

hard work resulted in a series of promotions; culminating with her tenure as President. While leading South Seattle Community College, Jill oversaw the development of leading-edge programs and upgrades to campus facilities.

Upon being named Chancellor of Seattle Colleges, Jill's focus shifted to increasing the number of four-year degrees available and leading a district-wide initiative to promote green and sustainable programs. She also facilitated numerous grants and initiatives that supported both student success and retention, such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Pathway to Completion and the City of Seattle's Pathways to Careers grants. Her success as Chancellor was quickly recognized throughout the Seattle area when she was named a 2010 Woman of Influence by the Puget Sound Business Journal, and later as one of 2012's Most Influential People by Seattle Magazine.

Jill has devoted her time and expertise to other higher education organizations as well, including service on multiple boards for Seattle University and as President of the League for Innovation at SSC. Furthermore, she has served on the National Advisory Committee of Presidents for the Association of Community College Trustees and a variety of other boards that focused on not only improving higher education, but the general well-being of people throughout Washington State.

After six years of amazing work, Jill announced earlier this year that she would retire in June. Upon her retirement, Jill leaves behind a lasting legacy as the district's first female Chancellor. Despite her departure, Jill is confident in the foundation that has been created for Seattle Community Colleges in educating the workforce of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize and congratulate Jill Wakefield on her retirement and outstanding work as the Chancellor for Seattle Colleges.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT ACT OF 2015

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Medicaid Reimbursement Act of 2015 as open enrollment begins this week for the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. That important legislation, among other things, expands eligibility for Medicaid to reduce the number of Americans without health insurance. My bill increases the federal government's reimbursement for a portion of the District's Medicaid costs from 70 to 80 percent. In 2012–2013, New York City, the jurisdiction that powers the economy of New York State, contributes a 20 percent share for Medicaid costs, while the state pays 33 percent, less than the District's federally mandated 30 percent contribution.

Medicaid is financed mostly by the federal government and the states. However, the District, a city with no state to contribute to it, must alone absorb the state portion of Medicaid. Thus, the District pays for 30 percent of Medicaid, more than any U.S. city. Consid-

ering the difference in the size of its tax base, the District should certainly contribute no more than the New York City contribution to Medicaid. Therefore, my bill would raise the federal contribution to the District's Medicaid program to 80 percent, equal to that of New York City.

Under the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (Revitalization Act), Congress recognized that state costs are inappropriate for any city to shoulder. To address this unfairness to the District, the Revitalization Act transferred certain, but not all, state responsibilities from the District to the federal government, including the cost of prisons and courts, and increased the federal Medicaid reimbursement to the District from 50 to 70 percent, partially relieving this burden. The city continues to carry many state costs, however.

In 1997, a formula error in the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital allotment reduced the 70 percent Federal Medical Assistance Percentage share, and, as a result, the District received only \$23 million instead of the \$49 million it was due. I was able to secure a technical correction in the Balanced Budget Act of 1999, partially increasing the annual allotment to \$32 million from fiscal year 2000 forward. I appreciate that in 2005, Congress responded to our effort to get an additional annual increase of \$20 million in the budget reconciliation bill, bringing DC's Medicaid reimbursements to \$57 million, as intended by the Revitalization Act. However, this amount did not reimburse the District for the years the federal error denied the city part of its rightful federal contribution.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the bill.

HONORING MR. TOM BORDEAUX

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Savannah Alderman Tom Bordeaux and his dedicated service to the Savannah City Council.

About seven months away from the end of his four-year term, Savannah Alderman Tom Bordeaux announced that he will not run for re-election. Mr. Bordeaux is serving the final year of his first term after defeating two opponents in 2012. As an alderman at-large, Post 2, Mr. Bordeaux's district covers all of Savannah. When he announced his candidacy in 2011, Mr. Bordeaux said his priorities included building unity and focusing on sound fiscal oversight.

Mr. Bordeaux grew up in Savannah and graduated from Savannah High in 1971. He then attended the University of Georgia where he received his bachelor's degree in 1975 and his law degree in 1979. Following school, Mr. Bordeaux returned to Savannah to practice law, and has continued to practice ever since. Before joining the council, he served eight terms from 1991 to 2007 in the Georgia House of Representatives. Mr. Bordeaux was also elected dean of the Chatham County legislative delegation. Although Mr. Bordeaux has decided to not seek re-election, he hopes to continue serving the community in other ways.

Mr. Bordeaux says that his ticket to living in the Savannah area is to be involved, and that is exactly what he intends to do.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to join Mr. Tom Bordeaux's colleagues, family and friends in honoring his many years of hard work and dedication to our community.

ACKNOWLEDGING MARTIN VAN BUREN SASSER, JR.

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Mr. Martin Van Buren Sasser, Jr. of Tracy, for his outstanding military service as a World War II Bomber Crewman and his exceptional dedication to Southern Pacific Transportation Company as a longtime employee. The beloved husband, father, and community member passed away on October 27, 2015.

In Beatrice, Nebraska on June 9, 1924, Martin Sasser, Jr. was born to Martin and Leota Sasser. At the age of four, Martin and his family moved to Tracy, California, which became their lifelong hometown. He attended school in Tracy throughout his youth and graduated from Tracy High School in 1942. After his high school graduation, Martin became an employee of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company, which has played a vast role in railroad transportation since 1865.

After working on behalf of Southern Pacific, Martin enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He held numerous personnel positions, including that of tail-gunner and belly-gunner for the Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress during its World War II deployment. Martin completed thirty-five bombing missions out of England, towards targets residing in France and Germany and was involved in the first United States raid over Berlin. Martin also participated in one of the most notorious events of World War II, assisting in the D-Day bombing missions in support of the Normandy Landings.

At the end of World War II, Mr. Sasser returned to Tracy after passing through Fox, Oklahoma. During this passage through Oklahoma, he met his wife, Alice, whom Martin would return to Tracy with.

Once home in Tracy, Mr. Sasser returned to Southern Pacific Transportation Company, where he resumed working as a crew-dispatcher. After numerous years of diligent work, Mr. Martin Sasser retired as a Southern Pacific agent in 1984. Martin also developed and marketed a recreational balance board called the "Tilt-O-Bord." This device was not only creative, but highly enjoyable.

Martin's dedication to his community and fellow brothers and sisters in arms, both former and current, was evident through the work he did throughout Tracy. Mr. Sasser was an avid member of the James McDermott Post 172, the American Legion, Tracy Post 1537, and of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Martin also participated in a vast number of Memorial Day and Veterans Day Services.

For a number of years, Mr. Sasser enjoyed his time entertaining hospital and rest home patients, as he was a skilled guitar, harmonica and mouth-harp player. Mr. Sasser was committed to his faith. He served as a charter member of the Grace Baptist Church and held