

care from Federally Qualified Health Centers or through the Native Hawaiian Health Care System.

Native Hawaiians, like American Indians and Alaska Natives, are an indigenous, native people. Currently, states receive a 100 percent FMAP reimbursement for health care services provided through Indian Health Services facilities. The bill I am introducing today would bring parity in the treatment of our country's Native peoples.

Congress has previously recognized the unique and historical relationship between the United States and the indigenous people of Hawaii. I ask for my colleagues continued support for the health and wellbeing of Native Hawaiians.

Mahalo (thank you).

MILITARY HONORS FOR  
VETERANS' FUNERALS

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 1, 2011*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to speak about a bill that I have just reintroduced, "Providing Military Honors for our Nation's Heroes Act" (H.R. 545), to reim-

burse expenses of volunteers who provide military funeral honors at veterans' funerals.

Because thousands of service members are deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan while thousands of World War II and Korean War veterans die each day, there is simply not enough military to provide a proper seven-person honors detail for these funerals. Some families of veterans have had to "make do" with a CD playing "Taps." I am saddened by this outrageous situation and determined to provide proper military funeral honors for all families who request them.

This bill will allow reimbursement to volunteers from members of veterans' service organizations (VSOs) and other organizations approved by the Secretary of the Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA). Transportation costs and other expenses, such as cleaning uniforms, incurred in providing funeral honors details will be reimbursed. A second change will allow reimbursement to details that are requested by funeral homes and the VA, as well as the Department of Defense, the current practice.

Currently, members of VSOs and other volunteers can assist the military by providing a color guard, pallbearers, a bugler or firing party, but the law does not address ceremonies in which VSOs render honors without military representation. My bill will allow volunteers to be reimbursed even when no military person is a part of the honor guard. This

change will increase the number of honors details available to families. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

REGARDING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 1, 2011*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps and to honor the memory of its founder Sargent Shriver.

The Peace Corps was created in 1961 to encourage Americans to travel abroad as ambassadors of good will and to engage other cultures in pursuit of world peace and mutual understanding. For 50 years, Peace Corps volunteers have helped to sow the seeds of friendship around the globe through their industry and enthusiastic service. Today, the Peace Corps endures as a living reminder of the spirit and dedication of Sargent Shriver, who was a tireless crusader for peace and justice, willing to lend a hand wherever one was needed, and building institutions like the Peace Corps that will carry on well into the future.