

and 24 account for 26 percent of new HIV infections each year, with nearly 60 percent unaware that they are infected.

The Advocates for Youth organization in conjunction with 11 other founding partners are supporting young people in the fight against HIV and AIDS. This national day marks an important step toward recognizing the key role that future generations play in becoming leaders in disease prevention and education.

Three years ago, the White House unveiled the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, our country's first-ever comprehensive plan with measurable goals to be achieved by 2015. This plan calls for a renewed commitment and increased public attention to meet three goals: reduce the number of people who become infected with HIV; increase access to care and improve health outcomes for people living with HIV; and reduce HIV-related health disparities. In outlining these goals, President Obama challenged everyone to partner in supporting the implementation of the innovative strategy "that provides a clear direction for moving forward together."

North Carolina ranks in the top ten states for rates of new HIV infection. This alarming statistic is one of the reasons why medical professionals such as Dr. Michelle Collins-Ogle, of Northern Outreach Clinic in Henderson, North Carolina are so passionate about offering illness education, prevention, testing, and medical intervention. Even with few resources, Dr. Ogle, the clinic's director, fights not just the disease but the perceived stigma of the disease as well.

As a former civil rights attorney I applaud the efforts of organizations who are advocating for the rights of people living with HIV and AIDS. Organizations such as the North Carolina AIDS Action Network, who mobilized support to persuade the AIDS Drug Assistance Program to reopen new enrollments for low-income people needing access to life-saving HIV medication. I want to also recognize Duke University's AIDS Legal Project, a pro bono program that trains law school students to serve the unmet need of providing legal counsel to highly stigmatized, low-income HIV-infected clients.

Combating HIV and AIDS, as with any other illness plaguing this country, requires a partnership for success. That partnership must include action on behalf of our governing bodies, healthcare providers, and individual citizens to keep these issues at the forefront of the minds of all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing April 10th as National Youth HIV & Awareness Day as we salute the efforts of young people nationwide who are tirelessly and effectively working toward achieving the goal of an AIDS-free generation.

HONORING NILS HAUGEN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nils Haugen. Nils is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy

Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nils has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nils has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Nils has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Nils built two picnic tables and two benches at the Northland Therapeutic Riding Center in Holt, Missouri, which provides equine-based therapy for people with special needs.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nils Haugen for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IMPROVED HEALTH CARE AT
LOWER COST ACT OF 2013

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, it is widely accepted, on both sides of the aisle in both the House and Senate, that health care costs are the single major driver of our deficit and that we need better quality health care at lower costs—for our citizens and for our economy. When it comes to implementing carefully crafted gainsharing programs, existing law is in the way. To meet the three goals of (1) decreasing costs, (2) improving quality, and (3) not compromising access to health care services, the "Improved Health Care at Lower Cost Act of 2013" (the "Act") will require the OIG and CMS to issue regulations that define standards for gainsharing and similar arrangements that will be protected under the anti-fraud laws. The requirements that federal regulators set should include a primary emphasis on quality. OIG has vast experience in approving shared savings programs where the shared savings payment to physicians by the hospital was conditioned upon meeting certain quality metrics. The idea that shared savings payments should take quality into account seems obvious to me; no one should be permitted to share in savings that the hospital accrues without demonstrating that quality either improved, or at a minimum, was not adversely impacted by such arrangements. I am assuming that regulators will draw upon their vast experience with these programs and put in place sufficient protections to guard against fraud, waste, and abuse. Such protections may include requirements around quality; comparisons against historical data; a ceiling on savings that will inure to any given physician; and a requirement that arrangements be reduced to writing to ensure that it is easier to identify arrangements that do not comply with the requirements that CMS and OIG set through rulemaking.

The Act will allow hospitals and physicians to better align incentives in order to decrease health care costs through allowing certain "gainsharing" arrangements. The term "gainsharing" refers to arrangements where hospitals share with physicians any reduction in the hospital's costs for patient care that the hospital gets as a result of the efforts of the

physician. Currently, gainsharing arrangements are prohibited under several anti-fraud laws. First, the federal Civil Monetary Penalty statute prevents hospitals and physicians from engaging in "gainsharing" arrangements. Second, the Office of the Inspector General for the Department of Health and Human Services ("OIG") has indicated that gainsharing arrangements may implicate the federal Anti-Kickback law. Finally, gainsharing arrangements may be prohibited by the Physician Self-Referral law. Because of the potential legal implications, hospitals and physicians have been reluctant to participate in gainsharing arrangements for fear of prosecution under all of these laws or even under the False Claims Act.

Notwithstanding existing law, the government has acknowledged that there is potential benefit associated with gainsharing arrangements. In its 1999 guidance, the OIG said:

[t]he OIG recognizes that hospitals have a legitimate interest in enlisting physicians in their efforts to eliminate unnecessary costs. Savings that do not affect the quality of patient care may be generated in many ways[.] Achieving these savings may require substantial effort on the part of the participating physicians. Obviously, a reduction in health care costs that does not adversely affect the quality of the health care provided to patients is in the best interest of the nation's health care system [emphasis supplied].

Then, in 2005, MedPAC issued a recommendation in its Report to Congress that hospitals and physicians be permitted to engage in gainsharing arrangements. In this report, MedPAC stated that:

[t]he Commission believes that gainsharing arrangements have the potential to improve patient care and reduce hospital costs as long as safeguards are in place to minimize the undesirable incentives. . . . Due to the potential for gainsharing arrangements to encourage physician and hospital cooperation to lower costs and improve care, the Congress should provide the Secretary with the authority to allow and regulate these arrangements. The Secretary should develop rules that allow gainsharing arrangements as long as safeguards exist to ensure that cost-saving measures do not reduce quality or inappropriately influence physician referrals [emphasis supplied].

Finally, in 2008, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ("CMS") issued a proposed rule that would have created an exception under the Physician Self-Referral law to protect certain "shared savings and incentive payment programs." In the preamble to the proposed rule, CMS stated the following:

[s]hared savings programs have been recognized by stakeholders as an effective means of controlling costs, improving efficiency, and promoting quality in the delivery of health care services. Government stakeholders have recognized similar potential benefits when shared savings programs are properly structured to ensure compliance with Federal health care program requirements. Empirical evidence suggests that the goal of patient care quality maintenance or improvement can be achieved through a properly-designed shared savings program.

The rule was never finalized. However, based upon the assertions of OIG, MedPAC, and CMS, the evidence seems clear and convincing: properly structured gainsharing programs show substantial potential in reducing

costs by aligning incentives between hospitals and physicians to make cost-saving improvements to healthcare delivery.

In sum, the Act strikes the right balance between the need for innovation in promoting cost savings efforts and the need to guard against waste, fraud, and abuse. CMS and OIG can structure the requirements that hospital-physician arrangements must meet in a way that ensures federal health care programs will be protected from fraud, waste, and abuse. Federal regulators have been overseeing these arrangements for nearly a decade—either through demonstration authority or through the advisory opinion process—I am confident that this legislation holds genuine promise for being a “game changer” in getting us towards the goal of better care at a lower cost without compromising access to quality health care services.

HONORING WILLIAM TELFORD
BARNHOUSE II ON HIS 90TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate William Telford Barnhouse II, known as Bill to his friends, was born on April 18, 1923 and is celebrating his 90th birthday this year along with family and friends. Bill was raised in Austin, Texas when it was still a small town. He graduated in 1940 from Austin High School where he competed on the debate team. His fondest memories of those years are of his family, his dog and the car he was able to buy with the money he made selling fireworks.

After high school Bill went to the University of Texas in Austin where he joined the United States Navy as a Naval Reserve Officer Cadet. He received his commission as an Ensign in the United States Naval Reserve on February 26, 1944, married his college sweetheart Margaret Pierson on February 27, 1944, received his degree in Business Administration on February 29, 1944 and his orders to report to the USS *Kidd*, Destroyer 661 in the South Pacific that same day.

After surviving repeated kamikaze attacks during the battle of Okinawa, on April 11, 1945 the *Kidd* was struck by a kamikaze killing thirty-seven and wounding seventy-five of the *Kidd's* sailors and officers. Bill survived the attack and helped sail the *Kidd* back to the United States for repairs. After it was decommissioned, the *Kidd* eventually sailed to Baton Rouge, Louisiana where it now serves as Louisiana's Naval War Memorial in Baton Rouge.

After the war, Bill worked in a number of jobs before going to work for Southern Union Gas Company as its Office Manager in Austin, Texas. In 1961, Southern Union moved Bill to Albuquerque to be its office manager here, where he worked in the building now housing the Flying Star at 8th Street and Central. After advancements that required moving to El Paso and Dallas, Bill was named President of the Gas Company of New Mexico and returned to Albuquerque in 1975. He retired from that position in 1983.

Margaret and Bill were married for fifty years and were blessed with five children: Wil-

liam T. Barnhouse III (known as Tig to friends and family) who lives in La Union, New Mexico and, along with his wife Lydia, owns two businesses operating out of El Paso, Texas; Gene Barnhouse who along with his wife Carmen owns Albuquerque Lighting; Kyle Barnhouse who owns Southwest Childcare and its three child care centers in Albuquerque; Dolph Barnhouse, a lawyer practicing in Albuquerque; and Marlane Barnhouse, who works as a special education teacher for the Albuquerque Public Schools. After Margaret passed away in 1994, Bill renewed an old friendship with Glyn Walker, who he knew from his days in Austin. Bill and Glyn enjoyed sixteen years of marriage before she passed away. Glyn's daughter Donna Agler and her husband Hal live in Santa Fe and remain close to Bill and his family. Bill was again blessed when a close cousin introduced him to Anne Weigers, who he married last year. Anne's daughter Margaret Vitullo and son David bring to eight the number of Bill's children and step children.

During his ninety years Bill has always worked to help others and build his community. In addition to his service during WW II, Bill helped establish the New Mexico Museum of Natural History (where he is honored by name on its wall of recognition), the El Paso Cancer Research Center, the Board of Advisors for the New Mexico Cancer Research Center, and the USS *Kidd* and Louisiana Veterans Memorial in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Other highlights of his nine decades include his tenure as Chairman of the Lovelace Medical Center Board of Advisers, Chairman and President of the El Paso United Way and his service as a Boy Scout Troop Leader for nine years.

Family and friends will join Bill on April 18 to celebrate his ninetieth birthday, and honor all he has done over those ninety years.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS
AND SERVICE OF ANNE
EVANS

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anne Evans, United States Department of Commerce International Trade Administration District Director for Connecticut. I congratulate her for her induction into the New England Tire and Service Association (NETSA) Hall of Fame for 2013 and wish to recognize her numerous achievements in business, government, and service to her country and community.

Throughout her career, Anne has demonstrated a commitment to excellence. From her childhood experience learning valuable customer service skills from her father and grandfather, through her leadership of New England's tire industry, and now as a senior Department of Commerce Official, Anne continues to seek innovative approaches to develop New England and Connecticut's economy and solve business and environmental challenges.

Anne's career began early, helping with the family business. As a young professional, she served her state in Washington, D.C. as a

Congressional and Committee staff member, as well as in the Connecticut Assembly. While Anne would go on to an illustrious career in government service, her family business came calling first. When her father fell ill in 1978, Anne returned to Connecticut to run the family tire business.

Over her 30 year career in the tire industry, Anne has found success in the retreading, retailing, distribution, and import-export sectors. Joining Import Tire in 1982 sparked Anne's passion for international trade. She dove headfirst into global challenges facing the tire industry, forming a company to focus on international trade in tires as well as the global waste-tire disposal. This company, in partnership with Oxford Energy, developed the Exeter Energy Plant in Sterling, Connecticut. She was recognized for her immense success and went on to manage waste-tire issues for the government of the United Kingdom and founded Elm Energy and Recycling Limited with the support of the global tire industry. Her commitment to global business issues culminated in 2008 when she was appointed as the District Director for Connecticut to the United States Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration.

For her efforts, Anne has been featured in the Wall Street Journal, The New Yorker, The Financial Times, and the New York Times. In 2000, she received the International Business Leader of the Year award from the Metro Hartford Chamber of Commerce. In 2003 Anne was awarded the Tire Industry Association “Industry Pioneer Award” for her leadership and achievements in the waste tire industry. In 2012 the Hartford Business Journal named Anne as the “Remarkable Business Woman of the Year.” Most recently, in December of 2012, she was recognized by the U.S. Department of Commerce for her work in creating and sustaining her Veterans Workforce Development Program at the Middletown Export Center. Since I was elected to Congress, I have worked closely with Anne to help Connecticut companies expand exports. Anne and I have lead trade missions to the United Kingdom, Israel, and Belgium with Connecticut companies to help create new economic opportunities and jobs in the state.

Anne's honor gives us the opportunity to reflect on our shared commitment to growing our economy in the face of the challenges of increased global competition. I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Anne Evans's induction into the NETSA Hall of Fame for 2013.

IN RECOGNITION OF UKRAINIAN
PRESIDENT YANUKOVYCH'S
DECISION TO PARDON FORMER
INTERIOR MINISTER LUTSENKO
AND FORMER ENVIRONMENT
MINISTER FILIPCHUK.

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in my capacity as the Ranking Member of the Europe, Eurasia and Emerging Threats subcommittee to recognize the decision of Ukrainian President Yanukovich to pardon former Interior Minister Lutsenko and former Environment Minister Filipchuk. This is a notable step