

Regarding federal housing programs, House Republicans proposed devastating cuts that would have done serious harm to low-income families in Minnesota. Fortunately, this conference agreement rejected the most damaging Republican cuts. Section 8 tenant-based vouchers receive \$18.9 billion, above the original level included in either the House or Senate bills. H.R. 2112 also maintains funding for homeless veterans, the McKinney-Vento homeless assistance grant program and housing counseling services. Still, the legislation fails to meet the growing needs for safe, affordable shelter in our communities. For example, cuts to the Community Development Block Grant program will undermine the efforts of Minnesota cities to respond to the effects of high unemployment and the collapse in the real estate market.

H.R. 2112 is the result of extended negotiations and represents a genuine compromise between competing priorities. I believe that many of the provisions in this legislation should be revisited and many of funding levels should be restored in the next appropriations cycle. Still, I plan to support this legislation today with my vote to ensure the critical resources in H.R. 2112 reach Minnesota communities without further delay.

#### HONORING MICHELLE MOORE

#### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 30, 2011*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dallas County public defender Michelle Moore, who has worked on and off the clock to free the innocent from prison and helped them to adjust to life on the outside once they're released. I wish to congratulate Ms. Moore for her service to my community as she is leaving her position to open the first public defender's office in Burnet County.

Ms. Moore has helped free 11 men from prison, appeared on a television documentary called Dallas DNA and helped change state laws to compensate exonerees and prevent wrongful convictions. As an attorney, she requests DNA testing and has worked with the district attorney's office to investigate cases. She has also represented inmates whose guilt was confirmed by DNA testing.

Moore works with the Innocence Project of Texas, the Wesleyan Innocence Project and the University of Texas at Arlington Innocence Network and the Center for Actual Innocence. Michelle Moore has practiced law for 17 years and is licensed to practice in Texas and Arkansas. She has served as an assistant Dallas County public defender for the past 13 years, where she currently works as the DNA attorney for the office. Moore taught for six years in the Criminal Clinic at Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Yes if you want to say that I was a drum major, say that I was a drum major for justice; say that I was a drum major for righteousness. And all of the other shallow things will not matter. I won't have the fine and luxurious things of life to leave behind. But I just want to leave a committed life behind." Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Michelle Moore

for her determination and hard work to these causes. Our country is a better one because of Michelle Moore.

PROCLAIMING THE STATE OF NEVADA RECOGNIZE HELEN J. STEWART AS THE "FIRST LADY OF LAS VEGAS", AND HONOR HER STATUE WHICH WILL BE RAISED AT THE OLD LAS VEGAS MORMON FORT STATE HISTORIC PARK ON DECEMBER 3, 2011 IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

#### HON. MARK E. AMODEI

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 30, 2011*

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Helen J. Stewart as "First Lady of Las Vegas", and honor her statue which will be raised at the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park on December 3, 2011 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Helen, with her husband Archibald, three children and one on the way, arrived in the Las Vegas Valley in 1882 and resided on the land located around the abandoned Mormon Fort situated near what today is the intersection of Las Vegas Boulevard North and Washington Avenue. Later left with four children and another on the way after the death of her husband in 1884, she became a rancher and business woman and presided over the operations of the ranch. She began buying land and became the largest landowner in Lincoln County. She later sold her land to the railroad in 1902 and hence forth the city of Las Vegas developed.

As the new town expanded, Helen became active in the community serving in many leadership roles such as one of the founders of Christ Episcopal Church, charter member of the Mesquite Club, president of the Las Vegas branch of the Nevada Historical Society, supporter of women's suffrage, first woman elected to the school board on the Republican ticket, and as a friend to the Paiute Indians who worked on her ranch, sold ten acres of land to the federal government to be used as an Indian school and semi-reservation which remains tribal land today.

On July 26, 2010 the Historical Commission of the Las Vegas Centennial awarded the "Friends of the Fort" \$99,000 for the Helen J. Stewart statue to be sculpted by Benjamin Victor of Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Both the State of Nevada and I recognize the statue of Helen J. Stewart to be a fitting recognition of the many "firsts" that this exceptional Nevadan lady forever known as the "First Lady of Las Vegas" accomplished in her lifetime.

URGING FDA TO ACT PROMPTLY TO APPROVE ARTIFICIAL PANCREAS TECHNOLOGIES

#### HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 30, 2011*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, diabetes is a common, and growing, disease in

Indiana. According to 2009 CDC data, approximately 451,000 Hoosiers—9% of the state's population—had diagnosed diabetes. Adults who are overweight and not physically active are at risk for developing diabetes. Among adults with diabetes in Indiana, 88.1% are overweight and 42.5% reported physical inactivity.

In addition to the human toll diabetes places on people in Indiana, the financial burden diabetes places on the health system in Indiana is staggering—in 2007, the direct and indirect cost of diabetes in Indiana was approximately \$3.09 billion.

Americans with diabetes, particularly young children with diabetes, desperately need better tools to manage their disease and thereby prevent many of its life-threatening and costly complications. Some of these breakthrough tools and technologies are already available.

For example, Low-Glucose Suspend systems—devices that automatically suspend insulin delivery when blood sugar levels are dangerously low—have been approved in more than 40 countries around the world. But not here in the United States.

In fact, the FDA only this year—almost four years after these devices were approved for use in Europe, issued draft guidance on what studies manufacturers would need to conduct in order to win approval for Low-Glucose Suspend systems in the United States.

To make matters worse, according to the Nation's leading clinical organizations specializing in diabetes care, the guidance proposed by FDA in June 2011 for Low-Glucose Suspend systems created many unnecessary obstacles to the evaluation of those systems.

Thankfully, the FDA recently took an overdue step to clarify that ill-conceived guidance. However, there is significant concern within the diabetes community that forthcoming guidance—which the FDA has committed publicly to publishing by December 1st—on even more revolutionary technology—the artificial pancreas—will either be delayed or suffered from many of the same problems which plagued the FDA's Low-Glucose Suspend system guidance.

The development of the artificial pancreas is critically important to many of my constituents, which is why I signed a broad, bipartisan letter in support of prompt and appropriate guidance on the artificial pancreas earlier this year. Any delay will slow an innovation that has the potential to dramatically improve the lives of those with diabetes.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the thousands of Hoosiers, and millions of other Americans with diabetes, I urge the FDA to issue this draft guidance no later than December 1, if not sooner, so that artificial pancreas technologies can be tested in an outpatient setting and be made available to those who need it in the near future. This is literally a matter of life and death.

I also would like to insert a copy of my letter to FDA Commissioner Hamburg in this subject in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

*Washington, DC, November 29, 2011.*

Hon. MARGARET HAMBURG, M.D.,  
Commissioner, U.S. Food and Drug Administration,  
*Silver Springs, MD.*

DEAR COMMISSIONER HAMBURG: I am writing to urge the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to expedite the development of the artificial pancreas for the treatment of type 1 diabetes. Specifically, I urge FDA to