

legislation allows and encourages schools and localities to support PBS as well as supports research, technical assistance and related school reform activities that improve school climate. Additionally, the legislation would establish a new office within the Department of Education that would help coordinate and administer activities assisting specialized instructional support personnel who provide a critical role in the link between social and academic outcomes for students.

Once again we applaud you for introducing this important legislation and look forward to working with you to secure its enactment.

Sincerely,

American Counseling Association, American Music Therapy Association, American Occupational Therapy Association, American Psychological Association, American School Counselor Association, The Arc of the United States, Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders, Learning Disabilities Association of America, Mental Health America, National Alliance on Mental Illness, National Association for Children's Behavioral Health, National Association of State Directors of Special Education, National Down Syndrome Congress, School Social Work Association of America, United Cerebral Palsy.

ON THE PASSING OF DR.  
SYLVESTER McDONALD

**HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN**

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 3, 2007*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise at this moment of deep sadness on the passing of Dr. Sylvester McDonald of St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. On behalf of my family, staff and the 110th Congress of the United States of America, I extend my most heartfelt sympathies to the family and friends of Dr. McDonald, affectionately known as "Dr. Mac." To those of us who grew up with his children and their extended family he was the much beloved, "Uncle Syl."

Dr. Sylvester O. McDonald was born on September 12, 1919, to John and Madalene McDonald in Kingston, Jamaica. In 1941, he left Jamaica to study at Howard University, where he met and married Eirene Canegata in 1943. This union lasted 60 years and produced 4 children: Genevieve (Rosie) Lambert, Judith Richardson, John McDonald, and Michael McDonald.

After graduation from Howard University Medical School in June 1949, and completion of an internship at Harlem Hospital in New York City, he came to St. Thomas where he joined the Municipal Hospital Staff on August 1, 1950. He continued his work there until June 1953, when he entered the U.S. Army where he served until October 1955. Upon his return to St. Thomas, he joined the staff of the Knud Hansen Hospital.

In 1958, he left St. Thomas to begin a Residency in Orthopedic Surgery at Queens Hospital Center in Jamaica, New York and the Hospital for Crippled Children in Newark, New Jersey. Upon completing the residency in 1962, he rejoined the hospital staff at Knud Hansen Hospital.

During his service with the Health Department he served in many capacities including Acting Commissioner of Health, Chief of Surgery, Medical Director and Orthopedic Consultant to Charles Harwood Hospital in St. Croix from 1962 through 1974. There he held Orthopedic Clinics on a weekly basis and performed Orthopedic Surgery when necessary. He also served as President of the Virgin Islands Medical Society, Vice President of the Executive Committee, member of the Clinical Pathological Conference Committee and member of the Accreditation Committee. Professional affiliations include the American Academy of Family Physicians, National Medical Association, and American Medical Association.

He also carried on a private practice in family medicine where he treated all who sought his help with utmost respect, courtesy, and patience. He retired from the Hospital in October 1982 and from private practice in 1985. In 1982, he began his service as Campus Physician at the University of the Virgin Islands which he continued until he was unable to do so.

Throughout his life, "Dr. Mac," as he was affectionately known, remained a very spiritual person. After his retirement, he attended Mass and Holy Communion daily, and served as a Eucharistic Minister at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish.

His favorite pastimes were spending time with his family, his daily walks and a swim or soak on Magens Bay.

Dr. Mac was one of the most revered physicians in the Virgin Islands. During his distinguished medical career, and through his various executive positions, he remained the epitome of the family and community doctor.

The entire Virgin Islands has been truly blessed to have had such a skilled physician and caring and compassionate human being as a part of our lives. We will be forever grateful for the legacy "Dr. Mac" has left behind—a legacy that will surely continue to inspire and positively impact future generations of physicians, healthcare professionals and all Virgin Islanders.

Madam Speaker, I know that entire Congress joins my family and me in wishing Dr. Mac's family the fullness of God's love and peace during this difficult time of grief. May they all be sustained by the many wonderful memories that will remain with all of us forever and may "Dr. Mac/Uncle Syl" rest in peace.

H.R. 2046 OVERRIDES BROAD  
RANGE OF LAWS

**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 3, 2007*

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I received a letter today from a bipartisan coalition of family and faith-based organizations, who are concerned that powerful international gambling interests will succeed in negating U.S. laws that curb Internet gambling. I ask unanimous consent to place a copy of this letter in the RECORD.

Probably the most serious avenue of attack mentioned in this letter is H.R. 2046, which would legalize Internet gambling and provide online casinos with exemptions from federal and state laws.

Just one year ago, this body voted 317 to 93 in favor of the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006, which went on to be signed into law on October 13, 2006. By enacting UIGEA, we emphatically decided that we would not simply roll over as offshore gambling operators deliberately defied our laws. We would enforce our laws, even when the websites are offshore, by cutting off the flow of money for illegal Internet gambling activities. At the same time, we preserved existing Federal and State gambling laws, including the rights of States to set gambling policy and regulate any gambling operators within their own borders.

H.R. 2046 does not repeal UIGEA per se, but that would be its practical effect. The license this legislation would grant to Internet gambling operators serves as an affirmative defense to any prosecution or enforcement action under any other Federal or State law. It brushes aside Federal gambling laws such as the Wire Act, State gambling prohibitions, and State gambling regulatory commissions.

The proponents of H.R. 2046 say there is an opt-out for States, but this opt-out is riddled with problems. First, State laws already on the books don't matter—the governor has to certify exactly what is prohibited in that State, and if he or she fails to make that certification within 90 days, then the State becomes open game for Internet gamblers. Not only is it bad policy to ignore laws on the books, it is probably unconstitutional to give the Governor effective unilateral power to set Internet gambling policy for the State.

Second, if the State were to allow any form of gambling online, it would be regulated by the Treasury Department, which has no experience in gambling regulation, instead of the highly-experienced State gambling commission.

Third, the State opt-out would violate current U.S. trade obligations, so the World Trade Organization could tell the U.S. to drop the opt-out or face stiff trade penalties. The U.S. is currently trying to withdraw its "obligation" to free trade in gambling—which the U.S. never intended to make—but the process could take months or years. Until then, the offshore gambling industry could attack the State opt-out in H.R. 2046 in the WTO, as one of their attorneys publicly stated at a Cato Institute forum just last week.

Finally, keep in mind that NO State has yet legalized Internet gambling with foreign companies. If all the States opt out according to the laws they already have on the books, and if the opt-outs are not challenged legally, what will the international gambling interests have gained? If nothing, then why are they spending millions on lobbying efforts to pass H.R. 2046?

I hope that my colleagues will look past the smokescreen and see that H.R. 2046 could result in the greatest expansion of gambling ever enacted by Congress.

AUGUST 1, 2007.

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS: As a bipartisan coalition of family and faith-based organizations representing millions of citizens nationwide, we thank you for your efforts to protect families from the dangers of Internet gambling. Last year, Congress took the very valuable step of enacting the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006 (UIGEA) so that U.S. gambling laws could be better enforced on the Internet. We are concerned, however, about ensuring the integrity of UIGEA in upcoming months. We have three primary concerns: