

Our teaching hospitals, which play a critical role in providing health care to underserved communities, cannot withstand this sort of hit to their budgets without severely curtailing important services.

Broadly speaking, I think that these seven regulations ought to be much more carefully scrutinized. Where some were intended to change Medicaid policy without Congressional authorization, others responded to Congressional action by altering policy beyond what Congress intended. A 1-year moratorium will enable Congress to thoroughly examine these regulations to ensure that States like mine are not devastated by rules that, frankly speaking, appear to undermine the very purpose for which Medicaid was established. I am proud to support this bill, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that our State Medicaid safety-nets remain strong and viable.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was ill and missed rollcall vote No. 205 through 207. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all votes.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Israel and its people on the 60th anniversary of its founding and offer my sincere hope that the seventh decennial of its existence will usher in a period of lasting peace between it and its neighbors.

We all agree that Israel and the Israeli people have accomplished much during its 60 years. As this resolution points out, Israel has forged a politically diverse and dynamic society with a thriving economy and vibrant cultural and intellectual life. It has produced 8 Nobel Prize winners and has provided sanctuary for millions of Jews throughout the world.

I have visited Israel on more than one occasion and I was most impressed by its commitment to many of the democratic principles we cherish here in the United States. As the resolution points out, there are many common bonds between the United States and Israel.

So, Mr. Speaker, as a strong supporter of the Israeli people and Israel's right to exist, I agree we should take time to recognize Israel on this momentous occasion. I also believe, however, that we must take this opportunity to encourage Israel and all the parties involved to find a workable solution to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and to redouble efforts on the path to peace.

For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I support H. Con. Res. 322, which recognizes the 60th anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel.

HONORING DR. MICHAEL E. DEBAKEY

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, Senate Majority Leader REID, Senate Republican Leader MCCONNELL, House Republican Leader BOEHNER, Senator HUTCHISON, the Honorable Dr. Michael Ellis DeBakey and Mrs. DeBakey:

Please allow me to thank Senator HUTCHISON for her leadership; Representatives BURGESS and CULBERSON for helping to acquire the 290 signatures needed to bring this bill to the floor; Speaker PELOSI, Majority Leader REID, and the leadership for considering the legislation expeditiously; the President for signing it; and I especially want to thank God for the Honorable Dr. Michael E. DeBakey.

On September 7th his life will measure 100 years. However, the most meaningful measure of life is not how long one lives, but rather what one does with the time God gives. Dr. DeBakey, your living has made it possible for others to have better lives.

You have promulgated over 1,600 publications and operated on over 60,000 patients. You have either established or helped establish: the field of stroke surgery; the coronary bypass; the mobile army surgical hospital; the National Library of Medicine; the multiple transplantation procedure; and health care systems around the world.

You epitomize the truest measure of life. As Ruth Smeltzer proclaimed, "Some measure their lives by days and years, others by heart throbs, passion and tears; But the surest measure under the sun, is what in your lifetime for others you have done."

You have proven that one person can not only impact the world but that one person can change the world for the good of all. If we did not have a Congressional Gold Medal, we would have to create one just for you.

THANKING DALTON YANCEY FOR OVER 35 YEARS OF SERVICE TO AMERICAN AGRICULTURE AND CONGRATULATING HIM ON HIS RECENT RETIREMENT

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is with both enthusiasm and heavy heart that I rise today to congratulate Mr. Dalton Yancey on his recent retirement from the Florida, Texas, and Hawaii Sugar Cane Growers.

For over 35 years, Dalton has represented and advocated on behalf of American agriculture. An expert in U.S. agriculture policy, Dalton has specialized in sugar, citrus and trade policy, ensuring that American growers and farmers are always given a level playing field on which to compete with foreign growers. He is the past President of the Commodity Club of Washington, DC, and the former Board Chair of the American Sugar Alliance. A true testament to his knowledge, Dal-

ton has been appointed by three American Presidents to serve on the Agricultural Trade Advisory Committee for Sweeteners.

In addition to his professional duties, Dalton is extensively involved in many activities throughout his community. As an officer in the U.S. Army, Dalton served in Germany and Vietnam, receiving the Bronze Star for Meritorious Service. In 1969, he was a key member of Operation Holy Task Force, which brought Bob Hope to Southeast Asia.

Dalton has been active with the University of Florida Alumni Association, the Boy Scouts of America, and the Florida State Society. I have seen Dalton in action with all of these organizations, as well as the Faith and Politics Institute since its inception 16 years ago. The two of us have been together at more prayer breakfasts and meetings organized by the Institute than I can even begin to count. As a member of Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Northern Virginia, Dalton and his wife of 33 years, Barbara—known by many of us as Barbie—are as committed to their church as they are to everything that they do.

Madam Speaker, I have had the privilege and honor of knowing Dalton throughout my career in the House of Representatives. It goes without saying that the people of Florida are losing a tremendous advocate with Dalton's retirement. He is not only an exceptional advocate on behalf of the people in my district, but a real friend to me.

I have often sought Dalton's advice and counsel not only on agricultural issues, but on so many other things that we consider here in the halls of Congress. He is, under every definition in the book, a true Southern gentleman. I thank Dalton for his service, wish him luck in this new and exciting chapter in his life, and implore him that he not stray too far from those of us who will miss him most.

A TRIBUTE TO DAVID SANDIFER

**HON. MIKE MCINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Mr. MCINTYRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Chairman of the Brunswick County Commissioners, David Sandifer, of Holden Beach, North Carolina, for his commitment to his community and as a dedicated man of public service. Sandifer proved himself a devoted and effective public servant and a man of good character. He was also a devoted family man and dear friend. Sandifer passed away on April 4, 2008, and he will be dearly missed.

Sandifer, who had been a Brunswick County commissioner since 1996 and chairman since 1998, also served on the board of health, the criminal justice advisory board, the Communities in Schools advisory board, the board of directors of Hope Harbor Home, the Brunswick County Jail Population Management Committee, the Lower Cape Fear Water and Sewer Authority, and many other committees. Driven by love for his community and its people, he was instrumental in implementing different programs and services throughout Brunswick County. He oversaw development projects in one of the fastest-growing communities in our Nation and helped it cope with growing pains along the way. In recognition of