

RECOGNIZING THE 104TH
NATIONAL DAY OF TAIWAN

HON. SCOTT DesJARLAIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

Mr. DesJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the upcoming Double Ten Day, the Republic of China's, also known as Taiwan, national day, which falls on October 10th and to extend my very best wishes to the people of Taiwan as they gather to celebrate the 104th National Day.

As a vibrant democracy and contributor to the global economy, Taiwan plays an important role in the peace and security of the Asia-Pacific region. I am proud of the role our country and the United States' Congress have played, through the Taiwan Relations Act, in making it possible for the hard working and resilient people of Taiwan to build a strong, prosperous and democratic society. Our relationship is as strong as ever, as I believe it will continue to be in the years and decades ahead.

As a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, I would also like to commend the actions taken by President Ma Ying-jeou and his government to create an environment where peace and prosperity for all countries of the region can be pursued. President Ma has proposed both an East China Sea Peace Initiative and a South China Sea Peace Initiative, which lay out diplomatic approaches for all sides involved in maritime disputes to set aside their differences and jointly explore the natural resources of the disputed waters, while upholding international law.

In global disputes, such as these, it is this exact vision that is needed to reduce tensions and open up a dialogue between claimants, and as such, it should be given all due consideration by the international community.

In closing, I applaud the nation of Taiwan for its strong commitment to democratic values and more importantly, for the shining example it sets for aspiring countries, both in the Asia-Pacific region and around the world. As someone who is very appreciative of Taiwan's many contributions to the global community, I encourage my colleagues to join me in wishing the people of Taiwan a happy Double Ten Day.

MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK

HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about a hidden epidemic facing millions of Americans and their families. It is the epidemic of malnutrition, often unrecognized, yet directly impacting many of our own families and the constituents we serve. It increases the burden of our nation's health care costs and hits our elderly and minority communities especially hard according to a number of studies.

For example, a 2014 study conducted by researchers at the University of North Carolina and the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm

found that of older adults living at home, one of every six are malnourished when they enter a hospital. Other studies have shown that an additional 1 in 3 become malnourished while in the hospital. Why is this important? Patients with malnutrition have been shown to potentially heal slower, experience longer hospital stays and be at greater risk for re-hospitalizations and complications.

This economic burden of disease-associated malnutrition is profound. One study estimates that the U.S. burden is roughly \$156.7 billion per year—and for those aged 65+ it is estimated to be \$51.3 billion per year. As we struggle to contain health care costs and get the most value for patients and our health care dollars, it seems counterintuitive to ignore malnutrition, particularly among our most vulnerable populations.

So what can we do? A broader engagement by the healthcare community is the first step. The critical role of nutrition in the prevention and treatment of disease should have a greater emphasis in physician training. Malnutrition screening should become part of regular patient assessment. Knowing the nutrition status of patients and undertaking appropriate interventions are low-cost, common-sense solutions that will improve health outcomes and save health care dollars.

This week of September 28 through October 2 is Malnutrition Awareness Week. Let's help foster a greater attention to the problem and make a difference through solutions that better support healthy aging among senior citizens across our country. Sometimes the solution is easier than we think.

IN MEMORY OF REP. JIM SANTINI

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life and times of one of our former colleagues, Rep. Jim Santini from Nevada. I actually never served with Jim, but I came to know him well and appreciate him for his work on travel and tourism issues, two issues for which we shared a great passion. Sadly, Jim Santini passed away on September 22 from esophageal cancer.

Jim Santini was elected in 1974 and left the House in 1982. He served in the House at a time when Nevada only had one representative. In many respects he was the third Senator. He travelled to every corner of the state and was especially interested in protecting the interests of the rural communities; he didn't want even the smallest of towns in the desert to be forgotten.

During his tenure in the House he honed in on one of the great economic engines of our country: travel and tourism. This industry often toils in disparate ways but Santini recognized its potential power if it ever came together over its common goals: to encourage new adventures around the country through travel and exploration and to serve customers by creating memorable, lasting experiences for them in the process of travel. Currently, travel and tourism accounts for \$2.1 trillion in economic output in the U.S. and employs 15 million persons.

Rather than letting this vast travel economy move along in all its separate parts he helped

all the many facets of travel and tourism see their commonalities and unite around a common purpose. In doing so he elevated the industry's interests in Congress from its myriad components into a singularly focused agenda. Part of the way he did this was to organize the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus.

After Santini left Congress the caucus disappeared. But given California's tremendous tourism industry and my involvement in promoting travel and tourism when I was in the California Assembly, one of the first things I did when I got elected to Congress was to re-establish the Caucus. I am proud to say that the Caucus today is quite vigorous with 116 Members. We have significant accomplishments under our belt including the enactment and reauthorization of the BRAND USA legislation which helps promote the United States to international travelers, and the JOLT Act which was introduced this year and proposes to reform and enhance the way visitor visas are processed so as to make travel to the U.S. easier from abroad. We have Jim Santini to thank for these accomplishments. It is his vision that is embodied in much of today's travel and tourism agenda.

Jim Santini leaves behind his devoted wife, Ann Crane Santini, his children David, Lisa, Katherine, Lori, Mark and JD and their families, 13 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I feel certain the House joins me in offering condolences to the Santini family and in giving our former colleague posthumous thanks for all he did to serve the great state of Nevada and the nation.

RECOGNIZING DYSAUTONOMIA
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the millions that fight each day against dysautonomia. Dysautonomia is a group of debilitating medical conditions that result in a malfunction of the autonomic nervous system. This system is responsible for "automatic" bodily functions such as respiration, heart rate, blood pressure, digestion, and temperature control. Dysautonomia continues to significantly impact the lives of Americans across the United States especially here in Buffalo, New York.

Multiple forms of dysautonomia can be extremely disabling and this disability can result in social isolation, stress on the families of those impacted, and financial hardships. The outstanding character and strong moral fiber of those in the Western New York community have provided the much needed support for the victims suffering from dysautonomia. Looking ahead it will be important for the community to rally around these victims as they continue their hard fought battle against this disease.

Dysautonomia awareness is monumental in the early detection of the disease due to the fact that most patients take years to get diagnosed. Dysautonomia International, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that advocates on behalf of patients living with dysautonomia, encourages communities to celebrate Dysautonomia Awareness Month