protect and preserve America's lifesaving heritage. This inventory, documentation, and evaluation would be similar in nature to a study completed by the Park Service in 1994, on historic lighthouses. Under this legislation, the Park Service would serve as a clearinghouse of information on lifesaving station preservation efforts, which would greatly assist public and private efforts to protect these historic structures and the maritime heritage that they embody.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to celebrate one of the most heroic and inspiring periods in America's maritime history.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Girl Scouts of America on their 90th anniversary helping women of all ages "discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls together."

There are a myriad of GSA programs that have benefited kids in my community. LEAD (Leadership, Education and Development), Write On!, Si yo Puedo (yes I can), the Girl Scout Connection, and many others have helped girls in my district meet the challenges of the future.

Particularly in the San Francisco Bay Area of California, the Girl Scouting in the School Day program (GSSD) has helped over 3,100 at risk girls develop self-confidence by encouraging creativity and promoting life skills and values. Often these children are at high risk of dropping out of school, joining gangs, or using drugs and alcohol. GSSD has sponsored regular sessions, special events, and field trips to provide girls from over 51 Bay Area schools the experience of true camaraderie and friendship.

Another program, Teen Power-From the Heart, is committed to helping pregnant teens and teen mothers develop high self-esteem in addition to career and parenting skills. Last year, over 200 girls participated in this program.

I stress the importance of environmental education, and with the Program Adventure on Wheels for Girl Scouts (PAWS) over 3,000 girls in my district attended field trips to learn about protecting the environment.

A program entitled "Science is Super!" has provided science and math enrichment for girls living in low income housing in the Bay Area. This program is helping combat the common misbelief that women are not as competent as men in math and science. "Science is Super" is a wonderful program to help girls take their interests in science and math further.

It is unfortunate that many young women living in the United States cannot afford to join

the Girl Scouts and take advantage of the countless experiences they have to offer. To tackle this problem, GSA created an Opportunity Fund to provide financial support for low income families whose children would like to join the Girl Scouts of America. This fund has provided grants to over 4,425 girls to participate in GSA programs. It is important that any young woman who wishes to be a Girl Scout have the opportunity to do so. One grandmother, who was able to send her three granddaughters to camp because of assistance by the Opportunity Fund, said camp meant: "Six days with no gunfire, of not watching out for drug dealers. Six days of children's experiences that most of us take for granted: peace and play without looking over their shoulders. Six days that will last a lifetime!"

I ask my colleagues to join with me today in commending the Girl Scouts of America for their 90 years of commitment to helping our women leaders of tomorrow.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR ERIC HOLMES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to pay tribute to Mayor Eric "Red" Holmes Shelby, Mississippi. After a long battle with illness, Mayor Holmes died on March 11, 2002.

Although he was only in his second term, Mayor Holmes will be dearly missed by the citizens of Shelby. He is quoted as saying that his secret to success was that he worked to serve the citizens if Shelby instead of himself. This was indeed the case. While in office, Eric's main priority was to improve the future of children in Shelby. He served as an official with high school football and with the Delta Softball League. He was also instrumental in securing grants to construct the Shelby City Park in order to give children a decent place to play on weekends and after school. On the day the park opened, it should be of note, that he was there cooking hotdogs and playing with the kids as well. Mayor Holmes should be commended because he is truly a modern day "role model", displaying the characteristics of integrity and commitment for all to admire.

Today, I express my sincerest condolences to the family of Mayor Eric Holmes. Not only has his family experienced a great loss, but the town of Shelby and Mississippi Delta has lost a dedicated public servant as well.

CONGRATULATIONS BEATRICE GLADWELL

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Beatrice Gladwell for her outstanding service and contribution to her country, state, and community. Ms. Gladwell has been recognized by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for her exemplary service and leadership through

the Pocahontas County, West Virginia 4-H program. The USDA has presented Ms. Gladwell of Buckeye, West Virginia, with the 2001-2002 National 4-H Alumni Award.

The countless hours of service and leadership dedicated to strengthening the communities and the youth of West Virginia more than adequately qualifies her for this award. In her many years as a teacher, and as a leader in 4-H, Ms. Gladwell has fully demonstrated her enthusiasm and love for her community and her fellow West Virginians. Ms. Gladwell was presented with The National 4-H Alumni Award here in Washington, D.C. April 10, 2002 at the USDA's 4-H Centennial Celebration. The National 4-H Alumni Award is given to former members, who, through their career accomplishments, serve as role models for 4-H'ers across the nation in promoting the 4-H motto of "To Make the Best Better." The four "H's" in the national organization's title stand for: (1) Head, which entails thinking critically to solve problems, (2) Heart, which means respecting self, others, and the environment; (3) Hands, which requires preparing for a career serving others, and, (4) Health, which asks that members choose a healthy lifestyle and learn to manage change and embrace life's challenges. Only the most exemplary models of citizenship, leadership and service towards others are recognized with this award.

It is noteworthy that Ms. Gladwell has been involved in 4-H for the past 73 years of her life. She joined the organization at the age of 10 and is currently the leader of the Buckeye Winners 4-H Club. Not only is Ms. Gladwell an inspiration to all of us as a 4-H'ers, but she has been a well-respected teacher in Pocahontas County for the past 65 years as well. Ms. Gladwell, congratulations and thank you for working to foster a spirit of service, leadership and citizenship by helping so many in your community and contributing so much in producing strong and proud future generations of West Virginians.

I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Beatrice Gladwell on this most-inspiring award and recognition.

CONGRATULATIONS TO VILLAGE OF RIDGEWOOD ON "FAMILY NIGHT"

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an extraordinary night that took place in my hometown of Ridgewood, New Jersey. On March 26, 2002, the residents of Ridgewood had a "Family Night," an evening when everyone was encouraged to set aside after school programs and sports, evening meetings, and even homework, in order to spend time with their families.

Families made dinner together, played board games, and watched family home videos. Others read books together or did something that most families don't do during the busy work week-relax. The evening, called "Ridgewood Family Night-Ready, Set, Relax" was the result of thorough planning by 15 residents of Ridgewood. Working with school officials, town sports councils, clergy, and community leaders, these 15 individuals created