

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am writing to notify you that I was absent July 19, 2005. The reason for my absence was that I had to have an emergency appendectomy at the Bethesda Naval Hospital.

Regarding the votes that I missed please see below for the way that I would have voted had I been present:

Vote No. 383—previous question, “aye”; vote No. 384—adoption of the rule for H.R. 2601, “aye”; vote No. 385—Hyde amendment, “aye”; vote No. 386—Kennedy (MN)/Hooley/Osborne/Souder amendment, “aye”; vote No. 387—Hooley/Souder/Baird amendment, “aye”; vote No. 388—Souder #4 amendment, “aye”; vote No. 389—Smith (NJ) amendment, “aye”.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the floor during rollcall 424 through rollcall 431 taken yesterday.

Had I been present, I would have voted “no” on rollcall 424 (the Kind Amendment to H.R. 525); “no” on rollcall 425 (the George Miller motion to recommit H.R. 525); “aye” on rollcall 426 (final passage of H.R. 525); “aye” on rollcall 427 (final passage of H.R. 2894); “no” on rollcall 428 (the Pence Amendment to H.R. 22); “no” on rollcall 429 (the Flake Amendment to H.R. 22); “aye” on rollcall 430 (final passage of H.R. 22); and “aye” on rollcall 431 (final passage of H.R. 3339).

TRIBUTE TO DR. WILLIAM W. TIPTON, JR.

#### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Dr. William W. Tipton, Jr., a man whose level of career achievement was matched only by his passion for living life to its fullest. Sadly, Dr. Tipton passed away on May 19, 2005 at the age of 64. As his friends and family gather to celebrate Bill’s remarkable life, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in saluting this outstanding citizen.

Born in San Francisco and raised in Sacramento, Bill’s commitment to service began as he entered the Catholic Diocesan Seminary at age 14 to study for the priesthood. In 1967, he graduated from Creighton Medical School,

an institution that would 36 years later recognize him with its alumni achievement award for his “distinguished service to his profession and humankind.”

He first used his medical training to serve his country during the Vietnam War, first serving as a General Surgeon for Deployment on the U.S.S. *Ticonderoga*, and then as an Orthopedic Resident at Great Lakes Naval Hospital. After his honorable service, he returned to his native California to complete his orthopedic residency at the University of California, Davis.

Throughout his illustrious career in medicine, Bill enjoyed many personal accomplishments. However, his focus always remained on the health and well being of his patients.

For over two decades, Bill was an active member of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. From 1994–2003, he led the AAOS, serving as Executive Vice-President & Chief Executive Officer. He then served as AAOS Medical Director from 2003–2004.

One of Bill’s proudest accomplishments at the Academy was the creation of “Healthy Athlete’s Initiative,” which provides medical screening for participants in the Special Olympics. He also, more recently, helped the Academy realize the program “Legacy of Heroes,” a film chronicling the contributions of the surgeons of World War II and the influence they have had on modern medicine. The film was aired on PBS and was distributed through the Academy as a DVD.

Although Bill left us at far too young of an age, he made the most of every day that he spent on this earth. There was nothing in life that he wanted to do that he didn’t do. All of us would do well to follow his example.

Mr. Speaker, as Dr. William W. Tipton’s friends and family gather to honor this great American, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento’s most honorable citizens. His achievements are truly a great inspiration. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in acknowledging Bill’s invaluable contributions to Sacramento and the United States of America.

THE 52ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE START OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTION

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 52nd anniversary of the Cuban Revolution on July 26. It was on this day 52 years ago that Fidel Castro and a band of young men and women initiated a revolutionary struggle against the US-backed Batista regime. On this day in 1953, Fidel Castro led a small group of rebels in an attack on the Moncada military barracks in Santiago de Cuba. While the attack was a military failure, it signaled the beginning of the Cuban revolution which ultimately succeeded in over-

throwing the Batista regime and establishing a communist regime led by Fidel Castro which, despite enduring hostility of the government of the United States has ruled the island for forty-six years.

Today, as we observe the new familiar pictures of Fidel Castro speaking to throngs in Revolutionary Square still in power after all these years, we need to examine the role U.S. policy has played in keeping him there.

I have long opposed U.S. policy towards Fidel Castro and Cuba, specifically the embargo, as I strongly believe that restricting travel and trade is a failed policy that harms the people of Cuba, and works against the promotion of democracy on the island. It also denies citizens of the United States the fundamental right and freedom to travel where they want and now denies Cuban Americans to visit their relatives living in Cuba.

In Cuba today, you will not find a Fidel Castro weakened by our 45-year embargo, but a Cuban leadership solidified by what can only be thought of as bullying tactics by the world’s strongest superpower against one of our hemisphere’s poorest nations which its people believe is being made to suffer because of its opposition to the United States.

I believe that the embargo has had the opposite of its intended effect. It has actually prolonged Fidel Castro’s rule and continues today to be effectively used by him to distract the Cuban people from the failures of his policies by having them focus upon the embargo as the source of the hardships they are enduring. This will not be a happy anniversary for the Cuban people because of worsening economic conditions and increasing political repression, but Fidel will still receive applause when he blames the U.S. embargo.

Current United States policy toward Cuba is markedly out of touch with current world realities. Almost every nation has normal trade and diplomatic relations with Cuba, especially those nations in the Western Hemisphere.

Even in the Cuban-American refugee community, whose older members remain bitter about Fidel Castro and fiercely opposed to loosening sanctions, the younger members are beginning to support U.S. engagement with Cuba instead of confrontation. However, under the Bush administration the 45-year old embargo, has been further tightened, severely limiting travel to Cuba and the transfer of funds to family members on the island.

The new rules permit Cuban Americans to visit the island once every three years—and then only if they can get a license to travel from the Treasury Department. Additionally the White House has also restricted remittances. Under the changes, Americans are permitted to send cash only to a Cuban child, parent, sibling or grandparent—but not to cousins or nephews.

If you were to visit Cuba today you will not find people inspired by our embargo aimed at

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the removal of Fidel Castro from power, but rather you will find hungry families living in unnecessary poverty. In 2005 you will find a large constituency of Cuban Americans such as U.S. soldier Sgt. Carlos Lazo, who are angered and embittered by U.S. policies that limit visits with their family members to only once every three years.

You will find a Cuban-American constituency angered by the fact that in the wake of Hurricane Dennis (a disastrous force that wrecked havoc on the island and killed 16) they are powerless to help their family members still on the island because of remittance and aid restrictions.

Cuban people are well known for their strong sense of family values. It is therefore an outrage that a group of people who hold family bonds in such high esteem are prevented from assisting their families in a time of overwhelming need because of outdated and unreasonable U.S. policy.

Today marks the 52nd anniversary of the start of the Cuban-Revolution and for 46 years Cuba's government has remained the same. This is overwhelming evidence that U.S. policy towards Cuba must be reevaluated.

We should move towards a policy of active engagement with the people of Cuba, encouraging travel and visits to the island of all Americans who wish to go. The very presence of a significant number of U.S. citizens affluent and free will be an opponent to the Castro regime and will serve as a contrast that will sharpen the realization of the Cuban people of the failure of Communism to provide them with an economic system which can get them out of the poverty which afflicts most of the Cuban people. Visiting U.S. citizens will inevitably place enormous pressure on the Castro regime.

As it stands our policy toward Cuba is one that severely limits the availability of medicine and medical supplies to the Cuban people. It is a policy that denies U.S. Citizens the right to travel where they choose. It is a policy that prevents Cuban and American diplomats from establishing meaningful channels of communication to improve our relationship and prevent misunderstandings.

It is a policy that denies American companies and businesses access to an important and potentially enormous new market for American goods, services, and ideas. It is a policy that prohibits a country ninety miles from our shores from being a partner in our global effort to thwart terrorism, to counter drug traffickers, or protect our overlapping ecosystems. Most importantly however, it is a policy that has proven itself ineffective for more than 40 years.

The Cuban people are the ones who are suffering and it is time to put politics aside and work on developing a new foreign policy standard in regards to Cuba. Developing a relationship with Cuba is an important foreign policy goal and in order to achieve this goal a new and rational approach to relations between our countries is urgently needed, based on dialogue, open travel and increased trade.

I introduce in the RECORD an article from today's Miami Herald reporting on the circumstances in Cuba on the eve of the celebration of the 52nd anniversary of the start of the Cuban revolution.

[From the Miami Herald, July 26, 2005]

PATIENCE WEARS THIN ON EVE OF JULY 26

SEVERAL CUBAN DISSIDENTS REMAINED IN DETENTION AS THE GOVERNMENT SCALED BACK PLANS FOR FESTIVITIES COMMEMORATING THE START OF THE REVOLUTION.

(By Nancy San Martin)

When Cuban leader Fidel Castro takes to the microphone as expected today to commemorate the 52nd anniversary of an attack that marked the start of his revolution, many on the island will cling to words that promise relief from conditions exhausting the patience of an already exasperated population.

Human-rights activists on the island have said that "tempers are flaring" as the country continues to struggle with extended blackouts and a shortage of food, made worse by Hurricane Dennis.

Meanwhile, 10 of as many as 33 dissidents arrested last week spent their third day in custody Monday, opposition leaders in Havana reported. They were detained as they tried to participate in an anti-government protest in front of the French Embassy in Havana. And while the European Union joined the United States in condemning the arrests, leaders of the opposition movement on the island began plotting their next move to bring international attention to their plight.

"The detentions are completely arbitrary," said prominent dissident Martha Beatriz Roque, who was released from custody Saturday without charges. "We cannot allow the government to continue to treat us this way."

"There must be a response, not only from the opposition but from everybody," Roque told The Herald in a telephone interview, declining to reveal whether any new anti-government protests were planned in the coming days. However, she hinted they could be organized at a moment's notice.

"All I can say is that opposition groups all over the island are on alert," Roque said. "They are waiting for the call to take to the streets. I see the strong possibility of civil unrest."

Roque's determination to strike back comes as the government prepares to commemorate the July 26, 1953, assault led by Castro in a failed attempt to seize the Cuban army's Moncada Barracks in the eastern city of Santiago.

The event planted the seeds of a revolution that brought Castro to power in 1959. The anniversary usually is marked by big public events, but this year's planned celebration appears more subdued.

Castro is expected to give a speech, but as of late Monday, the location had not been announced. Other events were planned to take place indoors.

Several opposition leaders said the scaled-back festivities illustrate government fear that widespread discontent could escalate. Human-rights activists in Cuba have said patience is wearing thin as the island continues to struggle with blackouts that can last 12 or more hours a day, spoiling what little food there is in most refrigerators. Several anti-government incidents have been reported, and police presence has been boosted.

Besides the 10 in custody since last week, six others who tried to participate in a separate demonstration July 13 remain jailed on "public disorder" charges.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am writing to notify you that I was absent July 20, 2005. They reason for my absence was that I had to have an emergency appendectomy at the Bethesda Naval Hospital.

Regarding the votes that I missed please see below for the way that I would have voted had I been present: Vote No. 390—King (IA) No. 46 Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 391—Kucinich Amendment—"nay", Vote No. 392—Lantos Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 393—Rogers (MI) Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 394—Watson No. 38 Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 395—Berkley/Crowley Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 396—Rohrabacher Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 397—Ros-Lehtinen Amendment—"aye", Vote No. 398—Democrat Motion to Recommit—"nay", Vote No. 399—Final Passage of H.R. 2601—"aye", Vote No. 400—Rolled Suspension Vote on H. Res. 326—"aye".

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS  
WITH RESPECT TO COMMEMORATION  
OF WOMEN SUFFRAGISTS

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.J. Res. 59, to Establish Women's Suffrage Commemoration Day.

With this Commemoration Day, we pay tribute to our foremothers, who worked tirelessly for generations to gain the right to vote.

We acknowledge that the journey to equality is long and difficult, but it is well worth the fight.

And we pledge to keep the struggle for women's rights alive.

The journey towards women's rights in America is as old as our country itself. While John Adams drafted the Constitution at the Continental Congress, his wife counseled, "Remember the ladies," but the Constitution made no mention of women's rights.

So our foremothers fought on.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton declared that all men and women are created equal.

Susan B. Anthony was arrested for casting a ballot and refused to pay the bail.

Between 1917 and 1919, over a thousand women held a vigil outside of the White House, asking, "How long must women wait for liberty?"

Finally, in 1920, with the 19th Amendment, women won the right to participate in our democratic process.

As we remember the long and arduous battle for women's suffrage, let us also remember the right not yet won. 157 years ago, Elizabeth Cady Stanton called for equal rights for all Americans. It is time for our Constitution to echo that sentiment. There is no better tribute to our brave foremothers than to pass the Equal Rights Amendment.

Only the ERA can prevent women's rights from being rolled back. Afghanistan, Bosnia

and Herzegovina, Finland, Austria, and Portugal are just a handful of the countries that already guarantee non-discrimination based on sex in their constitutions. It is time we join their ranks.

Alice Paul used to say, "When you put your hand to the plow, you can't put it down until you get to the end of the row."

For Alice and Elizabeth, for Sojourner and Lucretia, for our foremothers, our grandmothers and our daughters, let us put our hands to the plow and pass the ERA.

#### HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED IN KOREA

### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, 52 years ago today, on July 27, 1953, the United States, North Korea and China signed an armistice that officially ended the three-year Korean War. For too many Florida veterans, the Korean War has become known as "The Forgotten War," sandwiched between World War II and Vietnam. It was through the heroic efforts of our men and women in the Armed Forces, however, that helped maintain democracy and preserved the spirit of freedom for millions on the Korean Peninsula.

While the signing of the treaty may have ended the conflict, it did not end the United States' presence there. Thousands of brave men and women served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the three years of the war, as well as in the 52 years since the war ended. Today, my office is working hand in hand with local veterans groups to identify the thousands of 5th District constituents who served in Korea and deserve recognition.

To date, I have proudly presented more than 175 Korean Defense Service Medals (KDSM) and more than 400 Korean War Service Medals (KWSM) to my veteran constituents. The Department of Defense created these medals to recognize the sacrifices and tenure of those soldiers who served the United States cause on the Korean Peninsula. It has been an honor to present my constituent heroes with these medals and to formally thank their families and them for the commitment showed and time served.

This year's 52nd anniversary of the end of the War is an opportunity for all Americans and all Floridians to reflect on the sacrifices of the thousands of brave soldiers who died defending freedom and opportunity in a far away land. The Korean War saw 33,629 Americans give their lives for our country and for the sake of world peace. In addition to those brave heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice battling communism and oppression, another 103,824 soldiers were wounded, and 8,177 went missing in action.

As too many Florida families sadly know, 577 soldiers from our great state died during the Korean War. They made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of life, liberty and freedom. In addition to those brave heroes, we must not forget the more than 1.8 million Americans soldiers who have served in Korea since 1950. These are the men and women who I have met and presented the KDSM to and

who deserve praise for advancing the causes of democracy and freedom.

It was these brave Americans who helped stem the Communist tide in Asia. The battle for Korea helped spare Japan from the threat of Communist invasion and showed the world that the United States and its allies were prepared to resist the Communist advance. This country paid a high price in blood for the defense of Korea, but those who fell contributed much to the security we enjoy today.

Today it is clear that the Americans who fought in Korea helped build a better world for the Korean people. South Korea has flourished spectacularly under U.S. protection while Communist North Korea is in dire straits, unable to even feed its people. Like we see today in the newly liberated countries of Iraq and Afghanistan, when people have the freedom and will to determine their own fate, they will embrace democracy and freedom and the right of self-determination.

As America commemorates the 52nd anniversary of the end of the War, residents of the 5th Congressional District can pay tribute to our veterans and fallen heroes by visiting Korean War Memorials throughout the district, including a brand new memorial that opened this spring in Groveland. Take the time to shake the hand of one of our brave soldiers and say thank you for defending my freedoms and for making the world a safer place. These men and women deserve no less for their sacrifices and commitment to freedom.

#### IN MEMORY OF CORPORAL TYLER SETH TROVILLION, USMC

### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marine Corporal Tyler Seth Trovillion, an American hero who lost his life in defense of liberty and freedom. He made the ultimate sacrifice so that others might know freedom, and I am humbled by his bravery and selflessness.

Corporal Tyler Trovillion was killed on June 15, 2005 when his vehicle hit an improvised explosive device while conducting combat operations near Ar Ramadi, Iraq. He was 23 years old. CPL Trovillion was assigned to 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton, CA and was operating with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division of the U.S. Army, which was attached to 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force. During his funeral service, CPL Trovillion was remembered as a fun-loving, hard working man who lived his life not for himself, but for others. He was a man filled with the joy of living, and we celebrate the life he lived as a son, brother and friend.

CPL Trovillion is survived by his parents, Mark and Gina Trovillion, sisters, Austin and Skye, brother Jazak and fiancée, Rachel Walker.

I can only imagine the immense pride they feel knowing that CPL Trovillion fought for what is just and right in our world. He leaves behind a legacy marked by courage, integrity and character. It was an honor and a privilege to represent this man in Congress. May God

bless all those he loved, and may I convey to them my sincerest condolences and the gratitude of the American people.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am writing to notify you that I was absent July 21, 2005. The reason for my absence was that I had to have an emergency appendectomy at the Bethesda Naval Hospital.

Regarding the votes that I missed please see below for the way that I would have voted had I been present:

Vote No. 401—Previous Question—"aye."

Vote No. 402—Adoption of the Rule for H.R. 3199—USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2005—"aye."

Vote No. 403—Flake/Schiff Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 404—Issa Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 405—Capito Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 406—Flake/Delahunt/Otter/Nadler Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 407—Delahunt/Flake/Otter Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 408—Flake/Otter Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 409—Berman/Delahunt Amendment—"nay."

Vote No. 410—Schiff/Coble/Forbes Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 411—Hart Amendment—"aye."

Vote No. 412—Jackson-Lee Amendment—"nay."

Vote No. 413—Likely Democrat Motion to Recommit—"nay."

Vote No. 414—Final Passage of H.R. 3199—USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2005—"aye."

#### MEDICAL DEVICE USER FEE STABILIZATION ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

### HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 26, 2005*

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, before 2002, the government funded the approval process for pacemakers, catheters, defibrillators, contact lenses, hip prosthetics, and other medical devices using only taxpayer funding.

This publicly funded process was a mess. It significantly delayed Food and Drug Administration approval of new, life-saving medical devices and prevent patients from benefiting from this new technology. To end this delay, Congress unanimously passed The Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act in 2002. MDUFMA overcame obstacles at the FDA that prevent timely approval of new life-saving medical technologies without compromising the safety of consumers.

Modeled after a similar program used to approve medicines and pharmaceuticals, MDUFMA created a stable funding base for the FDA. It combines industry paid user fees and Congressional appropriations. As a result,

the device approval time has been virtually cut in half. The program proved very popular among companies making these devices and the patients who have benefited from them.

However, Congress built a trigger into the law. The trigger sun-sets the program on September 30, 2005 when Congress fails to appropriate the amount authorized under the 2002 law. Congress provided the \$216.7 million required in fiscal year 2005. But in 2003 and 2004, Congress shortchanged MDUFMA by \$40 million. That shortfall will cause MDUFMA to expire on September 30th. We can't allow that to happen. Too much is at stake.

H.R. 3243 renews MDUFMA for two years and brings some much needed stability to the program. In 2007 we will revisit a full reauthorization of MDUFMA and finetune the program. I urge my colleagues to support this bill. I'd like to thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from California, Ms. ESHOO, for her hard work on this legislation.

### POSTAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. DEBORAH PRYCE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 26, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 22) to reform the postal laws of the United States:

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this rule. As the Chairman knows, I filed an amendment with the Rules Committee to address important mailings to consumers containing notification of a data breach affecting personal information. While I withdrew my amendment, I was pleased to work with the Chairman of the Government Reform Committee to include report language regarding this significant issue. I thank both Chairmen for their hard work on this bill.

Mr. Speaker I rise today to bring attention to the important issue of data security.

Identity theft is the fastest-growing white collar crime in the United States. The Federal Trade Commission estimates that 10 million Americans fall victim to identity theft each year, costing consumers and businesses more than 55 billion dollars.

Identity theft is the most frequent complaint to the FTC from all 50 states, with the number of complaints having grown for the fourth consecutive year.

What takes only seconds for a hacker to destroy can take years for companies and individuals to rebuild. A thief can jeopardize a person's financial security by opening new lines of credit or procuring unsecured loans under a person's name.

Victims of identity theft spend an average of 90 hours of their own time and 1,700 dollars in out-of-pocket expenses clearing their credit and name.

The first line of defense in combating these reckless acts is to make the victims aware of what is taking place. If there is unauthorized access to sensitive financial information, the breached company needs to notify the potentially affected consumers, and make them aware that their data security may have been compromised.

After an investigation determines whether or not the breached information will lead to misuse, the customer must be made aware. But with all the mail that Americans are besieged with on a daily basis, we must take steps to insure that consumers can differentiate between what is critical and what is not. For that reason, I feel that all notices should contain a heading that this is an "IMPORTANT DATA BREACH NOTIFICATION."

By ensuring that consumers are aware of what is going on with their data security, we can help prevent millions of dollars a year in consumer costs and countless hours spent by innocent Americans who have been victimized by identity thieves.

Labeling the envelopes will go far towards this goal, and I urge my colleagues to think about this common sense solution to a serious problem that can touch any American at any time.

### A BILL TO MAKE THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MINORITY VETERANS PERMANENT

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that is vital to the interests of minority veterans in our Nation. Current law mandates the termination of the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans, ACMV, on December 31, 2009. My bill would simply repeal the provision of law that discontinues this important committee's mandate so that its critical work on behalf of minority veterans can continue.

The Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans operates in conjunction with the VA Center for Minority Veterans. This committee consists of members appointed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and includes minority veterans, representatives of minority veterans groups and individuals who are recognized authorities in fields pertinent to the needs of minority veterans.

The Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans helps the VA Center for Minority Veterans by advising the Secretary on the adoption and implementation of policies and programs affecting minority veterans, and by making recommendations to the VA for the establishment or improvement of programs in the department for which minority veterans are eligible.

The committee has consistently provided the VA and Congress with balanced, forwardlooking recommendations, many of which go far beyond the unique needs of minority veterans. In 2002, the committee met in my hometown of Chicago and warned that in the Chicago regional office "it was mentioned that it was much easier to deny benefits than to grant benefits because of stringent requirements of VBA and Court of Appeal for Veterans Claims."

Two years later, the Chicago Sun-Times exposed that Illinois veterans ranked 50th in disability benefit compensation. That information sparked a campaign by the Illinois congressional delegation to rectify the situation. Since then, the VA Inspector General has issued his report and recommendations and the Sec-

retary has pledged additional staff and resources to the Chicago regional office.

The committee will also be needed in the future since the unique concerns of minority veterans will become increasingly important for our Nation during the next decade.

Currently, 18 percent of the troops serving in Iraq are African-American, while 10 percent are Hispanic. The concerns of these veterans and others will not go away on December 31, 2009, and neither should the committee created to ensure that they are represented. The Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans has helped our minority veterans from past wars with programs to address their concerns. We should not shortchange our newly returning soldiers by allowing this committee's tenure to expire.

Many specific issues of concern to minority veterans need to be addressed further. Minority veterans confront the debilitating effects of post-traumatic stress disorder, PTSD, and substance abuse in greater numbers. Minority veterans suffer from a higher incidence of homelessness. Access to health care for Native American veterans is also a common problem. In addition, access to adequate job training is a difficulty for many minority veterans, a high percentage of whom qualify as low-income, category A veterans.

Unfortunately, discrimination and cultural insensitivity remain problematic for minority veterans at many VA facilities. The Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans still has a lot of work to do, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to make this important committee permanent.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am writing to notify you that I was absent July 22, 2005. The reason for my absence was that I had to have an emergency appendectomy at the Bethesda Naval Hospital.

Regarding the votes that I missed please see below for the way that I would have voted had I been present: Vote No. 415—Velázquez No. 3 amendment—"nay" and vote No. 416—final passage of H.R. 3070—NASA Authorization Act of 2005—"aye."

### CELEBRATING ANNE SPEAKE'S SERVICE TO THE CENTRAL VALLEY OF CALIFORNIA

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anne Speake for the service she has given to the Central Valley of California and to recognize her 75th birthday on August 8, 2005. Mrs. Speake has dedicated much of her life to helping the citizens of Fresno and to promoting small business.

Anne Speake, the founder and President of International English Institute, is widely recognized as an authority on overseas marketing.

For 22 years, she traveled extensively in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and South America to promote IEI. During this time, the school enrolled over 40,000 students, some of whom are heads of state and leaders in worldwide businesses. In 2001, she joined her husband, Mike Hamzy, as President of Harbison International, Inc.

Currently, she serves on the Board, Executive Committee, and Air Quality Task Force of the Fresno Business Council. She is also Chair of the Fresno Revitalization Corporation and serves on the boards of FRESPEC and the CSUF Business Advisory Council. She is a member of the Fresno Rotary Club, the Forum, and the Owls Club.

She previously served as President on the boards of the Greater Area Chamber of Commerce; the Fresno Convention and Visitor's Bureau; and the CSUF Business Associates. She has served on the boards of the EDC, Fresno Art Museum, Compact, CSUF Alumni and Friends, and the New United Way. She was Vice President of the National Associate of Arab American and Co-Chair of the Commission on the Future of Education for Fresno County. I appointed Anne as a delegate to the California Republican Party, where she has served since 1995. In the same year, she was appointed as a delegate by Gov. Pete Wilson to the White House Conference on Small Business. He also appointed her to the California Council to promote Business Ownership by Women.

In 1990, IEI received the U.S. Small Business Administration's "Business of the Year in California" award. In 1991, IEI won the "Business Enterprise of the Year" award for outstanding contributions to Fresno's economy and for business excellence. In 1993, Mrs. Speake was presented the Baker, Peterson, & Franklin "Top 5 Award for Excellence." Mrs. Speake was awarded the CSUF Sid Craig School of Business "Alumni of the Year Award" for 1994. In 1998, the U.S. Small Business Administration recognized Mrs. Speake as the Central California Women in Business Advocate of the Year, and the National Honor Society made her an Honorary Beta Gamma Sigma. In February 2000, Mrs. Speake was the Leon S. Peters Award recipient for a career of outstanding business leadership in community service.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievements of Anne Speake. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable woman and the contributions she has made to small business and the city of Fresno.

#### TRIBUTE TO JAMES R. PARKER

### HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to thank James R. Parker for more than three decades of service to the Nation.

A dedicated employee of the Federal Government, James will be retiring from the Social Security Administration at the end of July. For years now, we've been able to count on James to help make government work better for all of us.

While I'm thankful for James and his service, we'll miss the knowledge, compassion and

tremendous work ethic he brought to every task.

Tennessee is proud of James, and we all wish him and his wife, Patricia, a wonderful retirement.

#### THE DEATH OF RYAN KOVACICEK

### HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to pay tribute to Lance Corporal Ryan J. Kovacicek of Washington, Pennsylvania, part of the 18th Congressional District. Lance Corporal Kovacicek was killed July 10th from a mortar attack in the town of Hit, located in western Iraq. He died alongside Sergeant Joseph P. Goodrich, another member of his unit from Pittsburgh.

Just 22 years old, Lance Corporal Kovacicek was a member of Kilo Company, a Marine Forces Reserve unit based in Moundsville, West Virginia. Like so many other young men and women in our reserves, Kovacicek was a student. A junior at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, he was studying criminology and played on the hockey team. He also lettered in hockey all four years he attended Bishop Canevin Catholic High School.

Following in a long tradition of military service in his family, Lance Corporal Kovacicek enlisted in the reserves to help defend his country. His father, Joseph, served in Vietnam as a Marine, and his grandfather, Paul Karpan, fought with the Army in Europe during World War II. Understanding the true meaning of patriotism, Lance Corporal Kovacicek paid the ultimate sacrifice. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family. God bless them, and all the members of the armed forces fighting the war on terror, and their families.

#### SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH FAIRNESS ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 26, 2005*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Miller for his leadership on this bill. Mr. Speaker I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 525. Association Health Plans cherry-pick. They lower standards of care. They fail to reduce the growing ranks of the uninsured. But I would like to focus on a critical shortfall we don't often hear much about: Efficiency.

AHPs fail to address the white elephant in the living room. One of the biggest reasons that America's health care costs are so high is that we pay far more for administrative costs in privately administered health plans than other industrialized nations. The average private health plan puts 12-15 percent—sometimes as high as 30 percent—of your health care dollar to administrative costs. AHPs would not only fail to address this problem, but could make it worse.

In fact, a study by human resources consultants, William Mercer, Inc. found that "... the potential administrative cost increases typically

would exceed the potential administrative cost savings. We estimate that the additional costs for small firms who buy AHP coverage typically would range from 1.5 percent to 5 percent of premiums." That is above and beyond the average administrative costs of 12-15 percent.

Now contrast that with the overhead costs of Medicare, whose 40th birthday we celebrate this week. On average, Medicare's administrative costs are 2-3 percent. That means that Medicare is about 5 times more efficient than private health plans and could be 7 to 10 times more efficient than AHPs.

Health care costs are dragging small businesses down in their efforts to compete with their counterparts in other nations where health care is universal. It is time to stop dancing around the margins of reform by proposing more of the same inefficiencies. We already know what works. Lets expand Medicare to all.

#### HONORING DR. JOSE CELSO BARBOSA

### HON. LUIS FORTUÑO

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. FORTUÑO. Mr. Speaker, today it is my special privilege to render tribute to a great American and a great Puerto Rican on the 148th commemoration of his birth. Dr. Jose Celso Barbosa was born in Bayamon, Puerto Rico on July 27, 1857, when Puerto Rico was still a colony of Spain. In 1876 he traveled to the United States to continue his studies, and in 1880 he graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in medicine, first in his class and valedictorian of a very distinguished medical graduating class that included the Mayo brothers of Mayo Clinic fame. Dr. Barbosa was the first Puerto Rican to graduate from the prestigious University of Michigan.

Upon returning to Puerto Rico, Dr. Barbosa dedicated himself to his private medical practice, became a professor of medicine at one of the institutions of higher learning in Puerto Rico, and made his first incursion in political issues, becoming a firm defender of negotiating increased autonomy for Puerto Rico from Spain.

With the change in sovereignty in 1898, in which Puerto Rico was ceded to the United States after the Spanish-American War, Dr. Barbosa envisioned the Federalist system of the United States as the ideal solution to the colonial problem of Puerto Rico, declaring himself an advocate of admitting the Island as a state of the Union. With that lofty purpose in mind, he formed the Republican Party of Puerto Rico on July 4, 1899.

Dr. Barbosa was the founder of the newspaper "El Tiempo", for which he wrote numerous articles in defense of his goal to have Puerto Rico become a state of the Union. When the United States allowed for the formation of a Senate at the local level in 1917, Dr. Barbosa was elected as a member of that legislative body. He was reelected in 1920. During his stint in the Senate, Dr. Barbosa introduced legislation allowing for trial by jury and introducing the writ of "Habeas Corpus" within the Judicial Penal System of Puerto Rico.

After a distinguished career as a doctor, teacher, politician, and humanitarian, Dr. Barbosa passed away on September 21, 1921, without reaching his dream of having Puerto Rico become a State of the Union, but proud to have become a citizen of the United States in 1917.

On statehood for Puerto Rico, Dr. Barbosa said: "Puerto Rico aspires to reach all the rights granted by U.S. Citizenship, in the same method, in the same manner, under the same form, and under the full integrity as the one enjoyed by the residents of any of the regions that are called States of the American Union. To that we aspire, that is what we want, that is what we shall have."

On the political relationship between Puerto Rico and the United States, Dr. Barbosa made the following statement: "We want, and we ask, for equality. Not colonialism or protection. Since the American Flag first waved over Puerto Rico, those have been the ideals that we have defended."

Dr. Barbosa's lifelong dream was to have Puerto Rico admitted as a State of the Union. I share that dream, and I find no better way of honoring him today, than to pledge to pursue his goal, to the best of my ability, of having Puerto Rico become an integral part of this great Nation.

IN HONOR OF THE MOSES AND  
AARON FOUNDATION SPECIAL  
FUND FOR CHILDREN

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Moses and Aaron Foundation Special Fund for Children, a truly distinguished organization that assists children with disabilities and their families.

Created in the memory of Rabbi Dr. Maurice I. Hecht and Aaron Kaploun, the foundation has kept alive Dr. Hecht and Mr. Kaploun's commitment to community service through counseling, guidance, wheelchair assistance, and financial assistance to those families with special children.

I believe that the foundation's work is a shining beacon of light for children in need. Examples of such work include providing educational scholarships, clothing and presents.

In addition, the Moses and Aaron Foundation under the direction of its President Rabbi Yaacov Kaploun, and Executive Vice President Yehuda Kaploun, in cooperation with Bally Fitness Centers, has established 27 therapy and physical fitness centers and has arranged for sound and musical equipment in other institutions.

As the foundation hosts its 9th annual Chazak Summer Concert for Special Children on August 20, 2005, we are again reminded of all that the Moses and Aaron Foundation has contributed to the greater American community. For the past 8 years, the Motzei Shabbat Nachamu Concert, at Sullivan Community College Field House in Loch Sheldrake, New York, has benefited special children and their families by offering them an enjoyable night of music, dancing and plain good fun.

The concert will honor and pay tribute to the special and outstanding children who will be

the guests of honor and will perform with the entertainers on stage. More than 40 organizations and schools serving the physically and mentally disabled children will be represented.

The Chazak Concert in connection with the many other programs operated by the Moses and Aaron Foundation, demonstrate a caring and compassionate concern for the quality and dignity of life of those in need, and therefore merits appreciation.

I would also like to applaud the Honorary Chairman and Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel, President Rabbi Yaacov Kaploun and Executive Vice President Yehuda Kaploun for their hard work and commitment to children of special needs and their families.

I pause to commemorate the recent passing of Mrs. Tzipora Kaploun of Jerusalem, Israel, wife of the late Aaron Kaploun. She instilled in her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren the importance of community service and a compassion for those individuals who require the assistance and support of those who are blessed with ability to provide and assist. She exemplified the principles upon which the Foundation is based.

I recognize Mr. Jerry Rothman, recipient of the Dr. Steven Stowe Acts of Kindness Award and remember fondly his late wife Anita Rothman, whose acts of charity impacted the lives of many in the course of their 65 years of marriage. We remember the social service and kindness of the late Issac Weinberger who recently passed, and his wife Anne Weinberger.

As the Moses and Aaron Foundation Special Fund for Children commemorates this special event, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to an organization that provides such an essential service to the community and truly exemplifies the generosity of Americans.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF  
TOMMY MAGGIO

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my friend Tommy Maggio, who, after 32 years of service to this institution, will be retiring at the end of the month.

Thomas P. Maggio was born April 28, 1929 and raised in Washington, DC. Tommy served our Nation in the Navy, from 1951 to 1955. Serving in Norfolk, VA and Green Coast Springs, FL, Tommy was stationed on the USS *Whitley*, and was part of a marching band. Tommy married his wife Anita in 1963; she too will be retiring, after many years of service in my colleague Congresswoman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN's office.

For many of us, Tommy provides a warm greeting in the morning, as well as wonderful conversation. Every morning when I see him, I call out to Tommy, "Bonjeourno Thomaso," to which he replies "Bonjeourno, bonjeourno." I cannot help but enjoy this warm Italian greeting. Tommy is loved by all of the members he serves. We wish Tommy well and we all deeply appreciate his dedicated and decent service. I will certainly miss him. I wish Tommy and his dear Anita many good years, filled with family, friends and good health. On behalf of my staff, myself and the lovely Deborah, and all my colleagues: Thank you, Tommy.

NASA LAUNCH

**HON. TOM DELAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday at 10:39 a.m. on the east coast, five men and two women were launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, aboard the space shuttle *Discovery*, rocketing into low-earth orbit at 17,000 miles per hour. . . another small step for man, another giant leap for mankind.

Yesterday's successful launch will not simply pick up where America left off two years ago after the *Columbia* disaster.

Yesterday's launch instead opens a new era of space exploration—an era defined by President Bush's ambitious new vision and made possible by the courage and brilliance of the men and women of NASA.

Every resource of our space program will be dedicated to this new mission:

The shuttle has returned to flight and will work to complete the International Space Station now orbiting the earth 250 miles above our heads;

Scientists and astronauts aboard the station will conduct unprecedented research on the long-term exposure of human beings to microgravity and radiation, to test our endurance for prolonged space-travel;

Meanwhile, here on earth, engineers and scientists will design a new crew exploration vehicle that will eventually replace the shuttle and take mankind back to the moon, where more historic discovery and science can be pursued.

All of these endeavors will lead our space program toward our next giant leap—a manned mission to Mars.

The first step of that journey was taken yesterday morning, Mr. Speaker, and once again, NASA's army of geniuses has set us on a clear path toward our destiny.

I spoke with mission Commander Eileen Collins a few weeks back, and she said her crew was ready and eager to return the shuttle to flight.

I also spoke with NASA Administrator Mike Griffin today, to congratulate him and the entire NASA team on a successful launch, as well as to commend him on an incredible first 3-plus months on the job.

The country is lucky to have a man like him in public service heading up the finest space agency in the world.

Yesterday, Americans learned once again that we have the resources and the personnel to do the impossible, Mr. Speaker.

I commend every member of our space community for keeping the *Discovery* crew's appointment with history, and while we wait for their safe return next week, our hopes and prayers are with them all.

POSTAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND  
ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 26, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 22) to reform the postal laws of the United States, with Mr. SIMPSON in the chair.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 22, The Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act.

In 1775, Members of the Second Continental Congress established the Post Office Department, the predecessor of the Postal Service and the second oldest federal department or agency in the United States. For the past two centuries, the United States Postal Service has evolved and changed as the United States has grown. Today the Postal Service delivers hundreds of millions of messages each day to more than 141 million homes and businesses. Still, the Postal Service is experiencing economic loss because of the decrease in first class mail volume due to the high usage of e-mail and faxes and the increase in operating costs as the number of addresses to which the Postal Service must deliver are growing everyday.

For the past couple of decades, Members of the House Government Reform Committee have worked together to create legislation to reform the Postal Service. The bill that we have before us today is a compilation of hard work and bipartisan effort that includes a variety of interests such as large financial mailers, mail-dependent small businesses, magazine publishers, postal competitors, unions and consumer organizations. H.R. 22 provides for a comprehensive overhaul of the financial operations, rate structure, and civil service policies that currently govern the United States Postal Service. It is important to note that this bill today is not only a work of bipartisan congressional action, but it is the product of labor unions and management, postal employees and businesses, working together to make compromises to make postal reform a reality.

Protecting collective bargaining rights, ensuring six-day a week postal delivery and demanding that postal workers receive the best federal employee healthcare are all important provisions that were included in this bill to benefit postal workers. H.R. 22 is a tribute to the countless letter carriers and postal employees who have been committed for many years to reforming the USPS. I have spent hours walking mail routes with the letter carriers in my home state of New Jersey. I have seen first hand how dedicated postal employees are to ensuring the timely and safe delivery of mail to their local communities. These letter carriers should be applauded for their service to all Americans.

I am proud to have been a cosponsor of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act and am pleased that my colleagues have finally brought this to the House floor. The United States Postal Service is the knit between communities across America and I ask my colleagues to pass this meaningful postal reform legislation for all Americans.

#### TRIBUTE TO POSTAL EMPLOYEES

### HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the hardworking postal employees around the country and especially

in my district. In the wake of passing the first postal reform bill in three and a half decades, I believe it is only appropriate to acknowledge the hard work and tireless effort of postal employees.

The Postal Service has been around since 1775. It has come a long way since the days of the Pony Express and steamboats and despite the fact that e-mail and online bill paying are becoming increasingly popular, the United States Postal Service remains more vital than ever.

I stand here today to deliver a heartfelt thank you to the men and women of the United States Postal Service. I think sometimes we take their efforts for granted. Their work is not only stressful at times, but it is their efforts in keeping all of our correspondence flowing smoothly that provides the glue that hold our communities together. The closing of a Post Office can be devastating to a small rural community, so I understand the importance of the preservation of this service. I feel strongly that my colleagues and I did a good thing last night when we passed the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act.

I urge all of my colleagues as well as every American to take the time out of the day and thank their local letter carrier or postmaster the next time they see them. In closing, I would like to thank all of the postal employees in the 15th district for their part in strengthening our communities. Their efforts are sincerely appreciated.

#### SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH FAIRNESS ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

### HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 26, 2005*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 525, the Small Business Health Fairness Act. I am deeply concerned that this legislation will jeopardize valuable patient protections for all Americans. While pooling insurance risks may allow employers to strengthen their bargaining power with insurance carriers and share administrative functions, the methods outlined in this bill would threaten the quality of health plans available to small business employees, and the stability of the market for small businesses without access to trade associations.

This legislation establishes association health plans by removing them from state oversight—including the application of state patient protections and solvency standards. For example, my home state of Rhode Island is one of 15 states to mandate health insurance coverage of a colorectal cancer screening test. My constituents value this protection. But under this legislation, my constituents could find themselves enrolled in association health plans that are not required to follow that and other state laws designed to increase access to preventative care and screenings.

In addition, this bill permits association health plans to offer coverage to specific types of employers, allowing plans to seek memberships with better risks and less costly populations. This “cherry picking”—skimming off the healthiest consumers and leaving the sickest patients uninsured—will force premiums

even higher for the majority of the market. A recent Congressional Budget Office study estimated that costs would decline for the 20 percent of businesses that join AHPs, but would therefore go up for the remaining 80 percent.

Alternatively, the Democratic substitute would provide small business and their employees access to small employer health pools, without the negative features of H.R. 525, by including a number of protections for businesses and their employees. The substitute amendment provides that participating health insurance companies will remain subject to the requirements of state health insurance laws and stipulates that all participating insurers offer benefits equivalent to or greater than the options offered to Federal employees. There are ways to accomplish the goal of increased access to health insurance that do not threaten that patient protections and state laws that Americans have come to rely on.

Small business employers and their workers do need better access to affordable health care coverage, but this misguided bill is not the way to accomplish that important goal. As we look for innovative ways to provide health care to all, we must not sell small business owners and employees short. We must address the health care crisis, and we must do it in a way that does not exacerbate the existing problems. I urge my colleagues to vote against H.R. 525.

#### TRIBUTE TO GENERAL WILLIAM L. “SPIDER” NYLAND, U.S.M.C.

### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and pay tribute to General William L. “Spider” Nyland, United States Marine Corps, on the occasion of his retirement from active duty. General Nyland has served our great Nation for more than 37 years. The departure of General Nyland marks not only the end of an illustrious career replete with many honors, it also marks the beginning of several initiatives which, by virtue of his strategic vision, dynamic leadership and accomplished diplomatic skills, will ensure that U.S. national strategy is prepared to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

General Nyland was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps under the NROTC program upon graduation from the University of New Mexico in 1968. In addition to attaining a M.S. degree from the University of Southern California, his formal military education includes The Basic School (1968), Naval Aviation Flight Training (NFO) (1969), Amphibious Warfare School (1975), Navy Fighter Weapons School (TopGun) (1977), College of Naval Command and Staff, Naval War College (1981), and Air War-College (1988).

After being assigned to VMFA-531, General Nyland was ordered to Vietnam where he flew 122 combat missions with VMFA-314 and VMFA-115. General Nyland's other tours included Instructor RIO, VMFAT-101; Squadron Assistant Operations Officer and Operations Officer, VMFA-115; and Brigade FORSTAT and Electronic Warfare Officer, 1st Marine Brigade. He also served as Operations Officer

and Director of Safety and Standardization, VMF A-212; Aviation Safety Officer and Congressional Liaison/Budget Officer, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C.; and Operations Officer, Marine Aircraft Group-24, 1st Marine Amphibious Brigade. He commanded VMFA-232, the Marine Corps' oldest and most decorated fighter squadron, from July 1985 to July 1987.

General Nyland subsequently served as section chief for the Central Command section, European Command/Central Command Branch, Joint Operations Division, Directorate of Operations (J-3), Joint Staff, Washington, D.C. In July 1990, he assumed command of Marine Aviation Training Support Group (MATSG), Pensacola. Following his command of MATSG he assumed duties as Chief of Staff, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing on July 5, 1992, and assumed additional duties as Assistant Wing Commander on November 10, 1992. He was promoted to Brigadier General on September 1, 1994 and was assigned as Assistant Wing Commander, 2nd MAW serving in that billet until December 1, 1995.

He served next on the Joint Staff, J-8, as the Deputy Director for Force Structure and Resources, completing that tour on June 30, 1997. General Nyland was advanced to 1 Major General on July 2, 1997, and assumed duties as the Deputy Commanding General, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C. He served next as the Commanding General, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, MCAS Cherry Point, North Carolina from July 1998 to June 2000. He was advanced to Lieutenant General on 30 June 2000 and assumed duties as the Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps. He next served as the Deputy Commandant for Aviation on 3 August 2001. He was advanced to the grade of General on September 4, 2002 and assumed his current duties shortly thereafter.

General Nyland's personal decorations include: Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal with eight Strike/Flight awards, and Joint Service Commendation Medal.

Throughout his career as a United States Marine, General Nyland has demonstrated uncompromising character, discerning wisdom, and a sincere, selfless sense of duty to his Marines and members of other services assigned to his numerous joint commands. His powerful leadership inspired the Marines to tremendous success no matter the task, and achieved results which will assure the United States' security in this hemisphere and overseas.

General Nyland concludes his illustrious career as the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps. In this capacity, he has been the principal advisor to the Commandant of the Marine Corps on all decisions of major consequence. His extensive and diverse background in operational and joint planning, professional military education and training, and budgetary and programmatic policy issues have been given wide credibility by decision makers in the Department of the Navy, the Joint Staff, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and the United States Congress.

General Nyland has made a lasting contribution to the capabilities of today's Marine Corps and the future shape of tomorrow's Corps. We are grateful for General Nyland's

dedication, sense of duty, advice and counsel. The Marine Corps will miss him, but General Nyland leaves a tremendous legacy for others to follow and emulate. I wish General Nyland and his lovely wife, Brenda, daughters, Brandy and Leslie, and son, Matthew, congratulations and all best wishes as they enter this new chapter of their lives.

COMPELLING SERIES ABOUT VA  
FUNDING SHORTFALLS IN  
NORTHWEST PAPER

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I am placing an article from the July 25, 2005, Seattle Times newspaper into the Congressional Record because I think it is important that all of my colleagues understand the real world impact underfunding the VA is having on veterans suffering from mental disabilities.

To those who say that VA is adequately funded, I say read this article. Spending on VA mental health care services, adjusted for inflation, is \$630 million below the level in 1996, despite an 11 percent increase in veterans seeking services. During that same 1996-2003 period, overall mental health staffing for the seriously mentally ill declined by 31 percent, and funding for drug and alcohol treatment dropped by 54 percent.

VA mental health professionals have been asked to cut back on the number of sessions offered to veterans on a monthly basis, to cut back on the time allotted for each session, lengthen the time between visits, and drop some patients altogether.

It is unacceptable to treat those who have served our country with such disdain. The President and Congress have found trillions of dollars to provide tax cuts to wealthy individuals and profitable corporations. And Congress and the President will send tens of billions of dollars to foreign governments this year. Clearly there is enough money to adequately provide for our veterans. The President and Congress have simply chosen not to make caring for veterans a priority. That has to change, immediately.

[From the Seattle Times, July 25, 2005]

VA STRAINING TO TREAT POST-TRAUMATIC  
STRESS

(By Hal Bernton)

ABERDEEN—During counseling, Vietnam veteran Rod Chenoweth always sits in the same place—a blue fabric couch carefully positioned in a corner to give his body the protective cover of a side and rear wall as he talks about his life.

He recounts an argument that left him seething in anger. He talks about an evening flashback to the grenade that wounded him in the leg and killed his 19-year-old buddy.

Chenoweth says the therapy, paid for by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), has helped pull him back from thoughts of suicide and other self-destructive acts in a life scarred by post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)—a war injury that ranks among the most common and the most difficult to heal.

Starting in July, Chenoweth's sessions with Aberdeen therapist Jack Dutro have been reduced from twice to once a month, a cut that comes as thousands of Iraq war veterans join those of previous wars in seeking treatment from the strained VA.

"I can understand that the new veterans need to be dealt with," said Chenoweth, 56. "But it's going to be tough. Jack has been a lifesaver."

The agency is required by law to take care of the war wounds of all combat veterans.

But the agency's PTSD experts, in a report delivered last fall to Congress, warned that the VA "does not have sufficient capacity to meet the needs of new combat veterans while still providing for the veterans of past wars."

Internal reports show the VA's mental-health network has been frayed by years of staffing cuts and budgets that failed to keep pace with the growth in patients.

According to an internal review of the agency's budget, delivered to Congress in September, problems have been years in the making:

Between 1996 and 2003, annual spending for treatment of the serious mentally ill increased from \$2.16 billion to \$2.4 billion. But when those budgets were adjusted for inflation in medical costs—the increased costs of salaries and services—spending in 2003 was actually \$630 million below the 1996 level. Meanwhile, the number of veterans seeking those services climbed by 11 percent.

During the same period, overall mental-health staffing for the seriously ill declined by 31 percent.

Drug and alcohol treatment for the seriously mentally ill, often a critical part of the program for those seeking PTSD therapy, has been the hardest hit. Annual funding, adjusted for inflation, dropped by 54 percent nationwide between 1996 and 2003.

"It's been a perfect storm of rising needs and tight resources," said Tom Schumacher, who directs a Washington state effort to assist PTSD veterans.

The Northwest VA network has fared better than most of the nation, avoiding many of the staff cuts that hit other regions.

But the four-state region that includes Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska also is one of the busiest hubs of treatment. The PTSD patient load alone has increased from 3,194 in 1996 to 4,671 in 2004.

To help manage the crunch, the VA Puget Sound Health Care System earlier this year imposed new restrictions on PTSD therapy for veterans who already have undergone at least six months of treatment.

The VA guidelines now call for no more than once-a-month individual therapy, or twice-a-month group therapy. Those apply to Puget Sound-area clinics and a network of VA-funded private therapists who work around the state.

Dr. Miles McFall, director of PTSD programs at the VA Puget Sound, said that more frequent therapy does not necessarily help, and those in trouble are welcome to check into an inpatient VA hospital clinic.

"Even if money was not an issue, this is what we should be doing," he said. "We care about our Vietnam vets. We're not going to turn our backs on them."

Other therapists say while some veterans can handle less treatment, the more unstable ones may suffer setbacks.

"Some of them are devastated and feel like they have been abandoned one more time," said Jim Shoop, a Mount Vernon counselor. He said his office is reducing service to more than 50 vets with PTSD.

A LIFETIME OF TROUBLE

Soldiers have always suffered from the mental wounds of war.

But the diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder only emerged in 1979 in the aftermath of the Vietnam War as tens of thousands of distraught veterans, suffering from flashbacks, sleeplessness, anger and other symptoms, poured into VA hospitals.

By 1988, the VA estimated that 479,000 vets suffered PTSD symptoms.

For many of these vets, PTSD has meant a lifetime of trouble.

Chenoweth served with the Marines in Vietnam from 1968 to 1969, when the U.S. sustained some of its heaviest casualties. He turned 18 just before boarding the plane to Asia and soon found himself fighting in villages where anybody could be the enemy.

Chenoweth ended his tour of duty in a psychiatric hospital in Oakland. But it wasn't until the late '80s—after more than a dozen failed jobs, several more hospital stays and two broken marriages—that he was diagnosed with PTSD.

"The killing doesn't stop," Chenoweth said. "You taste it. You smell it. And you feel it. It uses all your senses."

The numbers of older veterans seeking mental-health treatment surged again in recent years, as new wars unfolding on television in Iraq and Afghanistan added to their stress.

That, coupled with the influx of soldiers returning from Iraq, has ratcheted up pressure on the VA system.

#### MORE BECOME ELIGIBLE

In the '90s, the VA went through a dramatic overhaul, moving away from a centralized hospital system as hundreds of new clinics opened up around the country. Congress also loosened eligibility requirements, so that more vets qualified for services, and increased the agency's overall health-care budget from \$17 billion to more than \$28 billion.

The transformation was lauded as a great success in an *Annals of Internal Medicine* article last year.

But mental-health services often lost out as regional administrators juggled budgets to pay for soaring caseloads, new services and pricey new drugs.

Managers also sometimes balked at pouring money into treatment for illnesses of the mind when compared with physical illnesses that are often easier to measure and cure.

"I regret to report that there are stigmas in the VA about the mentally ill," Thomas Horvath, a psychiatrist who serves as chief of staff at the agency's Houston medical center, told Congress in 2004.

"In this, we may be no worse than the rest of health care. VA needs to do better."

Sen. PATTY MURRAY, who worked as a college intern in the Seattle VA psychiatric ward, has helped lead the congressional effort to boost funding for VA programs, including mental health.

"I have talked to soldiers who are returning, and a number of them say 'my marriage is much more difficult . . . I am having trouble getting my head back in to work,'" said MURRAY. "It's the beginning of trouble. And the fallout from this 10, 15, 20 years from now is tremendous."

The issue of VA funding has been rife with partisan politics recently.

MURRAY, a Democrat, initially was rebuffed by the Republican majority in an effort to gain emergency funding for VA medical services.

VA administrators in June acknowledged a roughly \$1 billion budget shortfall, prompting Senate Republicans to do an about-face and work with MURRAY to boost funding.

Congress is expected to approve an additional \$975 million to \$1.5 billion to help dig the agency out of the hole for this fiscal year.

If this money is equally divided within the agency, mental health would receive less than \$300 million.

This emergency cash would fall short of shoring up the system.

To fully meet the needs of the seriously mentally ill, the VA would require an infusion of as much as \$1.6 billion, according to a draft of the agency's strategic plan.

That estimate didn't assess the added costs of treating new Iraq veterans.

#### JUST GOOD-ENOUGH CARE

There is no fixed formula for treating PTSD.

Instead, the VA offers general guidelines for addressing the illness. This treatment may involve drugs that aid sleep and reduce anxiety or help fight depression. It may include classes in anger management and other coping skills.

Finally, there is therapy, which often enables the vet to recount and come to terms with combat experiences.

Some patients may benefit from just a few classes and counseling sessions. Others with chronic PTSD attend sessions for months or years. Some patients do fine in group; others do much better with individual therapy. But as budgets have shrunk, some VA mental-health workers say, they have been pressured to treat more people in less time.

In Portland, the VA mental-health clinic staff by January had shrunk by 25 percent due to budget freezes, according to an internal staff newsletter. The newsletter described the Portland program as "unquestionably underfunded."

Therapists in Portland earlier this year were asked to consider cutting individual sessions from 50 minutes to 30 minutes, and lengthen the time between visits, according to an internal VA memorandum.

They say they were also asked to consider dropping some patients altogether, after refilling their prescriptions and referring them back to primary-care physicians.

Megan Streight, a VA spokeswoman, said the Portland VA does not expect staff to cut back services for patients who need therapy. She also said that some jobs have been filled. "We are confident that veterans continue to receive high-quality mental-health care," Streight said.

But several Portland VA therapists expressed worries that expanding caseloads combined with a smaller staff threaten the quality of some care. All requested anonymity, concerned that speaking publicly could cost them their jobs.

These therapists say they have been asked to try to complete treatment of new patients in 10 or fewer counseling sessions, even those recently returned from Iraq. Some of these vets arrive at the VA with marriages already in turmoil or broken. Others have isolated themselves at home, and balked at returning to work. One, who came in after beating his wife, had penned a suicide note.

One therapist said she has been reluctant to stick several troubled Iraq vets in first-step classes of 20 or more that teach coping skills. But her own caseload already runs to several hundred patients, so she has no openings for more one-on-one counseling. To make room for the Iraq veterans, she asks some of her older veterans to come less often.

"But what kind of message is that—that you're not as important as the new guys coming in," she said.

The therapist says she needed to get used to the short-staffed conditions.

"I was told that there needed to be some changes made at the hospital due to the lack of resources, and I was going to have to adjust my thinking," said the therapist. "You need to give just good-enough care."

The Puget Sound VA's mental-health programs also have been caught in the region-wide budget crunch, which included a partial hiring freeze that replaces only one worker for every five who leave their jobs.

"We have to make the best use of resources that we can," said John Park, Puget Sound VA's director of health-care planning, at an April 30 community meeting on mental

health sponsored by U.S. Rep. JIM McDERMOTT, D-Seattle. "You can only cut so much of the budget before things get dicey."

#### SHARING HOPES AND FEARS

Most PTSD patients in Puget Sound are seen in a specialized program that includes clinics and in-patient care. The program has a national reputation for research and treatment.

McFall, who heads that program, says he was able to snag a special grant that allows him to add several more positions to the 21-person clinic staff in the months ahead.

"I want to say that the sky isn't falling. We can get every Iraq veteran an appointment within a week," he said.

But the local VA policy to limit treatment for patients who have had six months of therapy has caused a backlash. The loudest protests have come from the state network of private-practice therapists who are paid by the VA to treat vets with chronic PTSD.

"I believe that in order to do long-term recovery, I have to do a lot of work," said Steve Akers, a Vietnam vet who is an Everett therapist. Akers offers weekly group sessions, as well as individual counseling.

At the group sessions, the vets spend 90 minutes sharing hopes, fears and a few laughs before ending with a healing circle where they all grasp hands on a wooden staff known as a "talking stick."

One veteran of both the Vietnam and Gulf wars still lives on a razor's edge. At his house, he has installed a perimeter trip wire that sounds an alarm to warn of intruders, and outside lights that can turn midnight into day along a 400-foot driveway. The house is full of loaded guns, weapons his wife fears might be inadvertently used in a combat flashback.

"She doesn't want the one under the bed, and in every room," the vet said during the session. "But I've got to live with myself. I don't feel secure."

Akers opted to take things one step at a time, focusing on a pistol in a bedroom drawer.

"So, at one point, would you be willing to put the pistol in one drawer, and the ammo in another? You'll still have your safety factor but have to think to react."

"I could do that," the vet responded. "But it will be really hard for me. When they break in that door, they're only going to do it once."

Under the new VA policy, the group's weekly meetings will be reduced from twice a month to once a month.

Among the vets, that's the subject of much bitter debate.

"I try not to take it personally," said the veteran with the loaded gun. "There is an intimacy here that is incredible. I want to save it. And the fear, you know, is that it's not going to last."

#### THE 2005 NEVADA CENTENNIAL RANCH AND FARM AWARD

#### HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, forever memorialized on our state seal, ranching and farming are two of Nevada's traditions. The most storied of Nevada's ranches and farms, some dating back to the mid 1800's, are being honored this month with the 2005 Nevada Centennial Ranch & Farm Award. From Minden to McDermitt, these families represent the best in Nevada agriculture.

To qualify to receive this prestigious award, a family must have been ranching or farming on the same Nevada property for at least 100 years, and the property must be a working ranch or farm with 160 acres or with gross annual sales of at least \$1,000.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and honor the following recipients who have not only shown a commitment to land, but a commitment to family and our land. Blue Eagle Ranch, Tonopah; Bunker Farm, Inc., Bunkerville; Ferraro Cattle Company, Paradise Valley; Green Springs Ranch, Duckwater; Heise Family Ranch, Gardnerville; Krenka Ranch, Ruby Valley; Laura Springs Ranch, Gardnerville; Riordan Ranch, Jiggs; Snyder Livestock Company, Inc., Yerington; Stodieck Farm, Minden; Wilkinson Little Meadow Ranch, McDermitt.

The success, sustainability, and longevity of these ranches and farms stand as an example, to those in agriculture and beyond, of what commitment, determination, and hard work can accomplish.

LET YOUR DEEDS MATCH YOUR  
APOLOGIES

**HON. MAJOR R. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, In politics apologies are always important. We need more apologies and less fiction among nations and groups. We need apologies that help to avoid wars. Apologies can never be adequate substitutions for restitution or reparations; however, apologies offer their own alternative satisfaction. The present German nation has apologized for the Nazi German Holocaust. But the Koreans and Chinese are not happy with the rather muddled apologies of the Japanese for the atrocities of World War II. And, of course, no one has ever apologized for the Atlantic Slave Trade and two hundred and fifty years of slavery in America. Despite the fact that there is still a huge apology gap in our civilization, we must applaud small apologies wherever they occur. We applaud Republican National Committee Chairman Mehlman for his recent statement to the NAACP apologizing for the "Republican Southern Strategy". This speech was given still more credibility when House Judiciary Committee Chairman Sensenbrenner, at that same NAACP Conference, pledged to lead the fight for the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act. Mehlman's apology appears to perhaps be a sparkplug for the launching of a new Republican offensive to capture more Black votes. A suffering Black community challenges the Party of Lincoln to show us some concrete policy and program deeds to match the apologies. Listen to the plea of the following RAP poem:

APOLOGIES ARE REAL COOL

To apologize  
Is real cool  
But don't play  
The Black agenda  
For no eager fool.  
Don't rush to play,  
Delay thumping your chest,  
Push your words  
Into the action test:  
Jobs right now we need,

Hungry mouths we have to feed,  
Lots of ills But can't buy pills.  
Prison terms often repeat  
Homeless shelters  
Are never neat.  
Tax cuts we can't eat,  
Iraq war dollars wasted  
Spell school repair defeat.  
Right now!  
Take the action test.  
Show us the Bush best.  
For any apology  
We grant a pat  
On the Republican back;  
From Democrats  
The slavery apology  
We desperately lack.  
To apologize  
Is real cool  
But don't play  
The Black agenda  
For no eager fool.

USA PATRIOT AND TERRORISM  
PREVENTION REAUTHORIZATION  
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 21, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, (H.R. 3199) to extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism, and for other purposes:

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Chairman, I certainly believe that the United States needs to be vigilant in protecting our nation and combating terror; however, we must be careful that we do not unnecessarily sacrifice our civil liberties in pursuit of our enemies.

While many of the provisions were needed, both then and now, when Congress passed the original PATRIOT Act in October 2001, we rightfully placed sunset clauses on certain provisions that infringed on our civil liberties and granted extraordinary powers to federal authorities. These sunset clauses were incorporated in order to provide us with the opportunity to reexamine and reevaluate whether the need for such invasive powers continues to outweigh their sometimes overly intrusive nature.

Rather than providing Congress with the opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of a measure and correct any abuses, the PATRIOT Act Reauthorization would renew two of the original sunset provisions for a period of ten years and make the rest of the temporary provisions permanent. This would effectively remove all Congressional oversight over the PATRIOT Act. As a result, Americans would forever forfeit some of their most cherished privacy rights and precious civil liberties.

One of these provisions gives federal investigators authority to examine and access individual records at libraries and bookstores. Under this measure, federal authorities do not have to demonstrate probable cause of criminal activity or of an individual's connection to a foreign power. In addition, libraries and bookstores are prohibited from informing patrons that the government is monitoring their reading transactions. While there is broad bipartisan opposition to this provision, the Republican leadership, in a gross abuse of the democratic process, failed to allow even a

vote on an amendment that would repeal this egregious provision.

Measures like this are not going to help us prevail in the war against terrorism. Instead, we should be providing our law enforcement agencies with sufficient risk-based funding, so that they can be adequately equipped to protect our homeland. Yet, the Bush administration continues to cut funding for state and local law enforcement, the men and women in our communities who serve on the front lines of domestic security.

I too am committed to keeping our nation safe while we are fighting the war on terror. But at the same time, it is just as imperative that we protect our constitutionally guaranteed civil rights. A free society is what makes our nation great, and now, more than ever, it is crucial that we protect our civil liberties with unshakable resolve.

HEALTH CARE WEEK

**HON. TAMMY BALDWIN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my disappointment in the bills that the House of Representatives is considering during this so-called "Health Care Week."

While I applaud House leaders for turning their attention to the health care crisis, I do not believe that the bills we are considering will solve the problem we face, and I fear that some of these measures may actually worsen the crisis. I look forward to the day when we will consider real solutions to ensure that all Americans have access to quality, comprehensive, affordable health care.

According to the latest figures released by the Census Bureau, 45 million Americans are uninsured. Millions more are underinsured. Just last month, the Commonwealth Fund released a study estimating that there are 16 million Americans who are underinsured—meaning their insurance would not adequately protect them in the event of catastrophic health care expenses. That means that 61 million Americans either have no health insurance or have insurance coverage that leaves them exposed to high health care costs. Sixty-one million is nearly 21 percent of all Americans, or one in five. Put simply, this is unacceptable.

Unfortunately, the health care legislation that the House will consider this week fails to address our nation's health care crisis. These bills will not do anything to provide quality, comprehensive, and affordable health care to these 61 million Americans or to the millions more who constantly worry about losing their health care.

As in years past, I remain opposed to proposals to create "association health plans" or AHPs. AHPs purport to offer affordable health care to small business owners and employees, but this is accomplished by exempting insurers from state insurance and consumer protection laws including benefit mandates, solvency standards, and pricing rules. This evasion of state laws could be devastating to the consumer who thinks that they have comprehensive coverage only to discover, after the fact, that their policy offers a bare bones minimum of benefits.

In addition, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that AHPs will cause 10,000 people

to lose their health care coverage. Because AHPs are exempted from state insurance laws, AHPs can “cherry pick” the healthiest employees and deny coverage to those who are more costly to cover. This would drive up insurance premiums for everyone who remains in state-regulated insurance plans, making health insurance less affordable and forcing people to drop their insurance because of rising costs. I recognize the frustration and struggles faced by the self-employed and small business owners trying to provide health care to their employees, but AHPs are not the answer to the uninsurance crisis, if they will result in more people becoming uninsured.

Similarly, the House will consider a medical malpractice bill that will fail to lower health care costs for Americans. Proponents of this bill claim that rising costs of medical malpractice insurance and “excessive litigation” are driving up health care costs so much that caps must be instituted, placed on the amount of money a victim of malpractice can receive for a lifetime of pain and suffering or other non-economic damage.

Unfortunately, these caps will have little effect except to limit patient rights to sue for medical injury. Numerous studies have shown that medical malpractice awards, legal fees, and other costs account for less than one percent of the nation’s health care spending. This bill represents nothing more than a false promise.

Soaring malpractice insurance rates need to be addressed with two principles in mind. First, do no harm to the victims of medical errors. Second, start addressing insurance abuses by focusing on the malpractice insurance industry, not the victims of medical malpractice. Narrow federal caps on non-economic damages are not the way to address the problems with malpractice insurance.

Health care costs are rising for many reasons. Given the relatively small role that medical malpractice verdicts and settlements play in rising health care costs, this bill is really more of a distraction that is keeping us from making headway on the real culprits. Congress should leave regulation of insurance and tort law to the states. Congress should not spend its time demonizing victims and their advocates.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of underlying issues that come up when considering America’s health care crisis: uninsurance, underinsurance, affordability, and quality, just to name a few. All Americans deserve quality, comprehensive, and affordable health care, and I look forward to the day when we will consider legislation that truly responds to these challenges.

**EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS  
WITH RESPECT TO COMMEMORATION  
OF WOMEN SUFFRAGISTS**

SPEECH OF  
**HON. DEBORAH PRYCE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 25, 2005*

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate women suffragists. As one of the eighty-three women serving in the House and Senate, the Women’s Rights Movement was, and continues to be, in my opinion, one of the most inspirational series of events to occur in United States history.

The battle for suffrage, fought by the early women’s rights leaders was thought to be the most effective way to change an unjust system. Constant barriers were thrown ahead of them, and degrading stereotypes were placed upon them.

Challengers of women’s suffrage claim that women were less intelligent and less able to make political decisions than men. The women of the suffrage movement dismissed these accusations with the ratification of the 19th Amendment, giving women the right to vote. Now, women utilize this freedom more so than men. Among citizens, women’s voting rates have surpassed men’s ever since the 1984 presidential election. 54 percent of the 2004 presidential election votes belonged to women and 46 percent of the votes to men.

Women like Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Caddy, Sojourner Truth, and Susan B. Anthony were the pioneers of the suffrage movement. They took risks and broke laws in order to pave the way for the new generation of suffrage leaders like Carrie Chapman Catt, Maud Wood Park, Lucy Burns, Alice Paul, and Harriot E. Blatch. All of these women devoted their lives to this cause. That is why it is so important that we devote a day to honor these women.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

**INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO EXEMPT HAWAII FROM THE ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME LIMITATION ON PARTICIPATION IN CONSERVATION PROGRAMS**

**HON. ED CASE**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill that exempts my State of Hawaii from the adjusted gross income limitation on participation in Farm Bill conservation programs. These programs assist and incentivize producers and landowners to preserve and conserve the dwindling agricultural lands of our country.

These invaluable programs include the following:

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), which provides annual rental payments to replace crops on highly erodible and environmentally sensitive lands with long-term plantings that protect the soil. Hawaii is attempting to access this program, the largest of all the conservation programs, by developing a Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, which is awaiting approval by the USDA.

Conservation Security Program (CSP), which provides financial and technical assistance for improvements in conserving environmental resources on farmland that meets certain soil and water quality criteria standards.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), which provides cost share payments to producers and landowners to plan and install structural, vegetative, and land management practices on eligible lands to alleviate conservation problems, with 60 percent of funds allocated to livestock producers.

Farmland and Ranchland Protection Program (FRPP), which assists state and local governments to acquire easements to limit conversion of agricultural lands to non-agricultural uses.

Grassland Reserve Program (GRP), which retires acres from grazing under arrangements ranging from 10-year agreements to permanent easements and permits the delegation of easements to certain private organizations and state agencies.

Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), which uses permanent and temporary easements and long-term agreements to protect farmed wetlands.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), which provides cost sharing and technical assistance for conservation practices that primarily benefit wildlife.

These programs have become increasingly important in Hawaii, where funding has risen from around \$4.9 million in 2003 to \$14.2 million in 2005. Unfortunately, especially in the case of the Conservation Reserve Program, Hawaii’s ability to access these programs has been severely limited by the application of the adjusted gross income limitation (AGI) placed on the programs by the 2002 Farm Bill to Hawaii’s unique conditions. As a result, many of the lands that would deliver the highest environmental benefits are excluded because of this provision.

In Hawaii’s case, there are compelling reasons why an exemption from the AGI limitation is not only fair but necessary for these programs to achieve their desired goals. By way of background, during the writing of the 2002 Farm Bill some groups called attention to the fact that some very wealthy individuals were receiving payments under Farm Bill conservation programs. As a result, a limitation was put in place making individuals and corporations with annual incomes of \$2.5 million or more ineligible for participation in Farm Bill conservation programs unless 75 percent of that income comes from farming, ranching, or forestry.

This adjusted gross income (AGI) provision seriously disadvantages Hawaii because the major portion of our agricultural lands are owned by families or corporations with diversified holdings. In many cases, these entities have remained engaged in ranching or farming, despite low profit margins, due to a connection to long traditions in ranching, farming, or other activities.

Large agricultural landholdings in Hawaii typically date back more than 100 years and follow the traditional Hawaiian land division of ahupua’a, where land parcels extend from the mountain to the sea, based on the ancient Hawaiian recognition of the interconnectedness of these environments. As a result, we have properties where the upper lands might be used for ranching, the middle lands for crops or residential development, and the lower, oceanside lands for hotels and business developments. Therefore, we have ranches where income from ranching is supplemented by a shopping center and restaurant. A portion of the ranch land may, and in many cases in Hawaii does, harbor endangered plant and animal species. Taking these marginal lands out of cattle production and assisting with reforestation of native species can have a tremendous impact on the prospects of survival for Hawaii’s endangered species. But regrettably, the AGI provision has meant that federal funds to assist in these efforts cannot be used to provide what could be enormous environmental benefits. Thus, as a result of our particular history, we in Hawaii are denied access

to a very valuable tool to encourage conservation on many of these marginal agricultural lands.

In addition, as one of the most isolated land masses in the world, Hawaii has a wealth of unique animal and plant species; regrettably we are also the endangered species capital of the United States. Our 255 listed plant species represent approximately one-fourth of the total number of endangered species in the United States. They also comprise more than one-fifth of the entire Hawaiian flora. An Hawaii's endemic birds make up one-third of the list of endangered bird species. Our unique and beautiful endangered birds would benefit greatly from restoration and protection of native forests using funding from the Farm Bill programs. These programs would also help to control runoff into streams and coral reefs providing habitat for more unique endemic species.

Finally, Hawaii should receive special consideration out of simple fairness. Hawaii, especially my Second district, is a rural agricultural state. Despite this, in part because of the AGI limitation, Hawaii comes in dead last of all the states in terms of federal assistance received as a percentage of agricultural production. In fact, we receive less than 1 cent per dollar of production value compared with 17 cents for North Dakota and an average of 6 cents nationwide.

As a prime example, Hawaii has only ever had 21 acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, which covers some 39.2 million acres nationwide. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) was enacted in 1985 and has grown to become the biggest USDA conservation program, costing just under \$2 billion annually in recent years. Under this program, producers bid to retire highly erodible or environmentally sensitive land from production during national signup periods. The Farm Service Agency ranks bids based on their estimated environmental benefits and cost to the government. (I have no doubt that Hawaii would deliver very high environmental benefits, especially when one considers the impact on coral reefs and endangered species.) Successful bidders receive annual rental payments, as well as cost sharing and technical assistance, to install conservation practices. Almost all the enrolled land is retired for 10 years. Enrollment is limited to 25 percent of the crop land in a county.

In July 2004, Hawaii's Governor Lingle submitted the "Hawaii Conservation Reserve Enhancement and Coordinated Conservation Plan." The proposal is currently under review by the Farm Service Agency.

If approved, the plan will restore 30,000 acres of native forest—10,000 acres in riparian buffers along streams and 20,000 acres in large blocks in groundwater recharge and sediment source areas. The plan covers the islands of Maui, Hawaii, Molokai, Lanai, Kauai, and Oahu. The principal goals of the project are to improve water quality in streams, reduce flow of polluted runoff to near shore waters and coral reefs, and restore terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat.

Unfortunately, the proposal has been stalled because of concerns that not enough suitable land will be eligible under AGI limitations.

Hawaii's agriculture has many unique characteristics due to our isolated location, land use patterns dating from the days of the Kingdom of Hawaii, tropical climate, and year-

round growing season. Few USDA programs address our special needs, and we do not benefit from any of the general commodities programs. Hawaii has traditionally received relatively little assistance from the Farm Bill conservation programs, although they seek to address problems that are central to our islands: protecting water quality, preserving endangered species, and controlling invasive pests.

An AGI exemption for Hawaii would remove a barrier that effectively eliminates roughly 80 percent of Hawaii's agricultural land from participation in conservation programs. I ask my colleagues for their support for this exemption to help to protect Hawaii's special environment and vulnerable endangered wildlife both on the land and in our nearshore waters and to provide Hawaii with equal and full access to the great benefits of these programs.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
PARISH OF ST. LOUIS THE KING

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker today to honor the parish of St. Louis the King Roman Catholic Church for 50 years of serving the communities of Marquette, Harvey, Lakewood, Hiawatha Shores, Sand River, Beaver Grove, Mangum, West Branch, Skandia, Dukes and Sands. The parish has provided opportunities for thousands of people to seek faith, conduct outreach, and engage in fellowship and worship.

On June 30, 1954, Most Reverend Thomas L. Noa D.D. announced the formation of the new parish, St. Louis the King. That day, Rev. David Harris was appointed Administrator. Less than a month later on July 18th Father Harris said his first mass in Chocoley Township Hall beginning one of many "firsts" to take place for the young congregation.

That first year, St. Louis the King would rejoice in their first baptism of Eileen Marie Williams, daughter of Albert Williams and Frances Casimir; mourn their first death of Larry Wayne Lajeunesse, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Lajeunesse; witness their first marriage of Leonard Lemieux, son of Wilfred Lemieux and Lorette Gauthier, and Marion Tounsignant, daughter of Alfred and Lucelle Santamore; and celebrate their first Holy Communion of thirteen boys and seven girls.

After a year of memorable firsts, the parish would also celebrate the ground breaking for the new church on July 20th, 1955 on land obtained from Fred Greenleaf, a member of the parish. While the congregation patiently waited for the completion of the new church, St. Louis the King would continue to evolve confirming their first class of fourteen boys, twelve girls and nine adults by Bishop Thomas Noa on November 5th, 1956.

The fruits of their labor and reward of their patience was realized on December 25th, 1959 when members of St. Louis the King heard their first mass in the new church. Solemn High Mass of the Nativity was delivered with a sermon given by Rev. Mr. Allen Mayotte of the parish. He would be ordained six months later becoming the first parish son ordained to the priesthood from the St. Louis the King Parish.

Many improvements have been made to the church through the years, but the most important development has been the learning experience parish members have gained from the past 50 years of growing together. As people who started as individuals and families bound together by their faith, they have now created a larger body of Christ united in their Catholic faith. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the St. Louis the King Roman Catholic Church on their first 50 years as a parish and in wishing them success in the future as they continue to grow, love, and live their faith.

THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the significance of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Next week will mark the fortieth anniversary of the passage of that historic act of Congress and there will be commemorations and remembrances of this anniversary throughout the nation, including a march in Atlanta being led by our colleague, the Honorable John Lewis—a civil rights legacy in his own right. While August 6th will signify prominent strides that this country has made in terms of equal rights, the 40th anniversary of the Act's passage will also highlight considerable room for improvement and work to truly guarantee that right to vote to all Americans.

The Act is a reminder of the oppression suffered by the Black community between Reconstruction and the Civil Rights Movement that Blacks could be utterly denied the most basic constitutional right to vote without any recourse to assert and obtain that from any of the branches of the United States government, including the Judiciary. The right to vote is fundamental to political empowerment under our Constitution and democratic form of government. Its denial effectively deprived citizenship to African-Americans in the Jim Crow era.

Despite the promises of the Fifteenth Amendment, most Black Americans were routinely denied the right to cast ballots in federal and state elections, particularly in the South. This denial was a function of both the state government and of local individuals determined to maintain their hold on political power in this country. It was another element of the fear and torture that existed throughout this country to intimidate and discourage Blacks from pursuing their most basic rights in this country.

Individuals were denied the opportunity through official and unofficial channels to cast their ballots. Literacy tests, poll taxes, grandfather clauses, and gerrymandering were but a few of the mechanisms used by the state to prevent Black Americans from voting and electing leaders to represent their interests while lynchings, threats and intimidations, and Ku Klux Klan marches asserted the will of bigots to oppose the equal treatment of all Americans.

Faced with these startling realizations and a mobilized Black community, President Lyndon Johnson advocated for the Voting Rights Act

of 1965. Despite the perceived political disadvantages for himself and his party, Johnson's efforts were important to securing the rights of Black Americans throughout the country. His efforts opened the doors of electoral influence and power for Black Americans in this country.

Thanks to the efforts of the Voting Rights Act, poll taxes that charged certain Americans for their right to vote were eliminated. Literacy tests which were selectively applied to Blacks were banned. Individuals who stood in polling sites intimidating minorities from voting were committing federal crimes. Federal agents were deployed to protect and guarantee the rights of these Americans to vote.

Today, we can enjoy the fact that African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, and other minorities are guaranteed the right to vote in every state and federal election, that the legislative bodies of this country are more representative of the diversity of the nation than of the rich and powerful, and that the power of the people to elect their leaders is guaranteed in both the 15th Amendment and the Voting Rights Act.

Nevertheless, Mr. Speaker, the right to vote—the most important obligation of our citizens—is not universal to our citizens. There remain a number of barriers to full voting rights of this country and this Congress should look into addressing those challenges when we renew the Voting Rights Act next year. Some of these barriers are intentional; others less so. Regardless, the right to vote should be undeniable to a democracy's citizens. It should be undeniable to the citizens of the United States.

As we approach the 40th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, an ever-increasing number of Americans are being permanently denied their right to vote in federal elections for their past criminal behavior. Based on Justice Department figures from 2000, an estimated 1.6 million ex-offenders in 14 states are denied the right to vote after paying their debt to society. These ex-offenders are continually denied their right to cast votes for these past actions. We should allow these individuals who have fulfilled their sentences to vote in federal elections.

Purging of voting records, targeting and intimidation in minority voting sites, the absence of reliable voting machines, circulation of false and misleading information, and long lines in polling sites have all been recent examples of the challenges to creating a fair and justice electoral system. There is clearly more work that needs to be done and I look forward to working with my colleagues in securing legislation that will tackle this challenge.

For today, we can look back on the hopes and promises of a more open society and see the fruits of our labor: A citizenry that participates at all levels, a Congress that reflects and represents the country's diversity, and a country that is opening doors and opportunities for the voices of all Americans. Tomorrow, we should take up the challenges of opening this society even more to the inclusion of all our citizens.

A TRIBUTE TO ST. RITA OF CASCIA HIGH SCHOOL HONORING OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

### HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a fine educational institution in my district, St. Rita of Cascia High School, as the community, families and friends of the high school gather to celebrate its 100th Anniversary.

Founded in 1905 by the Very Reverend James F. Green, O.S.A. on the south side of Chicago, St. Rita's High School was founded in the spirit of St. Augustine and of the Catholic Tradition. The mission of this institution was to form the whole student—spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, physically, and socially—to excel beyond the classroom and in their life experiences.

With the rapid growth of its student body population, St. Rita's quickly became recognized as one of Chicago's outstanding secondary schools. St. Rita's commitment to providing a well-rounded education, based on ancient knowledge which still holds true today, has created an environment in which the students experience fulfillment and exemplify the qualities of truth, honesty, integrity, moderation, responsibility, self-discipline, self-worth and a desire to serve society.

It is my honor to recognize the community of St. Rita of Cascia High School for its many achievements both academic and athletic, and for fostering the growth of those individuals who will help create change and promote progress in today's society.

### CONGRATULATING THE LAKE HOPATCONG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

#### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today to honor the Lake Hopatcong Historical Society, in my Congressional District. The Historical Society is celebrating fifty years of protecting documents and artifacts for the community and promoting education and historic preservation.

The actual creation of the Lake Hopatcong Historical Society occurred on August 10, 1955, at the Langdon Arms Restaurant with eight people in attendance. From the beginning, the members' goal was to establish a museum for the lake.

From the original eight individuals who attended the first meeting in 1955, the society grew to 150 members by the time the museum opened in 1965. In the early 1960s the State of New Jersey moved forward with plans for a new administration building at Hopatcong State Park. The park was on land which was previously owned by the Morris Canal and Banking Company. When the canal was abandoned in the 1920s, the 98 acres around the Lake Hopatcong dam were set aside as a state park.

Today, with nearly 800 members, the organization continues to follow its mission "to col-

lect, house, and preserve artifacts and documents relating to the civil, political, social and general history of Lake Hopatcong and to encourage the education and dissemination of information about Lake Hopatcong's history."

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Lake Hopatcong Historical Society, its trustees and all of its outstanding members and volunteers, upon celebrating its 50th Anniversary.

### INTRODUCTION OF THE HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION ACT

#### HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a crucial and long-overdue measure to address directly what is far and away the most serious threat to my Hawaii's unique and treasured environment: The escalating introduction and establishment of invasive species.

Non-endemic species have done great damage to Hawaii's exposed and non-resistant plants and animals for a long time now. But the sheer rate at which it is now accelerating presents a true crisis, threatening now to completely overwhelm and permanently preclude our ability to provide any modicum of protection, and demanding that we go in a whole different direction of affirmative prevention.

Hawaii is the most remote populated land mass on our planet. Our islands' native species thus evolved in isolation, which led to the generation of species entirely unique to particular islands and found nowhere else in the world. In fact, such species are still being discovered in Hawaii. For example, the current issue of the journal Science reports on a unique web-spinning caterpillar recently discovered in Hawaii that stalks and eats snails.

But more than 5,000 species of non-native plants and animals have become established in the Hawaiian islands in the past 200 years, a rate of successful colonization of a new species every 18 days. This is in astonishing contrast to the estimated rate of introduction to Hawaii through natural evolution of one species every 25,000 to 50,000 years.

Not all of these new species become pests, but too many do and the consequences are devastating given Hawaii's globally unique and fragile natural environment. As a result, non-native invasive species and diseases represent the single greatest threat to Hawaii's endangered species and the health and viability of our natural systems. Because of the islands' geographic isolation, many species do not have natural predators, and so defense mechanisms like thorns, odors, or toxins have disappeared through the process of evolution. If an aggressive non-native species becomes established in Hawaii, it can easily overwhelm native species and be very difficult to eradicate because of our hospitable climate and lack of natural competitors.

Thus, Hawaii is most regrettably the undisputed endangered species capital of the United States, if not the world. Our 255 listed plant species represent approximately one-fourth of the total number of endangered species in the United States. They also comprise

more than one-fifth of the entire Hawaiian flora. And Hawaii's beautiful endemic birds make up one-third of the list of U.S. endangered bird species. Many of these birds only exist on one island. What's more shocking is that this disproportionate situation exists in a state with a land area that represents less than two-tenths of one percent of the entire Nation's land mass.

Just 10 years ago, in 1994, the Federal Office of Technology Assessment declared Hawaii's alien pest species problem as the worst in the Nation. Since then, however, the problem of alien pests—from the Formosan termite to the Oriental fruit fly to marine species brought in with bilge water—has worsened considerably, not only costing Hawaii government and business millions of dollars each year in both prevention and remediation, but assuring that many of the world's most unique and endangered lifeforms will not survive. At this point, the introduction and establishment of even one new pest, such as the brown tree snake, which has eliminated the native birdlife of Guam, would change the character of Hawaii forever.

This is obviously a grim picture, but nothing like the future picture if we don't wake up and change our entire approach. For the escalation of travel, commerce and defense activity across the Asia-Pacific region, combined with Hawaii's position as the crossroads of the Pacific and the gateway between Asia and the Pacific and the United States, makes it critical, from not only an environment/conservation perspective but one of economic and human health, that new pests be stopped before they come to Hawaii. Thus, Hawaii must be far better protected from pests and diseases moving west to east, but also those that have become established on the U.S. mainland, such as the red imported fire ant and the West Nile virus.

Our tropical climate and lack of a cold season mean that introduction of a disease such as West Nile virus would be especially severe, with devastating effects not only on our endangered birds but on our visitor industry, which is essential to our economy. The entry of biting sand flies, for instance, would greatly damage Hawaii's appeal as a visitor destination and forever alter our quality of life. The introduction into Hawaii of Africanized honeybees would not only represent a human health hazard, but would endanger Hawaii's pure, undiseased (though non-native) bees. (Hawaii's honeybees are also free of Varroa mites, which are common throughout the U.S. and much of the world.)

The current poster child for invasive species in Hawaii is an animal that hitchhiked from Puerto Rico in uninspected tropical plants. The coqui frog now threatens the viability of Hawaii's vital nursery export industry as well as threatened and endangered species in our native ecosystems. Its extremely loud mating call (90 decibels, equivalent to a lawnmower) is now seriously impacting our tourist industry and depressing land values in some areas. And the list goes on.

It's not as if we can't all see the problem, and we have had some nominal measures in place for decades aimed at controlling the introduction of unwanted alien species (at least under some entry conditions). Obviously, however, what amounts largely to an honor system, combined with inadequate resources devoted to inspection and enforcement, is not sufficient to do what must be done.

We have two things going for us. First, our location in the middle of the ocean, provides us with far better control over movement of invasives across our borders than, say, a landlocked midwest state. Second, we have a solution, which has proven effective, staring us in the face.

For more than 40 years, a Federal quarantine has been imposed in Hawaii on the movement of all passengers and cargo from Hawaii to the U.S. mainland to protect the U.S. mainland from identified insect pests in Hawaii, such as the Mediterranean fruit fly. Ironically, these pests are themselves invasive to Hawaii, causing millions in agricultural losses and added treatment costs for our export crops. Under this system, passenger baggage and cargo is physically inspected by USDA inspectors using advanced inspection equipment; most passengers don't give the process a second thought.

A similar, more comprehensive, system is already in place for a whole country—New Zealand—which as a remote island nation with disproportionately high and exposed endemic species bears striking similarities to Hawaii. New Zealand "white lists" designate permissible import species, say no to everything else, and then inspect on arrival for enforcement.

But ironically Hawaii, which has a much more acute overall problem than either the U.S. mainland or New Zealand, has found it very difficult to fashion and implement a similar prevention regime. Part of the problem has been general denial and naysaying. But a more tangible obstacle has been federal laws that arguably preempt State of Hawaii efforts to control the movement of goods. These arise under the Commerce Clause, which requires a state to consider the burdens its regulations may impose on interstate commerce, and the Supremacy Clause, which may preempt state regulation in an area where Congress has already legislated.

My bill—the Hawaii Invasive Species Prevention Act—may be condensed into this simple statement: what is good for the U.S. mainland should be good for Hawaii. The bill basically establishes certain federal findings and authority under which Hawaii may institute an incoming quarantine and inspection regime comparable to that existing for the movement of people and cargo from Hawaii to the mainland.

Specifically, the bill starts by expressing the clear sense of Congress that there exists a pressing need for improved and better coordinated control, interdiction, and eradication of invasive species and diseases to prevent their introduction into Hawaii. The bill states that it is the policy of the United States to fund and support coordinated and concerted programs and activities to control, interdict, and prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species into Hawaii, and that no federal agency may authorize, fund, or carry out actions that would cause or promote the introduction or spread of invasive species and disease into Hawaii.

The bill goes on to direct the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to impose a quarantine on the State of Hawaii in order to prevent the introduction of invasive species and diseases in Hawaii. The Secretaries are directed to establish a system of post-arrival protocols for all persons, baggage, cargo, containers, packing materials, and other items traveling or being

shipped to Hawaii from domestic or foreign locations. The Secretaries are further directed to establish an expedited process for the State of Hawaii to seek approval to impose general or specific prohibitions on the introduction or movement of invasive species or diseases that are in addition to any prohibitions or restrictions imposed by the Secretaries, which may encompass a white list approach. And in cases of imminent threat, the State of Hawaii is authorized to impose, for not longer than 2 years pending approval by the Secretaries, general or specific prohibitions or restrictions upon the introduction or movement of a specific invasive species or disease.

Actual implementation of the Federal quarantine would be subject to funds being specifically appropriated, or designation of a means to finance the system (for example, a means of financing similar to that now utilized by the USDA for its outgoing quarantine). However, the design of the system and the expedited process under which the State of Hawaii can seek approval for additional protections would not be subject to appropriations. Finally, the bill authorizes Federal quarantine, natural resource, conservation, and law enforcement officers and inspectors to enforce Hawaii state and local laws regarding the importation, possession, or introduction of invasive species or diseases.

Mr. Speaker, I end my remarks where I started: this bill is not only light years overdue, but crucial, if not indispensable, to the preservation and enhancement of my Hawaii as we know it. I ask for my colleagues' expedited support.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY  
OF CHARLEVOIX

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a community in my district that is celebrating its 100th anniversary as a city. On June 1, 2005, the residents of Charlevoix, Michigan, honored their history that began as an early settlement for Native American Tribes, and grew into an essential regional shipping port and remains a major center for tourism in northern Michigan.

Michigan State University archeological digs have uncovered evidence that indicated Michigan's early Native American Tribes established seasonal settlements in the Charlevoix area dating back to 1500 B.C. The area, then known as Pine River, also became a seasonal home to Beaver Island fishermen during the mid-19th century. This development would begin the long-time fishing trade that would later position Charlevoix as the largest exporter of fish of any port on the Great Lakes during the early 1900's.

It was a Mormon family that left Beaver Island in 1854 for more tranquil life that planted the seeds of the city. After starting a farmstead nearby what is now the downtown, many families followed suit by establishing their own farms, fishing businesses and lumbering mills. With the bountiful natural resources, the new community quickly grew.

Upon the channel opening in 1869 that created a connection between Round Lake to

Charlevoix Lake allowing navigation to Charlevoix from Lake Michigan. This new access "opened up the entire northwest corner of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan to national and subsequently international commerce," according to local historians. The Federal Government was charged with the maintenance of the channel due to the increasing economic importance Charlevoix was having on the area as a principal shipping port in the area.

As years went on, travelers to Pine River began referring to this area as the "town in Charlevoix County" and then simply as Charlevoix. In 1879, the village was chartered under the county name of Charlevoix.

With a long standing maritime history that included canoes, yachts, passenger liners, lake freighters, pleasure crafts and a U.S. Coast Guard Cutter, Charlevoix has been considered one of the finest harbors on the Great Lakes. During the late 1800's, the harbor's easy access, beautiful scenery and reputation for a healthy atmosphere made Charlevoix an attraction for tourists and resorters from around the country. The establishment of a railroad in 1892 and three of the finest resorts in America made Charlevoix a national vacation destination drawing tens of thousands of guests each summer.

As the influx of out-of-towners grew each year, the numbers those who stayed in Charlevoix increased. The village of Charlevoix was charted as an official city by the State of Michigan in 1905 but maintained its quaint small town feel and the appeal of a major harbor resort area.

Mr. Speaker, due to the influence of Native American settlements, trades that were based on the bountiful natural resources and the beauty of the region, the history of Charlevoix is unique. Charlevoix, known to its residents as "Charlevoix, The Beautiful" was able to capitalize on its unique attributes which have drawn visitors from every State in the Union and countries from around the world to its little corner of Michigan. I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Charlevoix and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION INTERNS

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in acknowledgment and appreciation of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation interns as they complete their internships with the 43 members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

This summer, the members of the Congressional Black Caucus have enjoyed the benefit of working with college students from all over the country through the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Congressional Internship Program. The program has provided the interns with housing and stipends to allow them to work in our offices and gain knowledge and experience in the legislative process, affording them an opportunity that they might not otherwise have been able to take advantage of.

In a society where African-American youth are usually characterized by negative stereotypes, it is refreshing to see such promising individuals. These young people have shattered negative stereotypes by accepting the challenge to become America's future leaders. The 43 CBCF interns have done more than just answer phones and sort mail, they have become active participants in the legislative process. They have worked on substantive issues and evidenced the potential to become proficient in public policy research, analysis and advocacy. Their presence has definitely been felt throughout the nine short weeks they have been on the Hill. From organizing receptions to starting petitions for the Darfur crisis, they have made an impact in our offices and on Capitol Hill.

The CBCF internship program and the interns it has produced are very special to me. My wife, Alma, was one of the first co-chairs of the Congressional Black Caucus Spouses and was instrumental in creating the foundation's internship program. Since then, the internship program has flourished and we have gone on to providing wider support for young African-American students, offering fellowships and conducting summer enrichment programs.

I would like to take this opportunity to formally recognize the CBCF interns and thank them for the valuable work they have done this summer. In particular, I want to recognize and praise Jackeline Stewart for the contributions she made to my office this summer during her CBCF internship; she was a terrific addition to my staff. I would also like to thank the program coordinators Troy Clair, Erin Miles and Jason Goodson of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation staff for all of their hard work in the planning and implementation of this summer's CBCF internship program.

I would like to submit to the RECORD the 2005 Congressional Black Caucus Foundation intern roster:

Byron Adams, Representative DAVID SCOTT (GA), Pomona College.

Kara Akins, Representative ROBERT SCOTT (VA), Howard University.

Elizabeth Bakanic, Representative G.K. BUTTERFIELD (NC), University of South Carolina—Columbia.

John Lewis Baker III, Representative BENNIE G. THOMPSON (MS), Tougaloo College.

Joseph Bastian, Representative CORRINE BROWN (FL), Florida A&M University.

Michele Bradley, Representative DIANE WATSON (CA), Spelman College.

Wesley Brunson, Representative KENDRICK MEEK (FL), University of Florida.

Robert Cary, Representative STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES (OH), Columbia University.

La Mont Chappell, Representative JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD (CA), University of New Mexico.

Sharonda Childs, Representative ARTUR DAVIS (AL), Columbia University.

Christopher Cody, Representative HAROLD FORD, JR. (TN), Boston College.

Christopher Coes, Representative SANFORD BISHOP (GA), St. John's University.

Lesley Coleman, Representative BOBBY RUSH (IL), Georgetown University.

Nicholas Colvin, Representative CAROLYN KILPATRICK (MI), University of Michigan.

Lawrence Crockett, Representative ALBERT WYNN (MD), University of Pittsburgh.

Sophia Davis, Representative JULIA CARSON (IN), Miami University.

Kory Davis, Del. DONNA CHRISTENSEN (VI), Johnson C. Smith University.

Phallan Davis, Representative SHEILA JACKSON-LEE (TX), Baylor University.

Jeffrey Delaney, Representative DONALD PAYNE (NJ), Williams College.

Jonathan Fong, Representative AL GREEN (TX), University of Texas-Austin.

Omari French, Representative MAXINE WATERS (CA), University of Miami.

Andre Gray, Representative GREGORY MEEKS (NY), University of Maryland, College Park.

James Guster, Representative CYNTHIA MCKINNEY (GA), Tennessee State University.

Jaira Harrington, Representative DANNY DAVIS (IL), Spelman College.

Nija Leek, Representative CHAKA FATTAH (PA), Bethune-Cookman College.

April Love, Representative EMANUEL CLEAVER (MO), University of Arkansas.

Willie Lyles III, Representative JAMES CLYBURN (SC), Winthrop University.

Whitney Marshall, Representative MELVIN WATT (NC), Wake Forest University.

Ryshelle McCadney, Representative EDOLPHUS TOWNS (NY), Harvard College.

Stephanie McGary, Representative EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON (TX), Dillard University.

My'Ron McGee, Sen. BARACK OBAMA (IL), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Nicholas Paul, Representative MAJOR OWENS (NY), Medgar Evers (CUNY).

MarQuita Petties, Representative BARBARA LEE (CA), UC Berkeley.

Stefanie Rhodes, Representative WILLIAM JEFFERSON (LA), Louisiana State University.

Jennifer Rush, Representative JESSE JACKSON, JR. (IL), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Jackeline Stewart, Representative CHARLES RANGEL (NY), American University.

Rachel Tanner, Representative JOHN CONYERS, JR. (MI), University of Michigan.

Nzingha Thompson-Bahauden, Representative GWEN MOORE (WI), Howard University.

Mimi Tsige, Representative WILLIAM LACY CLAY (MO), St. Charles Community College.

Charisma Williams, Del. ELEANOR HOLMES-NORTON (DC), Temple University.

Isaiah Wilson, Representative JOHN LEWIS (GA), Morehouse College.

Erin Wilson, Representative ALCEE HASTINGS (FL), University of Pennsylvania.

Darryl Yates, Representative ELIJAH CUMMINGS (MD), Morgan State University.

HONORING ROSALIE PLATT, AWARD RECIPIENT "YES I CAN! INTERNATIONAL AWARD PROGRAM"

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a young constituent of Illinois, Miss Rosalie Platt of Chicago. Rosalie was recently selected as one of the winners in the "Yes I Can! International Awards Program."

The Yes I Can! Foundation is a national foundation committed to improving the lives of children and youth with special exceptionalities. Created as a nonprofit organization in June of 1971, the mission of the Yes

I Can! Foundation is to encourage, enhance, and empower children with disabilities, as well as young individuals with special gifts or talents, in the pursuit of their individual goals and dreams.

For the past 31 years, the Foundation's mission has been to design and implement programs that help to improve the quality of life of children with disabilities. Yes I Can!, through the administration of several national programs, has been dedicated to building interdependent communities that value and support these children.

The Foundation recognizes the accomplishments of extraordinary children and youth, widely sharing stories of their successes, and activating a supportive network of strategic partners and activities.

It is my honor to recognize Miss Rosalie Platt for her exceptional contributions to the community and for having great confidence in herself to overcome adversity. In addition, I commend the Yes I Can! Foundation for its commitment to giving those who are challenged the hope and means to overcome those challenges.

CONGRATULATING THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE SOMERVILLE CENTRAL HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Somerville Central Hook & Ladder Company, in the Borough of Somerville, New Jersey, a patriotic community that I am proud to represent! On August 27, 2005, the good citizens of Somerville will celebrate the Hook & Ladder Company's One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Anniversary with special festivities.

For one hundred and twenty-five years, the Somerville Central Hook & Ladder Company has been protecting and serving the residents of their community. In celebration of their anniversary, festivities will include an apparatus judging contest during which invited neighboring fire companies will show off their rigs for a trophy prize. They will also introduce a new truck, the newest addition to their company.

The Hook & Ladder Company was created when, in the summer of 1880, several members of the Somerville Engine Company #1 recognized the need for a hook and ladder truck. They resigned from the Engine Company, and with several other volunteers created the Central Hook & Ladder Company. Funds for the purchase of their three-story brick building were raised by using their team, who refer to themselves as "Hooks," and a dump truck to collect garbage in town at the cost of 25¢ a week per customer. The Division Street Building was built in 1902, to house the hand-drawn "Wonder" fire truck. In 1909, the company upgraded to a horse-drawn Seagrave truck.

Currently the Central Hook & Ladder Company is led by Deputy Chief Todd Starner and has about 50 members of which about a dozen are second generation or more Central Hook & Ladder families.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the volunteers of the Somerville Central Hook & Ladder Company on the celebration of 125 years of a rich history in the protection of one of New Jersey's finest municipalities!

INTRODUCTION OF THE CORAL REEF CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION ACT OF 2005

**HON. ED CASE**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, in introducing an earlier version of this bill into the 108th Congress (2003–2004), I remarked that I was grateful for being able to take an action both long overdue and truly needed. I still feel that way as I reintroduce the Coral Reef Conservation and Protection Act of 2005, except that this proposal is now far longer overdue and far more needed.

As I said last Congress, my childhood was spent among the rich diversity of the coral reef ecosystems of my native Island of Hawaii. It was a time of budding wonder at what nature had wrought, the living corals and other reef life existing in mutual dependency and sustainability. But just weeks ago, when I returned, as I often do, now with my children, to those same reefs, they're not what they were. Still beautiful, yes; still wondrous. But there is not the same diversity of coral nor the same luster; the fish and other marine life not as plentiful nor diverse; the presence of new, alien species is apparent.

Of course, there are simply more of us in those marine environments than there were, and so our cumulative impact over my fifty years in those waters has become apparent, even at the level of recreational and subsistence use. But it's more, for these reefs have become a significant business, their coral exoskeletons, their living creators, and the shells and fish that live in and among them valuable collectors' items for the aquariums and curio shops of the world. And the purposeful and accidental introduction of marine invasives in isolated instances over the last decades have magnified into a critical mass of statewide presence and threat.

In relevant terms, though, we in Hawaii are among the lucky ones, for at least we still have living, albeit threatened, coral reefs, with declining but at least remaining marine life. At least we have marginally protective state laws, and a culture of arguable sustainability.

But in much of the rest of the marine world, especially throughout the temperate zones of the Pacific and beyond, the world of the coral reef is past endangered and into destroyed, wiped out by a wave of commercial overfishing, overcollecting, dynamiting, cyanide poisoning, and other forms of ecological pillage. In these worlds, laws do not exist to provide even minimum protections or, if they do, they are spurned.

Some say that that's their business; what do we care if they wreck their marine ecosystems? First, of course, in today's interdependent world, our global environment is everyone's business. But beyond that, we can't turn our backs because we are the chief facilitator; ours is the largest market for the

products of this stripping of the world's coral reefs.

None of this is new: we've known all of this for decades. We've even set out to do something about it. In 1973, we became a party to the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which sought to clamp down on endangered species trafficking. But although some of our world's coral reef life has been designated as covered under it, the enforcement mechanisms are frankly ineffective.

More recently, in 1998 President Clinton issued the Coral Reef Protection Executive Order (No. 13098) establishing the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force. That entity was directed to strengthen our stewardship and conservation of our country's reef ecosystems, and to assess our role in the international coral reef products trade with the goal of taking actions to promote conservation and sustainable use of coral reefs worldwide.

The Task Force conducted its evaluations, made its reports, and outlined what was needed. That was in large part comprehensive legislation to institute common protective standards for our nation's coral reefs, but, equally important, rules to discourage international coral reef abuse and encourage sustainable practices by allowing imports only of non-endangered products collected by sustainable practices and pursuant to integrated management plans.

The Coral Reef Conservation and Protection Act of 2005 I gratefully reintroduce today embodies the principal directions of the Task Force and more. It establishes a comprehensive scheme for the domestic and international protection of our world's coral reef ecosystems. The regime's key ingredients are the disallow of any domestic taking, transport in interstate commerce, or import of the endangered marine life of our coral reefs, unless that life is collected in non-destructive ways or subject to sustainable management plans or otherwise exempted from coverage by administrative actions.

Mr. Speaker, we have to start somewhere; our world's coral reefs are crying out for our help. This bill is that start, and I urge its prompt deliberation and passage.

Mahalo, and aloha!

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROSE CITY

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a community in my district that is celebrating its 100th anniversary as a city. On September 3rd, 2005 the residents of Rose City, Michigan will partake in their annual end-of-summer ox roast and pay tribute to its citizens and their city's history that consists of the All-American boom town tales as well as those more tragic stories.

The first settlers to the area worked their way from Saginaw Bay along the Rifle River to what would become Ogemaw County in the 1870s. Ogemaw County, named after local Chippewa Chief Ogemaw-Ke-Ke-To, was home to several family names including Beck, Rose, Zettle, Rau and many others still residing in the region. Among those original settlers

was William Rose who founded Rose City, then known as Churchill.

Lumber and agriculture brought droves of people to the area where several lumber mills and a flour mill were amongst the more than 30 businesses in the Rose City downtown district. Son of the Churchill founder William Rose, Allen S. Rose partnered with banker M.H. French to establish the French and Rose Land and Lumber Company. According to the local newspaper, in 1893 Rose was instrumental in bringing the first commercial railway, the Mackinaw & Detroit Railroad, to Rose City to service the area's lumber operations. The railroad made its first stop to Rose City that year on Christmas day.

The eventual Mayor of Rose City and Michigan State Senator, H.S. Karcher, worked to incorporate the city on April 13, 1905. The city was named after Allen Rose who was also the local Postmaster at the time. During the peak of the lumber period, Ogemaw County contained 30 post offices. Of the many cities incorporated in the region by the State of Michigan in that same year, only two have survived, Rose City and West Branch. This year on April 13th, Rose City's current mayor, William Schneider, and Rodney Mason, the great-great-grandson of Allen Rose, reenacted the signing of Rose City's charter.

Rose City has not survived the past 100 years unscathed, however. The famous fire that broke out in D.W. Benjamin's grocery store on April 3rd, 1910 would scar the city's economy and morale for years. The fire that began in the grocery store was not discovered until 3:00 a.m. when flames had engulfed the building. The small town "bucket brigade" was not able to fight the fierce fire and one hour later the entire business district was destroyed.

That night, 30 of 32 businesses were lost causing an estimated \$175,000 worth of damage. The few items salvaged from the businesses were stolen. In his valiant effort to save all the U.S. mail, Postmaster O.F. Honeywell lost all of his personal belongings aside from the clothes on his back and two dollars in his pocket to the fire.

Mr. Speaker, Rose City has experienced an All-American history with tales of the best of times and the worst of times. As the entire city gathers this September to celebrate the end of summer with their annual ox roast, it is quite apparent that they have risen from the ashes of their most tragic event to embrace their best assets—one another. I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Rose City and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century.

COMMEMORATING THE EFFORTS  
OF PASCAL MORETTI IN HONORING  
OUR WORLD WAR II VETERANS

**HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, as we prepare next month to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II, Americans will again turn their thoughts to those who sacrificed on the battlefield and the home front.

The Greatest Generation of soldiers came from cities and towns all across our Nation. They were ordinary men called to a great crusade. Their mission was nothing short of making the world safe for democracy.

Six decades ago, the soldiers of the 95th Infantry Division slogged their way through German-occupied France—one field, one bridge, one city at a time. They went to Europe, not as part of a conquering army, but as liberators to restore freedom to the land of Lafayette.

Some of the men in the 95th Infantry Division never made it home. They rest in fields once made infamous by the fury of war, and now where peace holds its gentle sway. These men made the ultimate sacrifice for a noble idea. A simple, immutable truth as old as our Republic: That all people, everywhere, have the right to life and liberty.

We're reminded of their sacrifice whenever we see children in a cemetery planting small flags near the headstones of our fallen soldiers; or in the expression of an aging veteran summoning all his strength to stand at respectful attention during the national anthem.

They offered the last full measure of devotion to ensure our liberty for posterity.

However, we are not the only ones who are grateful for their sacrifice. All around the globe, monuments and plaques recount the acts of bravery that secured for an oppressed people freedom from their Nazi occupiers. No where is this more evident—and appreciated—than in the villages of France.

These commemorations have taken on a new significance this year as the world celebrates the 60th Anniversary of V-E Day.

In one particular French town, Metzervisse, the Police Chief, Pascal Moretti, has made it his personal mission to remind succeeding generations about the critical role of American troops in liberating the community. When asked why he was interested in organizing these celebrations, "Our children must understand the price of liberty," Moretti said. "The blood they shed. What they did for us is wonderful. They gave us the most beautiful gift in the world: freedom."

Toward this end, he created the Moselle River 1944 Organization to honor the Allied soldiers who liberated the cities and towns that border the East Bank of the Moselle River. Last month, more than 50 veterans returned to Metzervisse. This time instead of being met with a hail of gunfire or the thundering sounds of artillery, they were greeted with bands and a chorus of thank-you.

For his work, Chief Moretti has been recognized with the Freedom Award at the America's Freedom Festival in Provo, Utah. Yet perhaps his greatest reward comes from the satisfaction of knowing that a new generation of French children is learning about a time when it seemed that liberty in their country was about to be eradicated by the Nazi regime, and the world responded to beat back the darkness.

American school children learn that in the 18th century it was Lafayette and the French who helped secure the establishment of the United States. It seems altogether fitting that French school children in the 21st century should learn that the Smiths and Messinas of the United States returned the favor during World War II.

I commend Chief Moretti for his efforts to honor our veterans of World War II and doing his part to sustain the historic bonds of friendship between our two nations.

With preparations underway to commemorate the 60th anniversary of V-E and V-J Day next month at the National World War II Memorial, this admirer of the Greatest Generation, reminds us all that we should take a moment and thank those who served—and are now serving. And we must never forget those 400,000 Americans who gave their lives during the War so that the lamp of liberty would continue to shine.

USA PATRIOT AND TERRORISM  
PREVENTION REAUTHORIZATION  
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House of the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3199) to extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3199, the "USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2005."

While I strongly agree that we must take every step possible to keep our nation secure, we should not be trampling on the rights of innocent Americans. When the original PATRIOT Act was passed in the weeks following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, sixteen provisions were scheduled to sunset this year because a matter of this importance deserves to be carefully reviewed by Congress.

The bill before us today would make permanent fourteen of those sixteen provisions thereby relinquishing this body of its oversight responsibilities. This is unacceptable. I have serious concerns about how this Administration has applied and may apply in the future the provisions included in this bill. Our constituents should be able to trust that we will actively work to protect their civil liberties by fighting against any abuses of those rights.

I am disappointed that the Rules Committee denied two amendments that I offered, including one that would give the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, created by the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act, the teeth to do its job, and one that would make permanent the temporary relief given to non-citizens, who were lawfully present or a beneficiary of the September 11th Victims Compensation Fund, in the original PATRIOT Act. I believe that these very worthy amendments at least deserved an open debate on the House floor.

Moreover, an amendment offered by Representatives Sanders (I-VT), which already has passed this body, was denied by the Rules Committee. His amendment, which I strongly support, would prohibit the FBI from using a USA Patriot Act Section 215 order to access library circulation records, library patron lists, book sales records, or book customer lists, and it would help to restore the privacy that library patrons had before the passage of the USA Patriot Act four years ago. Law enforcement should spend its time going after the terrorists, not spending its time reviewing the records of innocent people who are visiting their local libraries.

The terrorists who are in a battle against us resent the very rights and openness of society that I believe are what make this country great. We must remain vigilant in defense of the ideals and principles upon which this nation was founded, and the American people must be able to trust their government not to abuse their basic rights.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on this legislation.

POSTAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND  
ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 26, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 22) to reform the postal laws of the United States:

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 22, the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act.

The Government Reform Committee, of which I am vice-chairman, has held hearings and briefings on postal reform for several years now, and I am glad to see our efforts come to fruition today.

The United States Postal Service has been forced to cut back on its service due to serious financial challenges. H.R. 22 is an effort to modernize our Nation's postal laws for the first time in 35 years. It is intended to help ensure the United States Postal Service can survive in an increasingly competitive marketplace.

Due to the increasing use of electronic forms of communication, such as email, first-class mail volume is declining, but postal addresses are increasing. In lieu of simply increasing rates, an entire reform of the postal service is necessary.

H.R. 22 would require the Postal Service to operate in a more business-like manner by creating a modern system of rate regulation, establishing fair competition rules and a more powerful regulatory commission.

H.R. 22 will also promote both price stability and pricing flexibility. Giving the Postal Service pricing flexibility will allow USPS to price its core mail products in a way that keeps them competitive and, quite literally, in the mail. By limiting the amount of future postage rate increases, however, the bill also takes an important step towards encouraging the Postal Service to increase mail volume and keep the mailbags full while giving mailers predictability and stability.

Universal postal service should be the first and foremost goal of reform. This can only be accomplished if the financial and operational crisis facing the United States Postal Service is met with innovative and bold action.

HONORING COLONEL BILL GUINN

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Bill Guinn, Commander of

Letterkenny Army Depot in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. Colonel Guinn, hailing from San Bernardino, California has served for an unprecedented 3 years as Commander of the base.

July 29th 2005, will complete his command duty, after which he will undoubtedly enter into yet another endeavor that will highlight his talents as a true patriot and courageous defender of freedom. He has commanded the 123rd Main Support Battalion, 1st Armored Division in Bosnia, Croatia, and Germany, and has been honored with the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Medal, the NATO Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster.

During his tenure Colonel Guinn supported NATO missions in Bosnia of utmost importance for the Implementation Force and Stabilization Force. During his time in Bosnia, Colonel Guinn was given the task of supporting and protecting units and outposts spread across the terrain assigned to Task Force Eagle, of NATO. This would prove a perilous job, as much of the land was still active with mines.

With unwavering courage and spirit, Colonel Guinn deployed his troops on numerous occasions through dangerous territory in order to defend and support others, all in the name of protecting freedom and liberty. After 26 months of tough command duty, Colonel Guinn was chosen to attend the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He spent the year furthering his already vast knowledge and expertise in military service.

This education would come in handy in June of 1999, when he assumed responsibility of coordinating the United States' support in the fledgling nation of East Timor. A daunting task, the region was strife with civil unrest and armed conflict due to its newly found independence. In addition to the civil aggregation, matters were made more complicated due to the fact that National Command Authority did not want the United States to lead the mission. However, due to Colonel Guinn's impeccable diplomatic ability and statesman attributes, he was able to plan and execute the first major deployment of contracted support to military forces. The mission was a success due to the Colonel's personal involvement from inception to conclusion, and helped to create a more stable region.

In July of 2002, Colonel Guinn took command of Letterkenny Army Depot in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. At the time of his entrance, Letterkenny was at a point of its lowest workload and staffing levels in history, due to his expertise, skill and command, Letterkenny's workload, efficiency and output as more than doubled. His superior military ability, strong patriotism, and unyielding sense of duty give me great pride in calling him one of my constituents. The citizens of Chambersburg would join me in giving him my proud congratulations on his vast accomplishments.

HONORING MR. CARL RICCOBONO

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding educational leader, Carl Riccobono.

Today, The Creative Coalition and The American Federation of Teachers honor Mr. Riccobono with a 2005 Spotlight Award for Teaching Excellence.

The Creative Coalition is the leading non-profit, nonpartisan, social and public advocacy organization of the arts and entertainment community. Founded in 1989 by prominent members of the creative community, The Creative Coalition is dedicated to educating and mobilizing its members on issues of public importance, primarily public education, the First Amendment, arts advocacy, and runaway production. Headquartered in New York City, The Creative Coalition also has offices in Washington, DC, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

The Creative Coalition's partner in presenting this award, The American Federation of Teachers, represents 1.3 million teachers, paraprofessionals and other school-related personnel, higher education faculty and staff, healthcare workers, and state and local government employees.

Joining Mr. Riccobono in Washington, DC, to accept his award is one of his former students, actor and member of The Creative Coalition, Steve Buscemi. Mr. Buscemi was a student in Mr. Riccobono's fourth grade class at Shaw Avenue Elementary School, a public school in Valley Stream, New York, over 30 years ago. Mr. Riccobono profoundly influenced Mr. Buscemi as well as countless other students over the past three decades. He has shown a tremendous commitment to the field of teaching.

I join Mr. Riccobono's family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating him today on this achievement and wishing him well. I also recognize both The Creative Coalition and The American Federation of Teachers for their dedication in promoting public education. Public schools and the teachers in them play an essential role in the guidance of our children and shaping of our future. As such, I commend The Creative Coalition and The American Federation of Teachers for their support of public schools and for honoring the achievements of educators like Mr. Riccobono.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENT  
OF LUKE A. HOICHEVAR

**HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Luke A. Hochevar on being chosen by the Los Angeles Dodgers as the 40th pick in the 2005 Major League Baseball draft. Being drafted by a Major League Club is a rare accomplishment achieved by only about 1,500 high school and college ballplayers across the country each year. To be selected in the first five rounds means this talented young man is considered one of the top 150 or so prospects in the entire nation.

Luke was born September 15, 1983 in Denver, Colorado, to Brian and Carmen Hochevar. He has one brother, Dylan, and a sister, Britany. Mr. Hochevar attended Fowler High School in Fowler, Colorado, where he was coached by his father. He was drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers in the 39th round following his senior season of 2002. Luke, however, chose to attend the University of Tennessee and play baseball there.

Mr. Hochevar's college baseball career was successful, playing three years for the Tennessee Volunteers. He pitched 273 strikeouts and ranks second on Tennessee's career list. As a student he studied Sport Management and made the Academic Honor Roll his sophomore year. I commend his athletic and academic achievements.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the hard work and great accomplishments of Luke Hochevar. I applaud Luke for his dedication to the game and to his studies. I also commend his family for their support. I wish Luke the best of luck as he starts his professional career with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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### HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to explain why I was not present during votes on July 25 and July 26, 2005 during the first session of the 109th Congress. Due to the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commissioner Anthony Principi's visit to the Reno Air Guard and Hawthorne Army Depot, I was unable to return to Washington, DC for votes.

I first would like to explain how I would have voted on July 25, 2005 during rollcall votes Nos. 417, 418, and 419. The first vote was on H.J. Res. 59, the second was H. Con. Res. 181 and the third was H. Res. 376. I respectfully request that it be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that if present, I would have voted "yea" on these rollcall votes.

If present on July 26, 2005, I would have also voted during rollcall votes Nos. 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, and 431.

The first series of rollcall votes Nos. 420, 421, 422, and 423 were on H.R. 3200, H.R. 3283, a Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2361, and H.R. 2977. I respectfully request that it be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that if present, I would have voted "yea" on these rollcall votes.

The second series of rollcall votes Nos. 424, 425, 426, and 427 were on the Kind of Wisconsin Substitute Amendment on H.R. 525, a Motion to Recommit with Instructions on H.R. 525, Final Passage of H.R. 525, and finally on H.R. 2894. I respectfully request that it be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that if present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall votes Nos. 424 and 425, but would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes Nos. 426 and 427.

The third series of rollcall votes, Nos. 428, 429, 430, and 431 were on the Pence of Indiana Amendment to H.R. 22, the Flake of Arizona Amendment to H.R. 22, a vote on the Final Passage of H.R. 22 and finally a vote on H.R. 3339. I respectfully request that it be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that if present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall votes Nos. 428 and 429, but would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes Nos. 430 and 431.

Thank you for your time and careful consideration of this important matter.

HONORING SRA JOHN A. LOCKHEED, AIR NATIONAL GUARD "OUTSTANDING AIRMAN"

### HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, colleagues, I rise to honor an esteemed member of the United States Air Force, Senior Airman John A. Lockheed, an Air Traffic Control Journeyman with the 270th Air Traffic Control Squadron stationed at Kingsley Field in Oregon's Second Congressional District.

The United States Air Force has presented Airman Lockheed with their most prestigious award and the Force's highest honor for an enlisted member of the Air National Guard by selecting him as 2005's most "Outstanding Airman," an honor given to only one enlisted Air National Guard member each year.

The Air Force boasts a long tradition of talent, service and dedication, so to be recognized as one of the elite speaks volumes of Airman Lockheed's abilities and outstanding performance.

After volunteering for deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Airman Lockheed was quickly certified to control air traffic. The Air Force so trusted his skill, they selected him to be the facility trainer for incoming personnel. His duties ranged from rapidly securing airspace clearances for aircraft evacuating wounded troops to controlling aircraft returning from completed missions, and he was the watch supervisor's choice for handling even the most complex traffic issues.

Ever ready and capable of tackling challenging situations as they arose, Airman Lockheed immediately assumed control of half of Iraq's airspace on one occasion when another center lost radio and radar coverage.

In addition to volunteering for a 120-day extension of his tour in Iraq, Airman Lockheed extended his spirit of service beyond traditional roles. He was active in a program that delivered school supplies to children called "Operation Crayon," served on the Kingsley Field Honor Guard, was the unit Combined Federal Campaign Representative, and volunteered with the local Boy Scouts.

Most impressive is that this record of accomplishment has been built in a short amount of time. Airman Lockheed, 21, enlisted in the Oregon Air National Guard in 2002 and just completed basic training and air traffic control school in 2003.

America's men and women in uniform are truly the finest in the world, and this tradition of excellence continues through the service of patriots like Senior Airman John Lockheed. A simple thank you cannot fully express my gratitude for his commitment and dedication.

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Airman Lockheed on this prestigious award. The United States Air Force and the entire United States of America are extremely fortunate to benefit from his service. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Congress.

WE BECOME SILENT

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, the following is an abridged transcript of a film entitled "We Become Silent," written and produced by Cleveland resident, Kevin Miller. The topic is the potential effects of the Codex Alimentarius Commission's guidelines on vitamin and mineral supplement safety.

NARRATOR: FEAR.

Its' darkness causes humanity to make awful choices. With dreadful power, fear can rule our lives—and paralyze lofty hopes and dreams . . . in an instant.

It is the antithesis of god, fear is—a destructive dark side—the ghost that haunts the brain. It is a universal trait—a global affliction—and a tool deployed all-too-often by those intent on inflicting control over the masses.

Robert Verkerk, Ph.D.—Fear preys on the most vulnerable among us. Fear sells. And Nowhere is fear peddled more shamelessly than in the fields of medicine and human nutrition.

Narrator: Fear anesthetizes us . . . it coerces us . . . making us believe that we can do little on our own to prevent or treat disease . . . and forces entire NATIONS to kneel at the altars of orthodox medicine.

Robert Verkerk, Ph.D.—And of course, the fear-mongers are also preying on the fear of disease. And the solution the fear-mongers give us are drugs, yet drugs are the single most dangerous thing we can put in our mouths.

Narrator: It's a sad fact that Pharmaceuticals have become the dope of modern man—and make no mistake, we are addicted. Last year, between 3-5 billion prescriptions were written in the U.S. alone. And for all of its' miracles and heroism, western medicine has also left disaster in its' wake. The burdens of drug side effects are being exposed daily: Prozac, Vioxx, Celebrex, Baycol, Lariam, and Zolof—just to name a few—are deeply uncomfortable reminders that secrecy and sales have often circumvented safety.

There's also the crippling burden of health insurance, and the MILLIONS who are debilitated by a wave of red ink, bankrupted as a result of an unexpected illness that they could not afford. As if by design, health choices are limited, information is frightfully scarce, lives are ruined . . . and the truth be damned.

Scott Bukow: Business is business, and people don't like competition. Smart business people may not always do something that's best for the people or for someone's health.

Narrator: In addition to these painful realities of life, however, an abundance of evidence now suggests . . . that this holy reverence towards modern medicine—may be killing us.

Carolyn Dean, MD—I wrote Death by Modern Medicine, inspired actually after writing a paper called Death by Medicine . . . And what I found after analyzing government databases and peer-reviewed journal articles . . . I found that 784,000 people are dying annually, prematurely, due to modern medicine intervention. When I added up the figures I could get my hands on, I came up with that astounding number, and also found studies that said we're only capturing 5-20 percent of the actual deaths . . .

Simmon Wilcox, MD—We're clear that the status quo is equal to a premature death in

this country . . . Someone needs to stand up and scream "FOUL, SOMETHING'S GONE AWRY." Somebody needs to stop this madness, and say to the public, "There's a better option . . . We will no longer accept the status quo."

Narrator: But the fear machine is well oiled by petrochemical dollars and a near worldwide monopoly in medicine. It works overtime to prevent the truth about dietary supplements from getting out to the public. Governments, particularly in Europe and the United States, seem all-too-eager to comply with the robber barons of healthcare. It has always been so . . . as evidenced by this forty-year-old government film . . . which is but one of many in their arsenals.

FDA Film: 1966: But it's still the same old snake oil . . .

Title appears: "Health Fraud Racket—Presented by FDA"

Narrator: During the 1990s, however—despite generations of institutional bias—American consumers won critical battles against the FDA and the medical/pharmaceutical establishment.

Joseph BASSETT: In the mid-90s, there were movements to put all supplements on prescription basis and in all of the countries where they've done that it more than doubled the cost and made them not available and it's really a freedom of choice issue . . . it's a consumers issue . . . (1:30) so we were fighting for the right to access for our own use, our family's use, and for our businesses. And fortunately, the health consumer agreed. (1:40) . . . we were actually able to marshal, one day in a period of hours, one million phone calls to their government . . . (5:08) It was really a citizens' uprising.

Narrator: This massive consumer movement for medical freedom was invigorated when the FDA became enveloped in controversy of its' own making. The agency approved a guns drawn raid at the clinic of Dr. Jonathan Wright, and also raided dozens of health food stores in a pre-meditated power-grab. Consumer outrage fueled Hollywood to become immersed in the debate, and actors like James Earl Jones and Sharon Stone became part of a national campaign for medical freedom of choice. When Mel Gibson came aboard, he documented his views in memorable fashion:

Police: "Freeze"

Mel Gibson: Hey guys . . . guys . . . it's only vitamin C! You know, vitamin C, like in oranges?"

Narrator: The result of the consumer outcry was that DSHEA—the dietary supplement health education act—passed overwhelmingly in 1994. This became the only national law that linked the use of nutrients in dietary supplements to reduced risk of disease. And since DSHEA helped ensure relatively free access to a wide range of dietary supplements for consumers, activists pulled back from the front lines, thinking that their struggles were over. Others like Joe Basset knew better . . .

Joseph Bassett: We're in a particular industry . . . the health food industry, that's always been under attack. It's never stopped, it still isn't stopping because you have vested interests. In our country you have everybody using vested interests and the one's who are really entrenched use the government.

Gerald Kessler: I believe that DSHEA has always been under attack except for the first few years after DSHEA was passed. And the present attacks are very broad . . . which means worldwide, and some of the attacks are just specific to the United States.

Narrator: Now, a bureaucratic shadow called Codex Alimentarius threatens to silence the medical opposition forever, both here and abroad. But Codex began innoc-

uously enough in 1963, as a creation of two arteries of the United Nations: The Food and Agricultural Organization and the World Health Organization. Back then, nearly everyone endorsed their two major goals: to provide nutritious foods for developing nations—and to shape guidelines for dangerous industrial chemicals in the food supply.

Within the past decade, however, Codex Alimentarius has altered its' mission dramatically—many say negatively so—to include a wide swath of products including dietary supplements and genetically modified organisms.

Mr. Scott Tips began serving as a U.S. delegate to Codex in June of 2000. During the first meetings, he did everything he could to communicate with the head of the US Delegation.

Scott Tips, National Health Federation: I, in a flurry of notes, passed comments and suggestions (and the like) to Elizabeth Yetley, who was the American delegate there—it made no impact. In fact, the only impact I had was collar her during a break and basically be very tough with her about a particular clause that she was trying to remove from the final report, that particular sentence or clause basically said that the United States supports the right of consumers to have free access to vitamins and minerals, and she unilaterally yanked that from the final report.

Narrator: This attitude by Ms. Yetley, who is an employee of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, is reflective of codex meetings in general. In an attempt to shine light on those who are unilaterally making public policy private, health freedom advocate John Hammell took a small video camera into two Codex meetings in 1998. These grainy videos are all that remain of the tapes, which mysteriously disappeared.

Yetley: moving right along, agenda No. 5 on vitamins and minerals

Hammell: are you going to strike that second paragraph?

Yetley: well this is a draft positions . . . they're only draft positions, they're not the final version or formal position.

Hammell: you've seen the letter from Ron Paul, then? This was signed by Ron Paul, Congressman Stump and Congressman Cool.

Yetley: we have received alot of mail and we've looked at all of it.

Hammell: so you acknowledge this is the will of congress and of the American people correct?

Yetley: there's a wide range of opinions this one . . ."

Narrator: Despite multiple written requests—and the intervention of a US Congressman—the FDA refused to answer any questions about Codex, dietary supplements—or even labeling—for this documentary. But judging from this rare interview with Michael R. Taylor, then-deputy commissioner for policy at FDA, it is obvious that the agency is unaccustomed to honest intellectual inquiry from the media.

Kevin P. Miller: You stated your concern and the FDA certainly has on L-Tryptophan. What about your concern about something like Prozac, very well documented, 28,000 adverse reports, 1600 suicides associated with that drug.

Michael R. Taylor, deputy commissioner for policy, FDA: Drugs that go thru our very rigorous testing and review process are very well understood chemicals. And drugs are recognized to have both risks and benefits, that's why they go through a rigorous evaluation. And when those products are put out on the market, we have a good scientific understanding of the risks and benefits. And that's laid out in very detailed labeling that physicians then use to decide whether to prescribe those products for their patients. Side

effects are part of pharmaceuticals, that's recognized, and that's why we're so careful scientifically. There's just no comparison between that situation and dietary supplements, which have not been subjected to that kind of study . . . have not been evaluated by FDA, and a large part of the problem with these supplements is that we simply don't know about their safety, we don't know about their benefits, yet there being marketed in some cases for serious disease-related purposes. "THERE'S A BIG DIFFERENCE."

Kevin P. Miller: Well obviously they would respond by saying that it was the only natural alternative to some of these kinds of drugs, and that's a concern to people who want natural alternatives. And since the cases against Prozac have been so high, people would question whether L-Tryptophan is being judged under the same standard, if you will.

Michael R. Taylor: Well . . .

FDA Employee Interrupts: Kevin, that wasn't on the list of things we were going to go over.

Kevin P. Miller: Well, he mentioned L-TRYPTOPHAN and I thought I would follow-up.

Narrator: As the Producer tried to get an answer from the deputy commissioner of the FDA, Mr. Taylor seemingly lost his patience with the tone of the interview.

Michael R. Taylor: Why don't you turn the camera off so we can talk . . . (LONG PAUSE). You know, I'm happy to talk about this but I don't want to spend the whole morning on it. . .

Narrator: But of course, Mr. Taylor was anything BUT happy to discuss the safety record of Prozac versus the amino acid L-TRYPTOPHAN—which the FDA banned outright when Prozac was approved by the agency. And it is important to note that the Food and Drug Administration has assigned Mr. Taylor's wife—Christine Lewis-Taylor—to World Health Organization, where she is now chairwoman of the "the Nutrient Risk Assessment" project.

Jim Turner: I don't think you can say that anybody from the FDA has ever been a friend of dietary supplements. Anybody . . . They are friends of the classical reductionist scientific system that is based on cause and effect and doing a bunch of huge costly studies which are the backbone of the pharmaceutical industry which are the driving of the force of our health care system which is driving us into bankruptcy and killing between 200,000-700,000 people a year.

FDA Film, Health Fraud Racket (1966): Some of them honestly believe in the useless medication. More, however, are the bunkum artists, without pity or conscience, willing to risk the lives of fellow human beings to line their own pockets."

Narrator: Institutional hypocrisy and bias are endemic at the Agency. In fact, the FDA has made no secret of its' intentions to harmonize the U.S. vitamin and mineral standards with Codex, thereby reducing the dosages of common vitamins and minerals to ridiculously low levels. They've said so before Congress, in the National Register, and even on their own Web site.

Turner: That system is not a good system and the dietary supplement guideline the vitamin and mineral guideline mimics the ideas of that system and tries to push them onto the international stage for vitamins and minerals. Bad thinking all the way around.

Robert Verkerk, Ph.D: We are at a stage in society when a large number of people, consumers and patients, are waking up to the fact that the healthcare system that they've placed their trust in for decades, is not delivering the healthcare they need. They're beginning to appreciate that very often if they

have major diseases, like cancer or heart disease, that the so-called "solution" to these diseases is, in fact, killing them.

FDA Film, Health Fraud Racket (1966): Today, all new drugs must be proved safe and effective (Vioxx, Celebrex images) before they can be marketed. In other words, the medicine must be safe—and do what's claimed for it."

Robert Verkerk, Ph.D: And this is why we see this incredible growth in consumer demand for natural products. And of course, just as the consumer is starting to make decisions about what they want to do in healthcare, the regulators have decided, with a lot of pressure from big industry to say, "You can't have it—it's reserved for us."

Narrator: When the WTO—the world trade organization, became a reality in the 1990s, the power of codex was heightened immeasurably. This new worldwide body—devoted solely to the harmonization of trade standards, gave Codex the enforcement capability that had eluded it for decades. Two U.S. Congressmen—a Democrat and a Republican—have a philosophical divide on free trade, but agree completely on the dangers of the WTO and Codex.

Rep. Ron Paul: The WTO is said to be set up for free trade. I happen to like free trade. I like low tariffs and I like goods and services flowing across borders.

Rep. Peter DeFazio: Since economics in college I was always skeptic of the whole theory of free trade and it always crystallized around the NAFTA and WTO Agreements.

Rep. Ron Paul: I am a champion of national sovereignty, so I do not like the idea of getting involved with what the Founders called 'entangling alliances.'

Rep. Peter DeFazio: I remember talking to Mickey Cantor the President's special trade representative and I studied a little bit and I said I can not understand how we are going to bind ourselves to this agreement which has a secret dispute resolution process, which has no rules regarding conflict of interest and they will essentially pre-empt U.S. laws

Rep. Ron Paul: But then when you go to the next step of becoming a member of the World Trade Organization, it means to me that we as a people and as a Congress, we give up too much of our responsibilities and prerogatives.

Rep. Peter DeFazio: And he said no no no you don't understand. They can't pre-empt our laws. I said, you're right, they just can fine us for having our laws and we can pay for perpetual fines because we have laws that protect consumers of the environment or we can repeal our laws.

Rep. Ron Paul: But now we are talking about turning over to a world organization that is going to force harmonization.

Rep. Peter DeFazio: And so it's working as designed as far as they're concerned, which is to protect corporate interests and overrule governments and stick it to consumers.

Rep. Ron Paul: And they'll do under the name of free trade and globalization and pretend that they are on the side of freedom. But actually they are not—they are on the side of regulations and special interests and protection of certain big corporations.

Rep. Peter DeFazio: If there is a higher corporate good to be served by breaking the law and having the FDA work with the CODEX and drag the U.S. into this nightmare then they're all for it and they are doing it.

Rep. Ron Paul: So we do what the WTO tells us and that's why I am very leery of the WTO and I just soon we get out of the WTO.

Rep. Peter DeFazio: This would be the ultimate of government reaching into our health lives which would be unbelievable, not even

our government, some bureaucratic, diffuse, multinational secretive government.

Rep. Ron Paul: It's the power in the WTO that we have to deal with ultimately . . . and I don't like the trend.

Narrator: On Capitol Hill, legislators are now debating the merits of yet another trade agreement called CAFTA—the Central American Free Trade Agreement. This latest Trojan Horse was wheeled into Washington as a saviour for a faltering economy. But as consumers in Europe could confirm, it will only lead to more backroom deals—deals that could spell the end of health freedom as we know it.

John Hammell, IAHF: Now, people think that that could never happen here. Probably at that time people in England thought that would never happen there, and yet their government ignored over a million signatures on petitions on this issue saying, "Sorry guys, we are now a member of the European Union, and we must harmonize to European law." If we aren't careful in our hemisphere the same thing will happen as a result of the free trade area of the Americas (FTAA).

Narrator: But the trend towards the WTO, NAFTA, and now CAFTA being used to harmonize laws and regulations to favor pharmaceutical interests, has long been a reality in the European Union. German representatives at Codex began to push the idea of creating "safe upper limits" on vitamins and minerals, and this was favored in the UK until Dr. Robert Verkerk and numerous others began orchestrating a precise legal, scientific and public relations strategy to stop it. His organization, the Alliance for Natural Health brought a landmark legal challenge to the EU Food Supplements Directive. In April 2005, The Advocate General in the European Courts declared that the EU Directive should be declared 'invalid' under EU law. In July of 2005, UK and European consumers will discover the fate of this legal battle—and it is anything but a sure win.

Julian Whitaker, MD: What's coming down the line from Codex and from Europe is very disturbing. First, you've got 450 million people over there. Secondly, they have the most restrictive nutrient access of any of the free world. Third, you just had a woman in France arrested . . . and is now undergoing trial . . . for selling 500 mg vitamin C tablets.

Narrator: Between the draconian regulations of the EU Supplement directive and the ominous Codex guidelines which will be voted on in July 2005, there is little doubt that health freedom lies in the balance—in Europe, in America, and throughout the world.

Julian Whitaker, MD: The Whitaker Health Freedom Foundation is supporting this movement in Europe . . . because there's no question (that if) we stop it in Europe, its effect on the United States will be less. And anyone who thinks that Codex or the European Union or the World Trade Organization . . . when it comes to their restrictive policies in Europe is not going to have an effect on the United States is crazy . . . You've got 450 million people over there. They have enormous trade with us. They deal in steel, in textiles, et cetera, and if they are upset with our libertarian policies regarding nutrient supplements, it's going to affect other economic systems. Now, we might have sovereign protection, but good gosh that will fly away at an instance with the stroke of a pen if a trade agreement is challenged . . . What's happening in Europe, just like the trade winds, is coming our way. And no one can argue in a reasonable fashion why that is not going to happen. That is happening.

Narrator: It has been said many times that democracy is the dream of all who are op-

pressed . . . the hope of those imprisoned by fear or injustice. But the sad truth . . . that which is almost too sad to acknowledge . . . is that the betrayal of democracy began long ago when profit replaced the will of the people . . . and corporate lobbyists became the masters of the universe.

Rep. Peter DeFazio: Alarm bells are going off everywhere. The American people are way ahead of the Congress and figured this out and it is only a matter of time until congress is beaten into coming around on these issues. But if we don't do it soon it may be too late.

Narrator: If it is true what a great leader once said, that "Our lives begin to end the moment we become silent about things that matter," then freedom has already begun to atrophy because of our inaction. Slowly, sovereign rights fade away, as surely as the ink on an old Declaration is removed by time.

The pursuit of Happiness . . . the promise of equality . . . of personal choice . . . are chipped away by complacency . . . and, over time, become barely visible in the world around us. If we had treasured it more, some say, if we demanded government cooperation—not interference—if we had exercised our freedoms every day, every week—just like the forces of power and money have done . . . If . . .

If only.

Gerald Kessler: I think we should all get together and fight for our rights. I think that these are God-given rights. I think that this was a legacy that was given to us at the beginning of time . . . and we should fight like crazy so that people can maintain their rights, from now and forever.

Robert Verkerk, Ph.D: There are some who say that this is a battle that cannot be won, we are David—they are the Goliath. But it is too important to sit this out and let multinational corporations and regulatory agencies decide which freedoms we will be able to enjoy. From Africa to Asia to Europe to the Americas we must stand together now for future generations.

Narrator: This, then, is your call to action . . . it is one of enlightened self-interest . . . a righteous cause that even the high priests of profit cannot defeat. It is a real drug war . . . a fight for medical freedom . . . a struggle for human rights.

Joseph Bassett—And so you get the government you deserve if you don't speak up . . . the only way to have good government . . . is if the citizens stand up, and they're not doing it. They have to stand up and be counted . . . and if you put enough effort, the good guys win. It needs to be done . . .

Narrator: Modern medicine has led us to Babylon . . . and a wasteland of expensive and often ineffective options, If we do not act—if we become silent—governments will be free to replace the teachings of all ages with toxic lies. Timeless medicines—foods and herbs with which we have evolved—culled from thousands of years of collected wisdom—will be swept away—crushed under the myopic weight of corporate greed.

Yet we often forget how much power we actually wield—and that we are the creators of our own place on this planet. Amid the sea of faces, there is an honorable cartel forming . . . forming one for the benefit of mankind.

FDA Film, Health Fraud Racket (1966): You must join the battle by protecting yourself—and your family from health fraud. When you're in trouble that's not always easy. But in the end, being victimized can be far worse. It can mean not only your money, but your life . . .

Credits: Kevin P. Miller, Writer/Producer.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COMMANDER PETE RIEHM, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to pay tribute to Commander Pete Riehm on the occasion of his retirement as Commanding Officer of the Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center in Mobile, Alabama.

For the past three years, Commander Riehm has commanded this facility, with its complement of 200 Navy Reserve personnel and 250 Marine reservists, with an incomparable level of leadership and professionalism.

A graduate of the University of Houston, Commander Riehm received his master's degree in military arts and sciences from the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Following his commissioning in 1985, Commander Riehm was assigned to the USS *DAHLGREN* (DDG 43) as Missiles Officer and Damage Control Assistant. Following that assignment, he was transferred in 1989 to a new assignment as an officer recruiter in College Station, Texas. In 1991, during Operation Desert Storm, he was stationed in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, as the staff liaison to the Royal Saudi Naval Forces.

In 1996, he was transferred to Naples, Italy, and was attached to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) Naval Forces Southern Europe Command. Between 1997 and 1998, he served four months; temporary active duty as naval liaison officer to the Stabilization Force stationed in Sarajevo, Bosnia, and was attached to the staff of the fleet commander during the Kosovo campaign. Just prior to receiving his command in Mobile, Commander Riehm completed more military education courses in Newport, Rhode Island, and then served as Damage Control Assistant on board the USS *IWO JIMA* (LHD 7) during its pre-commissioning, transfer, and shakedown cruises.

Commander Riehm has been recognized for his outstanding performance and career with several awards and decorations, including two Defense Meritorious Service Medals, four Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, and three Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals.

Along with his tremendous involvement in the activities and mission of the Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center, Commander Riehm is also actively involved in his community. A resident of Mobile, Alabama, he has been involved with numerous local organizations, including the Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission, the Gulf Coast Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association, Operation Home Front, the Navy League, and the Alabama Chapter of the Military Officers Association. He also serves as a member of the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce's Military Affairs Committee, and was part of a group of Navy personnel which worked with Mobile's Forest Hill Elementary School as part of the Partners in Education program.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Commander Pete Riehm for his tremendous contributions to the citizens

of the First Congressional District of Alabama, the Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center in Mobile, and the entire United States Navy. The experience and enthusiasm he has brought to his job and the professionalism he has displayed throughout his career are unquestioned and unparalleled.

He has indeed been a genuine asset both to his office and to the United States military, and I am proud and honored to call him my friend. I wish him and his family—his son, Justin, and his daughters, Jessica and Jennifer—much happiness and success as they enter this new phase of their lives.

IN HONOR OF SPECIALIST JAMES O. KINLOW

**HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Specialist James O. Kinlow who died while serving our country in the war in Iraq.

Specialist Kinlow's family resides in Thomson, Georgia and his family resides in Lincolnton, Georgia. This brave soldier was assigned to A company, 2nd Battalion, 121st infantry regiment, Army National Guard, Valdosta, Georgia.

His life was taken by an improvised explosive device that detonated near his vehicle on July 24, 2005.

Our heartfelt condolences and prayers go out to Mr. Kinlow's family and friends. His service and commitment to freedom will never be forgotten.

HONORING FORMER PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 59TH BIRTHDAY

SPEECH OF

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 25, 2005*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise in recognition of the fifty-ninth birthday of former President William Jefferson Clinton, a man whose Presidency was marked by great strides in both global tranquility and economic prosperity.

As a young man, President Clinton was an excellent musician and a scholar, attending Georgetown University, Yale University, and, in 1968, winning a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford University.

President Clinton diligently served the citizens of Arkansas as both Attorney General and Governor before he went on to serve the country as a whole as the forty-second President of the United States of America.

The Presidency of Bill Clinton was a period of unprecedented peace and prosperity, marked by America's lowest unemployment rate in modern times, the lowest inflation rate in 30 years, and the highest home ownership rates in our country's history. President Clinton proposed the first balanced budget in decades and left the country with a budget surplus.

President Clinton was a strong leader who improved America's international standing and showed compassion towards people around the world. President Clinton rallied the members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to put an end to ethnic cleansing in the Balkans and played a major role in the effort to end violence in Northern Ireland. His service to the people of the world continues years after his Presidency, including his recent efforts with former President George H. W. Bush in spearheading the United States effort to provide private aid to victims of the devastating tsunami that struck southeast Asia.

It was an honor to serve in the White House under President Clinton, as he helped extend health insurance to millions of uninsured children, placed 100,000 new police officers on the street, passing the North American Free Trade Agreement, reformed welfare, raised the minimum wage, and balanced the federal budget.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentle lady from New York for introducing this resolution, and I join my colleagues in wishing a happy and healthy 59th birthday to our 42nd President and my friend, William Jefferson Clinton.

HONORING JOEY ANDERSON FOR HIS RECENT HEROISM

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joey Anderson of Pea Ridge, Tennessee, for his life-saving actions during a recent trip to Dale Hollow Lake.

On June 17th, two Kentucky youths were visiting the Pleasant Grove Swimming Area. While in the water, one teenager slipped on an unseen ledge and fell into the lake. Her friend went underwater to retrieve her, but he did not resurface.

Joey Anderson quickly responded. In an act showing unwavering courage, he rushed to pull the two drowning victims from underneath the water. After bringing the two youths to the shore, Mr. Anderson administered CPR and revived them. Soon after, emergency workers arrived on the scene and transferred the victims to an area hospital. The youths arrived in serious condition but made a full recovery, thanks to Mr. Anderson's heroic actions.

Joey Anderson's quick thinking and swift action saved the lives of two young people on that day. Middle Tennessee is fortunate to have upstanding citizens like Mr. Anderson. I commend him for his heroism and tremendous service to the community.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS WITH RESPECT TO COMMEMORATION OF WOMEN SUFFRAGISTS

SPEECH OF

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 25, 2005*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.J. Res. 59, expressing the support of Congress for the establishment of a day to honor the women suffragists who

fought for and won voting rights for women in the United States.

On July 19, 1848, Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton convened the first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York. From that time onward the leaders of the women's suffrage movement exhibited boundless courage and perseverance in their quest for equal representation.

Their journey was neither quick nor painless, and leading suffragists experienced public scorn and official persecution during nearly a century of campaigning. The women's rights movement relied on different methods of protest ranging from picketing and marches to hunger strikes. One suffragist, Alice Paul, led a famous protest in which she and several other women chained themselves to the White House fence.

These and similar acts of civil disobedience often landed the suffragists in jail. In 1872, when Susan B. Anthony and a group of women voted in the presidential election in Rochester, New York, she was arrested and fined. However, no amount threats or abuse could deter her or the other suffragists. At the close of her trial and with the whole nation watching, Susan B. Anthony made a fiery speech, stating "Resistance to Tyranny Is Obedience to God."

Even in the face of persecution, this unrelenting commitment to justice, democracy, and the ideals set forth in the Constitution of the United States ultimately won the day. On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution granted women in the United States the right to vote.

The women who led the fight for equal voting rights for women deserve our recognition not only for their tireless pursuit of justice in the face of persecution, but also for their tremendous contribution to the creation of a more perfect Union.

The success of the suffragists proved that even a prejudice rooted in centuries of custom and reinforced by all of the laws of the day cannot stand indefinitely against reasoned appeals to the ideals upon which our great nation was founded.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleagues in support of setting a day to commemorate the contributions of these courageous Americans.

THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS  
BY THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE  
COMMISSION

**HON. PHIL ENGLISH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. ENGLISH. I rise to provide clarifying remarks about the reporting requirements by the International Trade Commission, related to China's exchange rate regime. The intention is that Congress be provided with a report that will better inform us in the exercise of our policy-making responsibilities on these issues.

Section 8 calls for a study from the U.S. International Trade Commission within 12 months, regarding the trade and economic relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China. We want the ITC to look closely at the effect of China's economic policies on our trade with China, as well

as other factors that affect U.S.-China trade, with a focus on key U.S. industries that compete with Chinese producers or service providers.

Among other things, we would like the ITC to examine the relationship of China's foreign exchange rate regime to its financial, trade, foreign investment, and industrial policies. We believe these policies are all interrelated and would like an explanation of how they operate and how they are related to one another. The ITC should discuss not only the regime of a fixed peg to the U.S. dollar that China has maintained in recent years, but China's recently announced reevaluation and peg to a basket of currencies, as well as any further modifications in their foreign exchange rate regime.

The ITC should also describe the range of expert opinion concerning China's foreign exchange rate regime and U.S. and Chinese trade patterns and the U.S. economy in general. We expect the ITC to focus on the area of its expertise, i.e. trade issues, and leave questions related to appropriate currency policy to those institutions better suited to answer such questions, such as the U.S. Department of Treasury.

However, we want the Commission to provide additional analyses, to the extent feasible, that may help us better understand the nature of the relationship between the currency regime and U.S. China trade flows, particularly if the ITC thinks such analysis might help other institutions provide better analysis of broader policy questions. The ITC should certainly consult with the Department of the Treasury, the President's Council on Economic Advisors, and the Congressional Budget Office, all of which have performed economic analyses on currency matters.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 358

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 358, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of Little Rock Central High School, in Little Rock, AK. At a time when racial intolerance and ignorance were openly embraced as a way of life, nine courageous African-American youth took a stand, and in doing so, ushered in the civil rights era.

On September 23, 1957, this brave group of students entered the halls of Little Rock Central High School with one goal in mind: to obtain an education. This objective, universal to all parents and children worldwide, was far from easily accomplished. Central High School, a product of the Jim Crowe sentiment, had never seen an African-American student in any of its classrooms. These nine individuals would be the first.

The students stood face-to-face with mobs of irate citizens, all staunchly opposed to integration, and armed National Guardsmen who were ordered by the governor to prevent their entrance. The student body too was unwelcoming, spiteful of the racial invasion into their school. Despite such unconcealed prejudice and cruelty, these nine students persevered and served as an inspiration to us all.

One member of this group would later become the first African-American graduate of Little Rock Central High School.

The story of the students who would later be referred to as the "Little Rock Nine," gave Americans hope that we could overcome the racial oppression, struggle and strife that had become endemic in our culture.

All around the Nation, organizations such as the Southern Christian Leadership Conference led by Dr. Martin Luther King, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee led by student activists, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, worked together to create large-scale changes through seemingly small proactive actions.

It would be a disservice for this body to not take a moment to individually recognize each member of this remarkable group. Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, Jefferson Thomas, Dr. Terrence Roberts, Carlotta Walls Lanier, Minnijean Brown Trickey, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Thelma Mothershed-Wair and Melba Pattillo Beals have each equally contributed to the movement that has helped us all be where we are today.

Mr. Speaker, the story of the Little Rock Nine remains one of the most powerful illustrations of triumph over adversity within our modern history. It is our duty as leaders to ensure that the past is not only remembered but also distinguished and honored as it so rightly deserves. On the 50th anniversary of this milestone in the battle to gain equality both under law and in life, we are given the opportunity to bring national recognition to these modern day heroes. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

MR. TONY RAYMONDO LIFETIME  
OF SERVICE

**HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. I want to recognize and congratulate one of the most distinguished constituents in the 39th Congressional District, Mr. Tony Raymondo. I commend him for his invaluable contribution to his family, and to his company—Granitize Products, Inc. In fact, I also want to commend Mr. Tony Raymondo for his involvement with the community. As Granitize prepares to celebrate its 75th birthday in 2005, we want to honor Mr. Tony Raymondo for his excellent contribution and outstanding service to Granitize Products, Inc.

Mr. Tony Raymondo has been a great patriarch to his family members. Raymondo has been a devoted husband to his wife Betty, and a supportive father of two sons, and one daughter, Marty, Tony, and Lisa. Mr. Raymondo has been a role model to his children by displaying hard work and dedication to his family and to his company. His family has blossomed to include fifteen grandchildren in his immediate family. Though committed to his work, he has always put family first. This commitment has helped to create a strong immediate and extended family.

Furthermore, Mr. Raymondo has made the most of his leisure time by refining his many passions. For instance, Mr. Raymondo has a vast knowledge of making and producing his

own wine. In fact, this activity goes hand-in-hand with his other passion, cooking. Mr. Raymondo is known for his distinguished Italian cooking among his friends and family. Mr. Raymondo also enjoys working with his hands by taking part in other activities such as woodworking and photography. Thus, Mr. Raymondo has a wood shop and a photography lab within his house.

Mr. Raymondo has volunteered countless hours for school fundraisers to gather funds to purchase school utensils for schools. He is known as a very generous person that enjoys helping people. The fire and police department has also benefited from Mr. Raymondo generosity. He has volunteered his time to these two agencies.

Professionally, Mr. Raymondo broke through barriers within the Granitize Products, Inc. Mr. Raymondo began his career/profession with Granitize Products, Inc., as a cleaner in the chemical room in 1954. Having excelled as a cleaner, Mr. Raymondo moved up the ranks quickly and worked his way through every job in the company until holding the title of President and CEO, the position he holds today. Mr. Raymondo was the one responsible in venturing out into different markets other than just the automotive market.

He took the initiative thirty years ago to seek other potential markets. As a result, he found fiberglass manufacturing beneficial to society and lacking the proper wax to combat molds. Thus, he worked to create a new product to combat various types of molds that would allow manufacturers to make more products, more efficiently, and with fewer problems, and he showed them how. He created the formulas that are still used today in the TR Division of Granitize. Today Granitize and TR combine to serve and sell

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS  
WITH RESPECT TO COMMEMORATION  
OF WOMEN SUFFRAGISTS

SPEECH OF

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 25, 2005*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 59, which honors and commemorates the contributions of women suffragists who fought for and won the right of women to vote in the United States.

The women's suffrage movement began with women speaking out for women's rights when their efforts to participate equally with men in the great reform movements of the mid-1800s—including antislavery and temperance—were rebuffed. These early feminists demanded a wide range of changes in women's social, moral, legal, educational, and economic status.

Although women in this country now have the right to vote, we must look back at the efforts of these pioneers and apply their passion to the continued fight for women's equality today.

Since 1920, when the Nineteenth Amendment finally granted women the right to vote, women have made great strides. Women have voted at a slightly higher rate than men in every Presidential election since 1964. What is even more encouraging is that more and more

women are seeking elected office. For 20 years after Jeanette Rankin of Montana was elected to Congress in November 1916, the number of women in Federal office following each election never exceeded 9. I am proud to say that that number has dramatically increased since then. In 1980, women comprised 4 percent of the Congress. In 1990, 6 percent. Currently, in the 109th Congress, there are 83 women serving—69 in the House of Representatives and 14 in the Senate—over 15 percent of the Congress.

We have come a long way, but we still have a long way to go. So today, as we honor the women who fought for the rights so many of us today enjoy, we recommit ourselves to the ongoing fight for equality for women and all who are oppressed in this country and around the world.

SUPPORTING GOALS AND IDEALS  
OF NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER  
WEEK

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 25, 2005*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 289, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Health Center Week. From August 7–13, numerous organizations will collectively promote quality and preventative medical care through local health centers.

It has become increasingly apparent that our healthcare system is not only lacking, but also failing those it is meant to serve. There are currently an estimated 45 million uninsured individuals living in America. This group not only includes 8.4 million children, but also homeless and migrant populations across the country. Of those that do have health coverage, studies have estimated that as many as 65 million individuals remain underinsured. Countless others lack easy and affordable access to quality care providers.

Health centers are an indispensable component of the continuing effort to secure medical care for underserved individuals. These community-based, non-profit organizations bring health services to impoverished areas, which are disproportionately affected by these ever-present health care disparities. Through partnerships with churches, businesses and other community initiatives, health centers are able to touch those that are typically unreachable or marginalized by existing healthcare conglomerates.

Health centers have become American institutions and fundamental elements our daily lives. These organizations, operating with minimal resources and small, committed staffs are able to serve hundreds within their communities. In the state of Florida alone, approximately 500,000 residents are annually served through local health centers.

Mr. Speaker, this weeklong celebration of health centers brings recognition to the unsung heroes of the healthcare industry. By raising awareness we are not only showing our appreciation to those that contribute to these efforts, but we are also bringing attention to the healthcare alternatives that are available to our communities. I urge my colleagues to lend their support to this resolution.

U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT REPORT ON SECTION 40 OF THE BRETTON WOODS AGREEMENTS ACT

**HON. PHIL ENGLISH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, Chairman OXLEY, and I have discussed section 6 of my bill that requires the Department of the Treasury to provide a report on how Section 40 of the Bretton Woods Agreements Act "can be better clarified administratively to provide for improved and more predictable evaluation."

We share the understanding that the Bretton Woods Agreements Act implements the international agreements that established the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group. As such, there is limited scope of action for the United States Government acting "administratively" to change how the IMF and the World Bank Group operate internally in order to achieve "improved and more predictable evaluation."

Therefore, to clarify this provision, our intent here is that any report prepared by the Treasury Department would respect these limits. It is also our understanding and intent that any report by the Treasury Department pursuant to this section should provide insight regarding how the Treasury Department and the United States Executive Directors to the IMF and the World Bank Group seek to promote U.S. exchange rate policies within those organizations.

I note that substantially similar language has been considered by the Secretary of the Treasury in the past and those limitations were respected. The Department of the Treasury currently provides some of this information to the United States Congress in other forms. We believe that a discussion of U.S. policy and actions within the IMF and the World Bank Group would be a helpful addition to the policy debate in the U.S. Congress. However, we are not requesting that the Treasury Department submit a report suggesting that the United States Government alone can work administratively to improve IMF and World Bank Group analysis and policy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. XAVIER BECERRA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 25, 2005, I was unable to cast my floor votes on rollcall numbers 417, 418 and 419.

The votes I missed included a motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.J. Res. 59, expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the establishment of an appropriate day for the commemoration of the women suffragists who fought for and won the right of women to vote in the United States; a motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H. Con. Res. 181, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Life Insurance Awareness Month, and for other purposes; and a motion to suspend the rules and pass,

as amended H. Res. 376, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Federal Trade Commission should investigate the publication of the video game "Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas" to determine if the publisher intentionally deceived the Entertainment Software Ratings Board to avoid an "Adults-Only" rating.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 417, 418 and 419.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NIALL  
CASEY, NEW AMERICAN CITIZEN

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Mr. Niall Casey of Ballyheigue, County Kerry, Ireland, as he becomes a fellow American citizen. It is a pleasure to extend a warm welcome to him.

Mr. Casey's journey to America began when he traveled to the beautiful island of Nantucket, Massachusetts in September 1994. Soon he was a part of the Nantucket community, working diligently and earning a reputation as an outstanding carpenter/craftsman. He is well-liked for his engaging personality, warm sense of humor, and impressive knowledge of American history and current events.

Mr. Speaker, America and Ireland have enjoyed a strong and enduring bond of friendship over the years. Those who have come here to begin a new chapter of their lives have enriched America tremendously by sharing their ideas, their literature, their music and their traditions. One of our most beloved Presidents, JOHN F. KENNEDY, drew us closer to his ancestral homeland through his wit and wisdom and made all Americans proud. As we continue to strengthen our ties with the people of Ireland, we are pleased to open our hearts and our doors to Mr. Niall Casey.

After taking his citizenship oath, Mr. Casey will celebrate with neighbors and well-wishers, including Carrol F. White III, a friend and colleague.

Mr. Speaker, we are all fortunate to live in this land of opportunity, and Mr. Casey embodies the qualities that have made our nation great: a spirit of entrepreneurship, industriousness, devotion to community, and love of country. I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Casey on becoming an American citizen and in wishing him continued success.

IN LASTING MEMORY OF JACKSON  
T. STEPHENS

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a charitable and respected Arkansan, Jackson T. Stephens. Mr. Stephens passed away on July 23, 2005 at the age of 81. He was a businessman and philanthropist who lived an exemplary life of

tremendous accomplishments and I wish to recognize his life and achievements.

Born in Grant County on August 9, 1923, Mr. Stephens grew up on a farm near Prattville, Arkansas, the youngest of six children. A child of the Great Depression and humble beginnings, Mr. Stephens learned the importance of hard work and how to earn his keep. Prior to attending college, Mr. Stephens joined his father on the family farm, and by the age of fifteen, held numerous jobs at the Barlow Hotel in Hope. Upon graduation from high school, Mr. Stephens attended the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1946.

After graduation from the naval academy, Mr. Stephens joined his brother, Witt, in Little Rock at a municipal bond house. By 1956, Mr. Stephens and his brother bought the Fort Smith Gas Company, calling it Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Company, and an oil and gas exploration firm, renaming it the Stephens Production Company. Stephens, Inc. became the umbrella organization for the businesses, and later Stephens Media Group. Mr. Stephens served as Chief Executive Officer of Stephens, Inc. for 29 years, until 1986.

In addition to becoming one of the world's most successful entrepreneurs, Mr. Stephens was extraordinarily charitable. In 2002, he donated \$48 million dollars to the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, the largest donation the University of Arkansas has ever seen. Mr. Stephens also gave \$20 million to the Episcopal Collegiate School, \$20.4 million to the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, \$5 million to Harding University, and \$10 million to his alma mater, the U.S. Naval Academy. Mr. Stephens once said, "There are only two pleasures associated with money. Making it and giving it away." For 20 years, Mr. Stephens was the primary contributor for The Delta Project, a program aimed at educating underprivileged children in the Arkansas Delta. Mr. Stephens' immense generosity did not end with education. Mr. Stephens was also a remarkable supporter of the arts, and permanently donated to the Arkansas Arts Center in Little Rock his personal collection of artwork that include the likes of Degas, Monet, Picasso and Wyeth.

Mr. Stephens also had a tremendous love for golf as evidenced by his enviable handicap of five. He was invited to join the prestigious Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia in 1962, and served as the chairman of the institution from 1991-1998.

Mr. Stephens' contributions to his community and the state of Arkansas did not go unnoticed. In 1965, Mr. Stephens was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Citation from the University of Arkansas and in 1985, was bestowed an honorary law degree by the University. He received the Horatio Alger Award in 1980 and the J. William Fulbright Award for international trade development in 1989. Mr. Stephens was not only a proud member of the Arkansas State Golf Hall of Fame, but also the Arkansas Business Hall of Fame and the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame.

From a Grant County farm boy raised during the depression, Mr. Stephens turned a small business acquisition into a global enterprise. Mr. Stephens will not only be remembered for his savvy business entrepreneurial skills, but also for his tremendous generosity to underprivileged children, education, and a tremendous appreciation of the arts.

I extend my deepest and sincerest sympathies to Mr. Stephens's wife, Harriet, their sons, Steve and Warren, their six grandchildren, Caroline, Jackson, Mason, Miles, John, and Laura; two great grandchildren, Sydney and Bruce; and two adopted children, Kerry LaNoche and James.

POSTAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND  
ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 26, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 22) to reform the postal laws of the United States:

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Chairman, it is about time Congress took up this important postal reform bill. This legislation is long overdue and I am happy a bipartisan compromise was reached that meets the needs of postal professionals and the Postal Service.

For years I have been hearing from letter carriers, postmasters, mail handlers and other postal employees about the obstacles that prevent them and the postal service from serving our taxpayers in their fullest capacity. I have also heard about their struggles to retain their benefits and receive a livable wage.

That's why I am happy to support H.R. 22 today. This postal reform legislation takes a positive step for the future of the United States Postal Service. Now it will be able to remain competitive while protecting hundreds of thousands of jobs held by dedicated workers. Universal service will continue to expand and meet the demands of our modern mail system. Delivery will improve, rates will become more affordable and communities will have better access to mail services.

Mr. Chairman, again I am pleased that this compromise has advanced, and I look forward to an even greater postal system for our Nation.

COOK COUNTY LEADS THE NATION  
IN SUPPORT OF IMMIGRATION  
REFORM

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, last week, the Cook County Board of Commissioners passed unanimously an historic resolution in support of S. 1033 and H.R. 2330, the Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act of 2005. The resolution urges the passage of common sense and realistic legislation that gives a path to citizenship for America's hard-working immigrants. This is the first resolution of its kind in the nation and was supported by the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, leaders from business, labor, community organizations and diverse faith traditions, as well as Governor Blagojevich.

America is a nation of immigrants. Nowhere is that more evident than in the 9th Congressional District of Illinois. We rely on the labor

and other contributions of immigrant workers, especially undocumented immigrants. Twenty percent of jobs in Chicago's growing restaurant, hotel, and manufacturing sectors function because of immigrants who support our economy. I believe this diversity is a source of incredible strength. Immigrants who come to this country work hard to provide for and educate their children and have a better life.

The Cook County resolution recognizes the need for immigration reform. The current immigration system separates families, reduces the effectiveness of national security programs, allows labor abuses, and neglects the hard work and taxes that immigrants contribute to this county. In order for immigrants to succeed, they need immigration laws that make sense, that keep families together, that allow them to send their kids to college, that help them get better jobs and that ease their way to citizenship.

The Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act is our opportunity to enact comprehensive immigration reform. Sponsored in the Senate by Senators McCain and Kennedy and in the House by my Illinois colleague Rep. Gutierrez, it would provide opportunities for immigrants to earn legal status and fully realize their American dream, while protecting our borders.

I support this bipartisan immigration reform plan because it includes access to earned legalization and citizenship, guarantees protections for immigrant and U.S. workers, and addresses the current backlogs of family members who have waited up to ten years to re-

unite with their families in the United States. Immigrants have historically and continue to this day to contribute to our economy and to the diversity and well-being of our communities. It is time for a comprehensive immigration reform.

I am pleased that the Cook County Board of Commissioners has unanimously passed this historic resolution. I urge my colleagues to look at the resolution, which I hope is the first of many, and support H.R. 2330.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION—RESOLUTION SPONSORED BY THE HONORABLE ROBERTO MALDONADO, COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Whereas, the United States were founded by immigrants, who have traveled from around the world to seek a better life; and

Whereas, the United States has a undocumented population of eleven million immigrants, including a half a million in Illinois, more than 300,000 of which reside in Cook County; and

Whereas, Cook County's undocumented immigrants fill key roles in our economy such as paying taxes (including contributions to Social Security that they cannot receive back), raising families, and contributing to our schools, churches, neighborhoods, and communities; and

Whereas, our current immigration system contributes to long backlogs, labor abuses, countless deaths on the border and vigilante violence and is in dire need of reform to meet the challenges of the 21st Century; and

Whereas, any comprehensive reform must involve a path to citizenship for these hard-working immigrants, as well as reunification

of families and a safe and orderly process for enabling willing immigrant workers to fill essential jobs in our economy and ensure full labor rights; and

Whereas, U.S. Representative Luis Gutierrez has joined with U.S. Senators Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts and John McCain of Arizona to offer a comprehensive U.S. immigration reform law known as The Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act; and

Whereas, the immigration initiative severely punishes illegal employment practices while creating a path to earned permanent legal status for individuals who have been working in the United States, paying taxes, obeying the law and learning English and protecting workers by ensuring the right to change jobs, join a union and report abusive employment situations; and

Whereas, modernizing our antiquated and dysfunctional immigration system will uphold our nations basic values of fairness, equal opportunity, and respect for the law: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that we, the President and the members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby support comprehensive immigration reform and memorialize the Illinois Congressional delegation to urge the passage of The Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act of 2005 (SB 1033 and HB 2330) that allows every hardworking, law-abiding individual to achieve the American Dream; and be it further

*Resolved*, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be delivered to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, and the Illinois Congressional Delegation.