

Federal law already protects medical professionals who refuse to take abortion training.

Is this what American women can look forward to under the new Republican "mandate?"

The rolling back of their fundamental rights, an elimination of their healthcare options, and an undermining of their representation in Congress.

I, for one, certainly hope not, but this action does not look good and should put us all on alert.

I urge my colleagues to remove the Weldon provision from the FY05 Omnibus spending bill.

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IN HONOR OF THE URBAN LEAGUE  
OF UNION COUNTY

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Urban League of Union County for its exceptional service to the community. The Urban League celebrated its 60th anniversary at the 34th Annual Equal Opportunity Day Dinner on November 12, 2004, in Newark, New Jersey.

The Urban League was originally established to help African Americans secure economic independence and work for civil rights. Decades later, it has grown and expanded to assist the entire community with health needs, employment services, housing assistance, and educational opportunities.

The Urban League offers the residents of Union County a wide range of services to improve their quality of life. The Economic Development and Employment Department offers assistance with interview techniques, job referrals, career counseling, and job placement. In addition, it offers a Summer Youth Employment Program and a Work Opportunity Program for welfare recipients, as well as evening classes on computer literacy.

Working diligently to address important health issues, the Urban League has created the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention and Assistance Program, which works to positively influence teenagers by educating and counseling them about relationships, sexual development, and other related issues.

The organization has also established a Housing Community Development Department, which provides counseling on a variety of housing issues including mortgages, consumer credit and budget management, weatherization, and rental assistance. Other services include grant programs, emergency homeless programs, and Federal Emergency Management Assistance.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Urban League of Union County for six decades of outstanding service to the community. Its extensive services will continue to help improve the lives of countless individuals and families throughout Union County.

TRIBUTE TO McCULLOUGH WILLIAMS JR. OF YOUNGSTOWN, OH

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, my remarks today are to pay tribute to the life of my friend, McCullough Williams Jr. of Youngstown, Ohio.

Mr. Williams has long been active in service to the community. He served as Third Ward Councilman, Housing Coordinator for the City of Youngstown, and President of the Youngstown City Board of Education. He was appointed by the Governor to the State of Ohio Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers where he served as President. Mr. Williams was also a member of the National Board for Funeral Directors.

As well as being the founder of the Sterling-McCullough Williams Funeral Homes of Warren and Youngstown, and the former owner of numerous other businesses, Mr. Williams was a member of the Centenary United Methodist Church, where he served as trustee, the Roberts Deliberating Club, Youngstown State University Penguin Club, Charter Member of the Youngstown Mahoning County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Rising Sun Masonic Lodge No. 90 A&FM, Member of the National Parliamentary Association, and Life Member of the NAACP.

Mr. Williams has been awarded the Buckeye Elks Community Service Award, the U.S. Small Business Administration Ohio Minority Advocate of the Year, the Ohio Expo Businessman of the Year, the Youngstown-Warren Regional Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Leadership Award, the Martin Luther King Jr. Recognition Award, the YWCA Man of the Year Award, NAACP Ebony Man of the Year Award, the Curbstone Coaches Hall of Fame, the Ebony Life Hall of Fame, the YSU Alumni Relations Distinguished Citizen Award, and the Ohio Governor Bob Taft Award for 50 Plus Years of Marriage and Community Service.

Mr. Speaker, I had the honor of attending Mr. Williams' funeral service. It was obvious to everyone who heard his family speak that McCullough Williams was an extraordinary individual who's caring and commitment to the community guided his life of service. His family is a great testament to his life. They will keep his values and passion alive. In short, our community and our country are better off because Mr. Williams lived. My prayers are with Mr. Williams and his family, and we honor his life here today.

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IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 4670

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce letters of endorsement for the Center for Scientific and Technical Assessment Act of 2005 (H.R. 4670). I have introduced the enabling bipartisan legislation with Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. HONDA, Mr. GORDON, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. OLIVER, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. VAN

HOLLEN, Mr. FROST, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. EHLERS.

The Center for Scientific and Technical Assessment would be a bicameral and bipartisan resource providing Congress with highly respected, impartial analysis and assessment of scientific and technical issues and would enable Congress better to oversee the Federal science and technology programs, which receives over \$130 billion, annually. Finally, the Center also would help the Congress to better understand complex technical issues by providing timely information to members of Congress and our Committees before we have to make difficult voting decisions and funding tradeoffs. There is growing support for H.R. 4670 among our Nation's best science and technology professionals. I submit the following letter of endorsement by several professional societies for H.R. 4670:

OCTOBER 7, 2004.

Hon. RUSH HOLT,

*House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

Hon. AMO HOUGHTON,

*House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES HOLT AND HOUGHTON: The following engineering professional organizations are writing to express our support for your bipartisan bill, H.R. 4670, to establish a Center for Scientific and Technical Assessment (CSTA).

America's national security and economic well-being demand that the United States remain the world's leaders in advanced technology in the 21st century. However, technological development is advancing with unprecedented speed and complexity in a truly global environment and other countries, for the first time in U.S. history, are now threatening America's scientific and technological preeminence. Members of Congress, now more than ever, need to have access to objective, timely, and sound science, engineering and technology-related assessment pertinent to legislation and the complex policy issues before them.

The sheer volume and complexity of the technological data facing federal legislators necessitate some mechanism for balanced, non-partisan and technologically-informed analysis provided in a judicious manner. A Center for Scientific and Technical Assessment as envisioned in H.R. 4670 would satisfy these criteria by operating under the highly respected Government Accountability Office (GAO), being overseen by a bipartisan, bicameral Technical Assessment Board (TAB) consisting of Members of Congress and the Comptroller General of the GAO, to provide nonpartisan peer reviews of all CSTA reports.

We are encouraged that this bill takes into consideration the GAO's successful technical assessment pilot program as well as the GAO study "Technology Assessment: Providing Independent Assessments of Technologies," for guidance when crafting this legislation. We feel that H.R. 4670, if passed, would provide a valuable service to members of the House and Senate in making informed decisions on the complex technological issues of the times.

We look forward to working with you and your staff in advancing this important legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES).

American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE).

American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).