$1 trillion a year for one disease. Yes, we need to focus on finding cures.

And there are other disorders and diseases that need that attention. Take autism, diabetes, ALS, cancer, the list moves on.

It is time for us to encourage and support young scientists, to put the focus on our most challenging health conditions, and we want the regulatory agencies to be there to encourage this effort, and I encourage support for the 21st Century Cures Act.

RECOGNIZING NHTI, CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE

(Ms. KUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to underscore the importance of increasing access to higher education, including crucial workforce development programs that help our students gain the high-tech skills they need to succeed in our 21st century economy.

In New Hampshire, we are blessed to have some of the very best community colleges in the country, and I am proud to have visited every single community college in my district.

Today I would like to recognize one institution, the New Hampshire Technical Institute, the community college in our capital of Concord, which was just ranked number one in the country for value added by the Brookings Institution. That means that NHTI students are meeting and surpassing expected outcomes after graduation, and many of them are going on to extremely successful careers.

Every student should have access to this type of opportunity, and I am pushing for a number of initiatives that will help business partners join with community colleges to provide specific job training. Let's all join together to make sure that students across the country can access the kind of value-added programs offered at NHTI. And together, we can move forward so that every American can realize the American Dream.

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VETERAN HEALTH CARE, FIGHTER ACES

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, one of my top priorities is standing up for our servicemen and -women. That is why I am proud to reintroduce the Help Veterans Save for Health Care Act, because right now the IRS makes a veteran choose between receiving VA care or continuing to fund their health savings account. That is wrong. My bill fixes that.

In addition to this bill, today Congress will recognize America's fighter aces with its highest honor—the Congressional Gold Medal. Last year, Congress passed this resolution honoring these patriots who are simply the best of the best.

We are the land of the free because of all our troops and veterans who have put their lives on the line for us, and I salute them today as we remember their sacrifices on this Memorial Day.

DAVID LETTERMAN

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this occasion to thank David Letterman for 33 years of late-night television and giving his genius to America. I want to thank him on behalf of my friend Warren Zevon for being the best friend his music ever had, and for helping so many other musicians get an opportunity to play for America; as a Memphian who attended the Andy Kaufman-Jerry Lawler match, for Dave giving Andy Kaufman the opportunity to give his zany sense of humor to America, and so many other comedians that he gave a forum to.

Dave was in the Ed Sullivan Theater, but he should have been in the Steve Allen Theater, Ed's rival, because he was more like Steve Allen, the first late-night host. The ''Man on the Street'' interview with Steve Allen was like ''Stupid Pet Tricks.''

Dave Letterman was a genius. Tonight I will be watching his last show—we all will—the 6,028th. We will all watch it.

Dave, don't stay away. Come back. We thank you for all you have given us.

HONORING MONTANA VETERANS

(Mr. ZINKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ZINKE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Montana veterans and all the men and women who have fallen in defense of our great Nation.

I would like to recognize one in particular, Private 1st Class Nicholas Cook, from Hungry Horse, Montana, who was killed in action in Afghanistan. He bravely sacrificed himself to save his fellow paratroopers by exposing his position, providing suppressive fire. His valor earned him the Silver Star.

Mr. Speaker, no veteran should ever be forgotten. Today I would like to also recognize the following Montana veterans for their service to our Nation:

James Diqhans, Carl Nordberg, Kenneth and Christopher Bogner, George Lacher, Charles Pickard, Michael Kallas, James and Gary Jacobson, Benjamin Balducke, Nicholas Cook, Williard Purkett, James and John Hantz, Robert Emrick, Dennis Morkert, and Edward Kinney.

God bless the United States, and God bless the troops that defend her.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HEAD START

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Head Start program.

Head Start is near and dear to my heart. I began my career as a Head Start teacher in the Chicago public schools. I have never forgotten how the program made a monumental difference for its students, and this Congress should not forget those kids either.

Since its inception, Head Start has served 32 million children in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. territories. Last year, in my home State of Illinois, there were 130 early Head Start and Head Start providers providing quality teachers.

And there is an economic impact. Head Start accounted for more than 7,950 jobs in Illinois last year. Yet sequestration cuts have done serious damage to the programs in Illinois and around the Nation. In my State alone, more than $16.5 million in funding has been cut, 1,900 children went unserved, and 549 jobs were lost.

Certainly none of us was elected to keep young children in need from getting an education. We should celebrate the 50th anniversary by fully funding Head Start and eliminating the sequester because every child in our country deserves a quality education and a good start.

VETERANS DESERVE ACCOUNTABILITY

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this week, an internal report from the Department of Veterans Affairs revealed that the Department annually spends $6 billion on illegal contracts and out-of-control spending. This fraud is unacceptable, an insult to the men and women who have risked their lives in service to our country. Unfortunately, this lack of accountability at the Department of Veterans Affairs is all too common under President Obama's failed leadership.

Our veterans deserve the best care, and I will continue working to give our veterans the treatment they have earned as promoted by Veterans' Affairs Chairman JEFF MILLER of Florida. Congress has worked to promote change at the VA. For example, this week, we passed the Ensuring VA Accountability Act, sponsored by Congressman RYAN COSTELLO. This bipartisan effort clearly demonstrates meaningful reforms for our veterans and military families.

I hope President Obama can live up to his commitment to end delays and denial of services to our veterans.