

crib. He caught his shirt on a decorative knob on the corner post of his crib and hanged himself. Though his mother was able to perform CPR the moment she found him, Danny lived in a semi-comatose state for nine years and died in 1993.

But Danny Lineweaver's parents are by no means the only ones to face this heart-breaking and preventable tragedy. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, CPSC, more than 12,300 infants and children are hospitalized—and more than 40 children die—each year as a result of injuries from unsafe cribs. These children include Amaya Jade Dummer, a 2-month-old who died of asphyxiation when she was caught in the gap between the crib railing and the side of her crib, and Garrett Davis, a 4-month-old who died at his grandparents' home when he became wedged between an added mattress and the vinyl side of his mesh crib.

Madam Speaker, cribs are the only juvenile products manufactured expressly for leaving children unattended, and the design and construction of cribs must ensure that parents can have confidence that a crib is a safe place to leave an infant. Existing CPSC mandatory standards, as well as voluntary crib safety guidelines, have been effective in addressing most safety hazards associated with new cribs. The CPSC estimates that these standards prevent hundreds of deaths annually. However, these standards and guidelines apply only to new cribs, not to the sale or commercial use of second-hand and hand-me-down cribs. Secondhand cribs, many of which predate stringent federal safety standards and have been subsequently recalled, are responsible for the majority of crib-related infant injuries and deaths.

Used cribs can have any number of dangerous features. Missing or broken parts, excessive width between slats, poorly fitting crib sheets, inadequate mattress support, and faulty latches that do not prevent unintentional crib collapse all pose serious risks to infant safety. Nearly 4 million infants are born in the United States each year, but it is estimated that only 1 to 2 million new cribs are sold. This means that millions of infants are being placed in potentially unsafe used cribs. Secondhand cribs can persist for years in the secondary market in thrift and resale stores. Many hotels and motels continue to use second hand cribs that do not meet current safety standards established by CPSC.

In 2007 alone, more than 1.5 million cribs were recalled. It is vital to ensure that these potentially dangerous products are removed from the stream of commerce. Twelve States, including my home State of California, have already adopted legislation that would make it illegal to manufacture or sell a crib that does not meet current safety standards. But children in every State deserve this basic protection.

The Infant Crib Safety Act will save lives, and give peace of mind to the millions of parents who place their infants in cribs every single day.

This legislation will accomplish four main objectives to keep our children and infants safe. First, it will bar crib makers from manufacturing, and commercial users from selling, products that do not meet the most up-to-date safety standards, including voluntary industry standards. As a result, it will keep structurally unsound, lead-containing, and otherwise un-

safe cribs out of the stream of commerce. Second, it will prohibit the use of unsafe secondhand cribs in hotels, motels, and inns. Third, it requires the Consumer Product Safety Commission to update its standards by including new rules on crib durability. Many cribs are not built to withstand the stresses that active toddlers place on them, rendering older, used cribs even less safe for infants. Durability standards will assure safe usage over time, as well as quickly identify failures in design or hardware that could lead to a hazardous crib.

And finally, the bill requires new cribs to feature labels warning against the use of potentially dangerous soft bedding, to remind parents of the risk of infant suffocation from the use of pillows, blankets, and stuffed animals.

Madam Speaker, this measure was approved by the Senate last month as part of comprehensive consumer product safety legislation, and I applaud my colleague from California, Senator FEINSTEIN, who worked to ensure its passage. Now is the time for the House to act on this vital provision.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING COACH JILL YODER FOR COACHING THE HILAND HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM TO WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Coach Jill Yoder showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Jill Yoder was a leader and mentor for the Hiland High School Girls' Basketball Team; and

Whereas, Coach Yoder has been a role model for sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Coach Jill Yoder for leading the Hiland High School Girls' Basketball Team to winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and leadership she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 Basketball season.

**KELSIE HUTCHINSON**

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kelsie Hutchinson who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Kelsie Hutchinson is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kelsie Hutchinson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard

work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Kelsie Hutchinson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her high school career to her college career and future accomplishments.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

SPEECH OF

**HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 1, 2008*

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD my heartfelt support for H. Res. 1061, commemorating the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. April 4, 1968 was a tragic day for America and the world. We lost a visionary leader whose conviction that all men and women are created equal, be brought to fruition in our time. Today I will not mourn, but celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. King.

Although we have come a long way in remedying the social injustices of our country's history, we must continue to be engaged in a dialogue of racial and economic equality, and for the peace that Dr. King gave his life for. He fought for peace here in America, and he fought for peace for all around the world.

America is currently engaged in a war that has taken the lives of over 4,000 U.S. soldiers and tens of thousands of Iraqis. The uncanny similarities that the war in Iraq has with the Vietnam war must lead us to adhere to Dr. King's message of nonviolence. Dr. King spoke out against the Vietnam war even when his colleagues questioned his wisdom.

On April 4, 1967, a year to the day of his death, Dr. King addressed his colleagues at a meeting of Clergy and Laity Concerned at the Riverside Church in New York City. His speech that day was entitled Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence. His message was poignant then and speaks directly to us today.

Dr. King stated, "Somehow this madness must cease. We must stop now. I speak as a child of God and brother to the suffering poor of Vietnam. I speak for those whose land is being laid waste, whose homes are being destroyed, whose culture is being subverted. I speak for the poor of America who are paying the double price of smashed hopes at home and death and corruption in Vietnam. I speak as a citizen of the world, for the world as it stands aghast at the path we have taken. I speak as an American to the leaders of my own nation. The great initiative in this war is ours. The initiative to stop it must be ours."

In order for us to continue Dr. King's legacy of peace and justice, we must take a stand to end the illegal and unjust war in Iraq. Today I reaffirm my commitment to ending this war and continuing the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.