

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ASSISTANCE, QUALITY AND AFFORDABILITY ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Assistance, Quality and Affordability, AQUA, Act. I'm pleased that this important drinking water legislation includes my legislation the "Get the Lead Out" Act.

Get the Lead Out will help protect against the lead exposure acquired through our plumbing systems and faucets. The bill updates the lead content standard in the Safe Drinking Water Act, SDWA, from 8 percent to .25 percent and represents a progressive and major effort that will eliminate the threat to all of us from lead in our faucets and fixtures.

Today, lead remains one of the most persistent threats to our public health and the EPA has concluded that between 15 and 20 percent of the lead in children's blood comes from their drinking water systems. From the last decade of medical research, it is increasingly clear that there is no safe level of lead in the human bloodstream and this is particularly true for children.

California recognized this threat and in 2006 enacted the toughest lead content standard for drinking water faucets, fittings, and plumbing systems anywhere in the world. The states of Vermont and Maryland have followed California's lead and are now implementing identical laws.

Get the Lead Out mirrors California's legislation and will provide for a consistent and effective national standard. By updating the SDWA we will ensure that no one will be exposed to a serious health threat which can easily be avoided.

Get the Lead Out has garnered the support of state health officials, numerous children's health organizations, prominent national environmental organizations, local governments, scientific associations, and national drinking water associations. Of particular note, the Plumbing Manufacturers Institute, the association that represents all major faucet companies and other manufacturers of drinking water plumbing fittings, also supports the legislation.

I thank Chairmen WAXMAN and MARKEY for their leadership on promoting safe drinking water and I urge my colleagues to vote for AQUA and the Get the Lead Out provision included in this critical bill.

HONORING JIM STEINER'S DISTINGUISHED CAREER

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 9, 2010

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jim Steiner, Business Develop-

ment Specialist for Portland's Small Business Administration field office. Specialist Steiner is retiring in August after nearly 20 years with the SBA and 40 years of service to our country.

Jim embarked on an exemplary civilian career with the SBA in 1991. Over the next 20 years, Jim helped numerous entrepreneurs enroll in SBA programs like the veterans Patriot Express program, the Minority and Women Owned Business program and the HUBZone program. He approached his work with integrity and a sense of dedication learned over a 20-year military career.

Mr. Steiner and his colleagues have assisted businesses that innovate and provide jobs and services to our community. Well-known companies such as Columbia Sportswear and Mother's Bistro have benefitted from SBA's assistance.

Former Oregon Governor Tom McCall once said, "Heroes are not giant statues framed against a red sky. They are people who say, 'This is my community, and it is my responsibility to make it better.'" Jim Steiner truly is an American hero, for he has devoted much of his life to making his country and community better.

In 2008 Jim was awarded the Stanley Magiera Award for Excellence in Service to America's Veteran Entrepreneurs. Mr. Steiner's commitment to the people he served has been recognized by his colleagues, community partners, and the public, who are grateful for his efforts to provide excellence in service.

It is an honor for me to recognize Business Development Specialist Steiner for his service and for providing a heroic example to us all.

KIDNEY DISEASE AWARENESS AND EDUCATION WEEK

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 9, 2010

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the week of August 9, 2010, as Kidney Disease Awareness and Education Week. This important event is sponsored by the American Nephrology Nurses' Association, ANNA. The week helps remind us and all Americans of the needs of patients suffering from or at risk of End Stage Renal Disease, ESRD.

I have met with nephrology nurses from my district to discuss ESRD and hear from them firsthand about their work. According to national reports, over 400,000 Americans have irreversible kidney failure. The only treatment for ESRD is dialysis or kidney transplantation; however, transplantation is limited due to the shortage of donors. The majority of patients undergo regular dialysis treatments to sustain life.

In my home state of New Jersey there are 10,882 people who suffer from ESRD and re-

quire regular dialysis. Nephrology nurses play a critical role in providing kidney disease patients with dialysis and related care and treatment to patients with ESRD across the entire country.

ANNA's Kidney Disease Awareness and Education Week provides a great opportunity for everyone to learn about the excellent work being done by nephrology nurses across the country. Finally, I want to commend the nephrology nurses in New Jersey for the great work they do every day.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 9, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,310,114,269,532.31.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,671,688,523,238.51 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

TRIBUTE TO ALAN CABLE

HON. STEVE KAGEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 9, 2010

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to Mr. Alan Cable as he retires as the president and chief executive officer of the Community Blood Center. For 26 years Mr. Cable oversaw the critical work of the blood center and is a distinguished community leader in northeast Wisconsin. As friends, family and colleagues gather to pay tribute to his hard work and dedication, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this outstanding individual.

If you talk to professionals at medical centers across the State of Wisconsin, they will all certainly sing the praises of Alan. Under his management, the Community Blood Center has been widely recognized as a stellar organization that meets hospitals' needs for blood products, and his work is credited with saving countless lives.

Among his many accomplishments, Mr. Cable has greatly expanded the blood center. Under his leadership, the organization has grown from 30 employees to 150 employees and from 8,500 annual blood donations to 55,000 blood donations each year. This has helped guarantee that, for the last 20 years, patients in 17 Wisconsin hospitals have had

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