

of America will do our part to help the people of Africa realize the brighter future they deserve."

With President Bush's leadership, America has tripled our development assistance to Africa. And we will double it again by 2010. I would like to recognize Andrew Natsios the Director of the U.S. Agency for International Development who is helping Africa to expand and transform our partnership here in the developing world.

President Bush has launched the largest effort ever by one nation to combat a single disease—the \$15 billion Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. And joining us here today is Randall Tobias the President's Coordinator for Global AIDS who is helping America give hope to thousands of men, women and children living with this disease.

Just last month, President Bush strengthened America's partnership with Africa even further. He pledged \$1.2 billion to fight malaria, with the ultimate goal of covering 175 million people in 15 nations. He also proposed new initiatives to train half-a-million African teachers, to offer scholarships to 300,000 African students, mostly girls, and to help several African states better protect the rights of their women citizens.

Not only is America giving new money, we are revolutionizing how much of that money is given, together with Africans who believe in good governance, democracy, and an open society.

Under the leadership of Paul Applegarth, who is here today, our Millennium Challenge Account Initiative is providing new development grants to nations that govern justly, promote economic freedom, and invest in their people. So far, eight African countries have qualified to apply for grants, including Senegal, and one, Madagascar, has already signed a development compact worth \$110 million.

Development assistance can be catalytic. But alone, will never enable people to lift themselves out of poverty. Open markets that allow individuals to realize the benefits of their own hard work are essential. This is the purpose of the African Growth and Opportunity Act, or AGOA, which brings us here to Dakar today.

AGOA represents the strong bipartisan consensus behind America's support for Africa's development. And it enshrines the principles of good governance as a condition of membership. Governments that advance democratic reform, protect economic liberty, and strengthen the rule of law are the best partners to entrepreneurial citizens. So far, 37 sub-Saharan African countries are meeting these critical standards.

AGOA benefits everyone. African businesses create more, better-paying jobs. And American consumers receive more goods at lower prices, products like sorbet from South Africa, and woodcarvings from Tanzania, and tuna from right here in Senegal. Last year alone, non-oil imports increased 22%, and the United States imported over \$26 billion in total from the AGOA group of African nations.

To expand the success of AGOA, African economies must become more competitive and better able to seize the opportunities of trade. With these goals in mind, the United States is launching two new initiatives to build the capacity of African countries to trade in freedom.

The first, which President Bush announced today, is the African Global Competitiveness Initiative. This will provide \$200 million over the next five years to help the people of Africa participate more fully in trade. As part of this initiative, we are opening a fourth "trade hub" here in Dakar, where teams of experts will help African countries trade more effectively with one another and with the United States.

The second initiative, which I am proud to announce today, is the AGOA Diversification Fund. Through this initiative, several U.S. agencies will support the efforts of African governments to diversify their economies and capitalize further on the promise of AGOA. One project, run by the U.S. Trade and Development Agency, will provide grants totaling nearly \$1 million to help West African nations increase the safety of their air travel and plan a new railway to better integrate the region.

Ladies and Gentlemen: Africa is a continent of overwhelming promise. All human beings possess the dignity and the capacity to flourish in freedom. And AGOA is helping the talented men and women of Africa to realize their natural potential for prosperity.

The United States will always offer our full support to the people of Africa as they build thriving democracies and achieve lasting development. You have set these goals for yourselves, and by yourselves. You are taking ownership of your destiny. And America is proud to be your partner.

(Applause.)
Now, it is my great honor to welcome Prime Minister Sall to the podium. Thank you very much for your time.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT S. (BOBBY)
REESE, JR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2005

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, August 6th we will commemorate the 60th anniversary of the birth of the Atomic Age, widely celebrated as having begun when President Harry S Truman ordered the historic and fateful mission of the *Enola Gay*. But, another event took place on that day in and of itself that could have triggered the onset of this historic period, at least in the mind of Robert S. (Bobby) Reese, Jr., who was born on that day in Florence, South Carolina to "Big Bobby" and "Gem" Reese.

Bobby worked here in Washington for more than 30 years representing the American Trucking Associations and the Altria Group. Many in this chamber have had the good fortune and pleasure to have shared much of that time with Bobby. During my tenure here, Bob has been a trusted advisor and personal friend. I, like many others in this august body, often partnered with Bobby on the golf course, and often shared with him the thrill of victory. Of course there were moments when Bobby and many of us experienced the agony of defeat. But I think that all of us will agree that he was always a reliable partner or tough competitor. And, at least with me, he never understood the phrase "customer golf."

Bobby retired about 2 years ago and he and his lovely wife, Peggy, moved back to our home State and are enjoying their retirement in the Dunes West golf course community near Mount Pleasant. Bobby and Peggy are also enjoying spending more time with their four adult children: Patty, Cynthia, Taylor and Michael and two grandchildren Tayson and Senna.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in wishing a happy and festive 60th birthday to Robert S. "Bobby" Reese, and our hopes that he, Peggy and all of the Reese family and friends will have a

joyous occasion on August 6, 2005 and for many more years to come.

IN HONOR OF UNITED HEALTH
CENTERS OF THE SAN JOAQUIN
VALLEY, INC.

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate United Health Centers of the San Joaquin Valley, Inc., on the opening of their new Kerman Health Center in Kerman, California.

United Health Centers of the San Joaquin Valley has been a dedicated leader in bringing quality medical care and services to underserved rural residents. In the effort to complete its mission, United Health Centers has brought to the forefront many public issues related to unattended healthcare concerns in the community.

Through the numerous clinics located in the heart of rural California, this organization offers a variety of services including family medicine, dental, x-ray, pharmacy and laboratory. United Health Centers has also adopted a preventative agenda and taken the initiative to implement family support programs such as prenatal care, nutrition, Women Infant and Children, health education, family planning and immunization.

The new Kerman facility is the latest addition to seven already existing health centers in Fresno and Tulare Counties. The last three decades have chronicled the growth of United Health Centers into Huron, Earlimart, Mendota, Kerman, Sanger, Parlier and Orange Cove. The two-story Kerman operation will house seven dental stations, ten examination rooms and a full-service pharmacy and lab.

United Health Center's employees, directors and organizers have touched the lives of numerous economically disadvantaged individuals who are so often overlooked by existing healthcare organizations. This dedication ceremony marks an opportunity to welcome improvements in the availability of healthcare and also provides incentive to look toward the future for innovative and novel means of making adequate medical care accessible to all communities—specifically rural communities.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 3199, USA PATRIOT AND
TERRORISM PREVENTION REAU-
THORIZATION ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose this closed rule and H.R. 3199, the USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2005.

The manner in which the amendment process of this bill was handled is shameful. Both the Judiciary and the Intelligence Committee had jurisdiction over this legislation, yet somehow, the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee