

TRIBUTE TO VOLUNTEER DENTISTS AND PHYSICIANS OF UTAH

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedicated dentists and physicians who volunteer in my home state of Utah to provide much needed care to low-income, uninsured residents in my district.

An estimated one-third of Utah County residents lack dental insurance. Hundreds of thousands of school hours and even more work hours are lost every year due to oral pain when families cannot afford to visit a dentist. In Utah, needy patients are linked with dental providers who are willing to see patients on a charity basis.

For example, a constituent of mine was a patient suffering from severe oral pain due to three abscesses. She had been working full-time; however, she did not have dental insurance through her employment. Even with her full-time wages, she made less than \$1,500 a month—which put her family of four more than 150 percent below the poverty level. Fortunately, through a system of volunteer dentists, this constituent was able to schedule an emergency appointment with one of the dentists in a local volunteer provider network. The dentist was able to see her in his office the next day.

This is just one of many success stories among patients who are treated by volunteer dentists and physicians, none of which would be possible without the dedicated professionals who volunteer to give back to their community. I commend the dentists in Utah who willingly donate their time, their resources, and their skill as dentists to help the less-fortunate members of their own community. Their service and commitment in helping the underserved is a testament to the strength of the local community, and I applaud their efforts.

H.R. 4314, THE “TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE REVISION ACT OF 2005”

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures. Our Nation has had to respond to the attacks of September 11th in many different ways, including providing Federal support for our terrorism insurance market.

While I can understand support for an extension of TRIA, I have many concerns about the piece of legislation we will be voting on shortly. Let me highlight a few of them.

First, this bill greatly expands the TRIA program, going so far as to provide Federal assistance for individual lines of insurance, rather than just covering a company's losses in the event of a terrorist attack.

This bill even goes so far as to include a group life insurance component, a sector of the insurance marketplace that has shown no sign of failure.

Allowing this type of line-by-line coverage pushes the government into competitive, pri-

vate insurance markets where it does not belong. A system of this nature will inevitably expose taxpayers to more risk sooner in the process, while at the same time allowing insurance companies to obtain government assistance before it may be necessary.

Further, this bill continues to maintain a very low trigger for when the government would step in. While \$50 million is higher than the current trigger level—set shortly after September 11th—the Department of Treasury had requested a number closer to \$500 million. For a program that was designed to be triggered for catastrophic events only, this higher threshold is perfectly applicable.

While the bill before us is only a two-year extension, it allows for a third year without Congressional approval. I am hard pressed to believe that this will be the final extension proposed.

The Federal Government consists of thousands and thousands of Federal programs created by Congress. Many of these, I am convinced, were started with the intention that they would be temporary. To quote President Reagan, “No government ever voluntarily reduces itself in size. Government programs, once launched, never disappear. Actually, a government bureau is the nearest thing to eternal life we'll ever see on this earth.”

At some point, after some reasonable transition, either the market demands terrorism reinsurance or it does not. Our opinion should not be the relevant one. The relevant opinion is that of the market.

If the market is not interested in terrorism reinsurance, Congress should not force the matter. If the market does demand this product, we should not assume that the Federal Government needs to be a permanent fixture.

Modifying or eliminating regulations, reducing corporate income tax rates, and preventing the abuse of our legal system are all important factors that, if addressed, would free up massive amounts of capital for insurers and reinsurers.

This additional capital would help to increase the supply of terrorism insurance, leading to a reduction in premium rates, and minimizing the need for a Federal backstop program or Federal involvement at all.

Unfortunately, until we rid the world of the terrorists who seek to destroy us, terrorism insurance will continue to be a fact of life for businesses in this country. Until then, I have faith in our markets and their ability to respond accordingly to the challenges posed by domestic and international events.

Regrettably, I cannot support this legislation but I plan to reluctantly support it.

REMEMBERING SHIRLEY LYNNE

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Shirley Lynne and reflect on her many wonderful contributions to our community. This is a time of great sadness, made even sadder by the suddenness of Shirley's passing. There was no time to say our good-byes. It is a time of great loss for our community because Shirley was always in the middle of so much that went on—especially in her

Wheaton community. She would always know exactly what was happening in Wheaton, whether it was the Wheaton Metro development, something happening at Wheaton Mall—Westfields that is—or any other happenings in the community. If you wanted to find out what was going on in Wheaton, Shirley was always in the know. These days many people live side-by-side without ever really getting to know their neighbors. Not Shirley. She knew so much that some of us suspected she had tapped into everybody's telephones.

In fact, Shirley got to know her neighbors the old fashioned way—by knocking on their doors and introducing herself. She got to know many of them in her capacity as the Democratic precinct captain. Shirley always had the courage of her convictions. While she was small in height, she had a huge heart and a feisty nature. She never shied away from a tough issue. She always stood up for the underdog and believed deeply in the values and principles of the Democratic Party. Her neighbors mostly followed her lead and she always delivered her precinct for Democratic candidates.

I will always be grateful to Shirley for her support in my Congressional election. She took me door-to-door throughout her precinct and introduced me to her friends and neighbors. She also charmed and cajoled many of them into putting up “Van Hollen” lawn signs. They might have said “no” to me, but no one dared say “no” to Shirley Lynne. Needless to say, we won her precinct. Thank you, Shirley.

Shirley was also deeply committed to helping individuals with mental illnesses. She spent countless hours helping out at the Thrift Shop on Rockville Pike to benefit the Alliance for the Mentally Ill. She never asked for anything in return for all that she did to help that important cause or for the other good works she did for our community.

The health of this great democracy of ours depends on people of good will joining together to build a better future for our community. That was what Shirley Lynne was all about. She did not sit out life on the sidelines. She made a difference through the many lives she touched and the legacy of a stronger and more caring community that she helped to nourish. We need many more Shirley Lynnes.

To Shirley's family, let me say that you are in our hearts and prayers. I especially want to say to Diane, what a wonderful daughter you have been to Shirley. You were best friends and inseparable. I know that you were—and you remain—her greatest joy. Please know that we all share your grief at this painful time, but that we also share your great pride in your mother's many accomplishments.

CHILDREN SHALL LEAD THEM

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend a group of young people in Vermont who have done a wonderful thing, worth bringing to the attention of my colleagues in the Congress and the American people.

A group of students in the Sunday School of the United Church in Lincoln, Vermont, have raised over \$5,000 dollars for Heifer International. Lincoln is a beautiful community in

the Green Mountains of Vermont, but it is not a large community, so a fundraising effort of this magnitude, for the benefit of a rural village in an underdeveloped country is testimony to how much the youth of America care about the world.

This project began with conversations about world hunger. Students, as young as 3 and as old as 14, decided that raising money for Heifer International would be a good way to address, positively, the issue of world hunger.

Many people are trapped by poverty, underdevelopment, and the impossibility of finding the resources they need for self-improvement. Heifer International believes in self-help: if human beings are given the tools they need, they can improve their lives. So Heifer International provides livestock, education in agriculture, and small business counseling, so individuals and entire communities get a hand up instead of a handout.

Over the course of 18 months the kids of the United Church Sunday School made countless cow-shaped cookies and holiday ornaments and sold them for a dollar each. It took a lot of cookies and ornaments to reach the goal of \$5,000. They were helped by the school superintendent, Chris Bohjalian and a group of dedicated Sunday school teachers. But the real effort, the real credit, goes to the young people, for on this past Christmas Eve, their goal of \$5,000 was reached.

An "ark" of farm animals will be delivered to a village, most likely in Armenia, the gift of visionary and committed children from Lincoln, Vermont. According to Pastor David Wood, the ark will have everything "from fish to llamas to cows. And chickens and pigs, and also trees to provide ongoing food and medicinals."

Yes, we do live in a global village, and our children are showing us how it can be rich in generosity and neighborliness.

MOURNING THE VICTIMS OF THE
KATOWICE DISASTER

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my deepest condolences to the people of Poland in their time of national mourning following the building collapse disaster in Katowice on Saturday, January 28, 2006.

I sympathize with those families who have lost loved ones as a result of this catastrophe and join the world in prayer for a swift recovery for those who were injured.

I would also like to offer my appreciation to the brave men and women who selflessly rushed in to the building to conduct the search and rescue operations in freezing temperatures and saved so many lives.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the residents of the 5th district indeed all of Chicago in offering our thoughts and prayers to the Polish people.

RECOGNIZING MR. MARVIN
BRAUDE

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the life of Mr. Marvin Braude. Marvin Braude was a long-time Los Angeles City Council Member, an outdoor enthusiast, and a pioneering environmentalist.

Braude served on the L.A. City Council from 1965 until 1997. His achievements on behalf of the people of Los Angeles significantly improved their day-to-day quality of life. Braude's work included building a coalition to stop an oil-drilling project off the coast of Pacific Palisades and fighting for the ban on smoking in restaurants, elevators, city offices, and markets. Perhaps Braude's most notable accomplishment was the creation of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Braude's vision for the area, stretching from North Santa Monica to Venice Beach, provides residents and visitors alike the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors by foot, bike, and even rollerblade.

Marvin's late wife, Majorie, was a psychiatrist, a leader among women doctors, and a leader in the fight against domestic violence. Braude is survived by his two daughters, Ann and Liza Braude, and two grandchildren, Emma Braude Adler and Benjamin Braude Adler.

HONORING JENNY SILVER

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Jenny Silver for her efforts to brighten the holidays of those children in New Orleans who have been affected by the recent devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Ms. Silver's actions have served not only as a means of bringing holiday cheer to the children of the Crescent City, but also as an impetus for those of us not directly affected by Katrina to keep its victims in our thoughts.

Ms. Silver recently organized a community bowling event in my district, held on December 18, 2005. The event itself was free, provided that each participant raised at least \$8 in donations. One hundred percent of the proceeds from that event were used to buy teddy bears, which have since been sent to Children's Hospital in New Orleans. There, the hospital, in conjunction with a local nonprofit organization, distributed the bears as holiday gifts to disadvantaged children both at the hospital and elsewhere in the city.

Ms. Silver's generosity in devoting her time and energy to this cause exemplifies the selflessness and civic-mindedness that makes our country great. I commend Jenny Silver, and all those who took part in this event, for their embodiment of what it means to be good neighbors and good Americans.

IN HONOR OF THE NEOSHO DAILY
NEWS

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Neosho Daily News, which recently celebrated the One Hundredth Anniversary of the establishment of the newspaper.

The Neosho Daily News began publishing its first edition as the Daily Democrat on January 23, 1905. In 1952, Howard Bush purchased the newspaper from the Anderson family and began publishing the newspaper under its current name. Publishers have included Howard Bush, Kenneth Cope, Randy Cope, and Rick Rogers. The Neosho Daily News provides information to parts of Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Kansas. In two of the past three years, the Neosho Daily News has been awarded the Missouri Press Association General Excellence Award. The newspaper has consistently been an outstanding community leader, sponsoring such events as the Neosho Business and Industry Show, the Neosho Christmas Parade, and Share Your Christmas. The newspaper is currently part of the Liberty Publishing Group.

Throughout its one-hundred years of existence, the Neosho Daily News has made a positive impact to the four-state area that it serves.

TRIBUTE TO ACADEMY NOMINEES
FOR 2005 FROM THE 11TH CON-
GRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW
JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, every year, more high school seniors from the 11th Congressional District trade in varsity jackets for navy pea coats, Air Force flight suits, and Army brass buckles than most other districts in the country. But this is nothing new—our area has repeatedly sent an above average portion of its sons and daughters to the nation's military academies for decades.

This fact should not come as a surprise. The educational excellence of area schools is well known and has long been a magnet for families looking for the best environment in which to raise their children. Our graduates are skilled not only in mathematics, science, and social studies, but also have solid backgrounds in sports, debate teams, and other extracurricular activities. This diverse upbringing makes military academy recruiters sit up and take note—indeed, many recruiters know our towns and schools by name.

Since the 1830's, Members of Congress have enjoyed meeting, talking with, and nominating these superb young people to our military academies. But how did this process evolve? In 1843, when West Point was the sole academy, Congress ratified the nominating process and became directly involved in the makeup of our military's leadership. This was not an act of an imperial Congress bent on controlling every aspect of Government.