

profit lenders extremely difficult to discharge in bankruptcy even after meeting the restrictive criteria for bankruptcy, treating private student debt in the same manner as debts for criminal penalties and back taxes. This 2005 change gave special federal protections to for-profit lenders, penalized borrowers for pursuing higher education, and provided no incentive to private lenders to lend responsibly. Private education debt is no different than other consumer debt; it involves private profit and deserves no privileged treatment. Congress must restore fairness in student lending by treating privately issued student loans in bankruptcy the same as other types of private debt. This is why I introduced the Private Student Loan Bankruptcy Act, which I will continue to champion until it is law.

A strong economy requires an educated workforce, and an educated workforce comes from ensuring students and their families have what they need to prepare for, enroll in, and complete college. Given that student debt has surpassed credit card debt for the first time in history, our economy remains fragile, and the labor market demands increased skills, now is not the time to make deep and permanent cuts to critical college programs serving needy students. I urge the Republican Leadership to invest in education and support students. I will steadfastly protect federal financial assistance for higher education so that we can build our youth for the future.

HONORING THE LADY JACKET'S  
BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Lady Jacket Basketball team of Rockwall, Texas for their efforts during the 2012 4A State Championship game in Austin, Texas.

The game was extremely close; however, the Lady Jackets fell short 45–42, showing incredible heart and determination throughout the game. I commend their hard work throughout the entire season.

The Lady Jacket's head coach, Jill McDill, praised her team as one of the best defenses she had ever coached.

Special congratulations to Paige Turner and Alyssa Lang for being named to the Class 4A All-Tournament Team.

The reputation of the Lady Jacket Basketball program is one that is filled with pride and respect from the players, fans, and the entire Rockwall community.

Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, let us recognize Rockwall's Lady Jacket Basketball team, commend them for their successful season, and wish them continued success.

CONGRATULATING ORASURE  
TECHNOLOGIES FOR HIV/AIDS  
BREAKTHROUGH

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I am thrilled to draw attention to a landmark decision by the

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) last week approving the OraQuick In-Home HIV test and commend OraSure Technologies for this profound advancement in HIV/AIDS diagnostics. This test is the first rapid over-the-counter HIV test approved in the United States. The OraQuick In-Home HIV test detects the presence of HIV antibodies roughly 20 minutes after a simple oral swab. It is also the first rapid diagnostic test for any infectious disease that has been approved by the FDA for sale over-the-counter.

The FDA's decision is a significant moment in the history of our fight against HIV/AIDS. Since the beginning of the epidemic, getting individuals tested has been a critical component of HIV prevention and linkage to care. HIV testing enables individuals to know their status and protect their health as well as the health of others. Yet, over 1 million Americans are unaware of their infection. Those who do not know they have HIV are disproportionately responsible for the nearly 50,000 new infections that occur each year. The availability of an over-the-counter test will lead to greater testing, increased diagnoses, reduced transmissions, earlier treatment and saved lives.

OraSure Technologies, located in the heart of the Lehigh Valley in the 15th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, has been at the forefront of rapid diagnostics for over a decade. This most recent accomplishment comes on the heels of the company receiving approval for our nation's first rapid test for Hepatitis C. Headquartered in Bethlehem, PA, OraSure's innovation has led to an economic resurgence on a brownfield site where Bethlehem Steel once stood proud.

Again, it is an honor to commend OraSure for leading the way in transforming diagnostic testing through innovative new technologies and playing a key role in what will hopefully be a transformation in the fight against HIV/AIDS. I want to extend my congratulations to the company and all of its employees for earning approval of the first over-the-counter in-home HIV test. This achievement will have a dramatic impact on the number of individuals who will learn their HIV status and most importantly, save countless lives.

FORCED ABORTION AT 7 MONTHS  
OF FENG JIANMEI SPARKS  
GLOBAL OUTRAGE—AND CON-  
CERN

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, China's one-child policy in effect since 1979 is state sponsored murder and constitutes massive crimes against humanity. The Nuremberg Nazi war crimes tribunal properly construed forced abortion as a crime against humanity—nothing in human history compares to the magnitude of China's 33 year assault on women and children.

Abortion is a weapon of mass destruction. Millions have been exterminated.

Today in China, rather than being given maternal care, pregnant women without birth allowed permits are hunted down and forcibly aborted. They are mocked, belittled, and humiliated.

In recent days, the exploitation and forced abortion at seven months of Feng Jianmei has sparked global outrage—and deep concern for her welfare and that of the women of China (In early July, the European Parliament “strongly condemned” China's one child and forced abortion policy). While Feng remains in a hospital—she calls it a prison—her husband, Deng, has been beaten. Feng's gross mistreatment however is far too commonplace.

Feng Jianmei was forced to undergo an abortion on June 2nd, seven months into her pregnancy. Media reports indicate that local officials in northwestern Shaanxi Province held Ms. Feng for three days, blindfolded, and coerced her to consent to the abortion. Even with the supposed consent, it took five men to hold her down and administer the drug that induced the 48 hour labor. The injection was given directly to the child's head.

Ms. Feng's husband, Deng, posted graphic photos of his wife and the dead baby online, embarrassing the government. Deng Jicai, Mr. Deng's sister, said her brother and sister-in-law had refrained from speaking to media but decided to speak to German reporters who traveled to Shaanxi when the government did not produce investigation results as promised.

Ms. Deng reported to the media that the local government organized a backlash against the family members, calling them traitors and keeping them under surveillance, apparently angered over the family's contacts with journalists. Local residents took a long bus ride to the hospital where Ms. Feng was recovering from the abortion and demonstrated with banners reading, “beat the traitors soundly and expel them from Zengjia township!” Family members claim that the demonstration seemed to be a campaign organized and funded by the local authorities but made to look like a spontaneous public gesture. Mr. Deng reportedly also was beaten and labeled a traitor for speaking out about the crime.

The China Daily reported that there was no legal basis for the fine of \$6,300 for the second pregnancy that Ms. Feng refused to pay. The local government also has admitted that Ms. Feng's legal rights were violated. Publicity surrounding the forced abortion prompted the firing of two local officials and warnings or demerits being issued against five others.

Mr. Deng escaped from the hospital where both he and his wife were being forcibly detained. He traveled to Beijing and hired a lawyer to sue the local government. Mr. Deng's location is now unknown, but it is believed that he is in hiding. Ms. Feng is still being held at the hospital.

The lawyer, Zhang Kai, said recently that he has sent a legal request on behalf of Feng's husband, Deng Jiyuan, asking local police and prosecutors to investigate criminal infractions in the case. Deng also is seeking unspecified compensation from the government, Zhang said.

The widespread circulation of the photos posted by Mr. Deng has prompted renewed debate in China and the world regarding the one-child policy, possibly including within the government itself. Researchers with a center affiliated with China's State Council, the equivalent of China's cabinet, argued in an essay published in the China Economic Times newspaper on July 3, 2012, that China should adjust the one-child policy “as soon as possible” to head off a potential demographic crisis.