

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, breast cancer is the most common cancer among American women, except for skin cancers. In fact, current statistics show that about 1 in 8 women in the United States will develop invasive breast cancer during their lifetime. It is estimated that in the United States 231,840 women will be diagnosed with and 40,290 women will die of cancer of the breast in 2015. This means that every 13 minutes a woman dies of breast cancer in the United States.

Due to early detection, increased awareness and improved approaches to treatment, death rates from breast cancer have decreased since 1989, but it is still the second leading cause of death in women. It is the most frequently diagnosed cancer among nearly every racial and ethnic group, including African American, American Indian, Alaska native, Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic/Latina women. African-American women have the highest death rates of all racial and ethnic groups overall and are at least 44 percent more likely to die of breast cancer as compared to other racial and ethnic groups. This is largely due to disease type and lack of adequate care.

Approximately \$16.5 billion is spent on breast cancer treatment in the United States according to the National Cancer Institute (NCI). The NCI also estimates that the cost of breast cancer treatment will continue to rise if current trends hold steady. Finding a cure for breast cancer is in the best interest of the American public and is a goal of the United States government.

While combined funding for breast cancer research through the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense's Breast Cancer Research Program and the National Cancer Institute approaches one billion dollars, additional private sector support for breast cancer research will help us find a cure even faster.

H.R. 2722, the Breast Cancer Awareness Commemorative Coin Act is designed to generate additional funding for breast cancer research at no cost to taxpayers. The bill compels the U.S. Treasury to raise money for breast cancer research through the sale of \$5 pink gold coins, and \$1 silver commemorative coins in 2018. The additional funding for breast cancer research will aid the efforts currently underway to find a cure for this deadly cancer.

This week, it was brought to the attention of this body that the largest non-government funder of breast cancer research and initially selected as one of the recipients of breast cancer research funding pursuant to H.R.

2722, issues grants to Planned Parenthood. This development gave me pause and conflicted with my well-established pro-life convictions. While I commend work on breast cancer research, I am against any direct or indirect federal funding for abortion.

I was pleased that we were able to resolve the issue by amending the recipient of funds generated pursuant to the Breast Cancer Awareness Commemorative Coin Act, H.R. 2722 and designating 100% of the funds to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. I supported the amended version of H.R. 2722 and was proud to see this legislation pass through the House. I encourage my colleagues in the Senate take up this bill so that we can move forward with the good and necessary work of pursuing a cure for the most common cancer in women worldwide.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHAD TAYLOR JOHNSON

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 2015

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Chad Taylor Johnson. Chad passed away on July 7, 2015, at the age of 32.

Chad was an impressive young man who proudly served his country in the United States Army. As a decorated Army Forward Scout, Chad served our nation courageously in the 2003 invasion of Iraq. He was a close friend of our family and he will be sorely missed by us, his family, his community and the nation he served.

My prayers and condolences go out to Chad's loving wife, Jennifer, and his parents, Tillman and Beverly Johnson.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW YORK FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 2015

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the New York City Fire Department (FDNY) in recognition of 150 years of dedicated service to the people of the City of New York.

Since the founding of the FDNY in 1865, New York City firefighters have been a shining example of heroism, bravery, and civil service. For every moment of every day over the last 150 years, New York's Bravest have risked their lives to save ours.

Their bravery has never been more apparent than on the morning of September 11th, 2001 when 343 members of the FDNY sacrificed their lives as they rushed into the World Trade Center. It is the heroism that they dis-

played not only on that day, but on every day, that makes me proud to call myself a New Yorker.

Mr. Speaker, the dedication of the brave men and women of the FDNY to protecting and saving the lives of their fellow New Yorkers on a daily basis is what makes their 150th Anniversary truly special. To each and every firefighter keeping the City of New York safe every day, I say thank you for consistently putting your lives on the line to protect ours.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 54TH MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY REGIMENT

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment. Established in 1863 as one of the first military units comprised of entirely African American soldiers to fight in the Civil War for the Union, the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment will further be memorialized with the unveiling of a historic mural in New Bedford, Massachusetts.

While the declaration of the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863 provided an avenue for free black men to serve as soldiers, it remained the responsibility of state governors to raise regiments for federal service. Massachusetts Governor John A. Andrews became the first governor in the nation to authorize an all-African American voluntary infantry regiment. In three months' time, the regiment had grown to consist of over 1,000 enlisted volunteers from across the Commonwealth, united under the command of Robert Gould Shaw, a white officer. Included among the regiment's enlistees were none other than Charles and Lewis Douglass—two sons of the well-known writer and abolitionist, Frederick Douglass, as well as the first African American Congressional Medal of Honor recipient and one of New Bedford's most famous sons, Sergeant William H. Carney.

It was not long after its formation that the 54th Massachusetts Regiment earned the fighting recognition it had anticipated. Following a joyous parade and honorary celebration in the streets of Boston in May 1863, the regiment headed south to the hostile coast of South Carolina. By July 18, 1863, after several days of fighting on little sleep, food or water, the regiment prepared for an assault on Fort Wagner, which protected the Port of Charleston.

Tragically, due to a fatal miscalculation of the number of Confederate troops, the 54th Massachusetts Regiment saw over 280 of its men killed, wounded, or captured during the siege on Fort Wagner, including Colonel Shaw. However, not all was lost. It was during this battle that the severely wounded Sergeant William H. Carney saved the regiment's flag

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