

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HENRY FORD HEALTH SYSTEM

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 15, 2015*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Henry Ford Health System on their 100th anniversary. Originating from Detroit General Hospital, namesake Henry Ford became the sole investor in 1914 and coupled his entrepreneurial spirit with medical innovation.

Admitting its first patient in 1915, Henry Ford Hospital was so successful in meeting the needs of a city in the midst of a population boom that by 1917 it had already expanded to its current size. In its early days, the hospital revolutionized wait times, reducing them to 30 minutes for a patient to be seen, and opened the nation's first ward for treating chemical dependency. It developed new techniques in the fields of surgery and physical therapy. The excellent quality of care at Henry Ford Hospital would even later inspire works of art from visionaries like Diego Rivera. Beyond the positive impact Henry Ford Hospital has had on Michigan, it has also rendered invaluable service to our country by serving as an army hospital during World War II and caring for our soldiers upon their return.

Henry Ford Health System and its partners have pioneered a broad range of medical knowledge, from bone research to kidney transplants to treatment of high blood pressure to robotic surgery. While innovation may be the driving force behind the success of the Henry Ford Health System, they have never lost focus of the top priority: people. In 2008, they launched the No Harm campaign which, over the course of the next three years, reduced surgical complications, decreased length of stay, and trimmed medical costs by 10 million dollars. Their good stewardship is felt by over 89,000 patients a year in the five-county area, a number that is very impressive for a hospital system that started with 48 beds. Henry Ford Health System's commitment to and investment in the Detroit metropolitan communities are immeasurable. In 2011, Henry Ford Health System was one of only 4 recipients to receive a Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, America's highest honor for innovation and performance excellence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the 23,000 employees of Henry Ford Health System and congratulating them on their 100th anniversary and wish them many more years of success.

REGARDING THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVISTS DEBT RELIEF EXTENSION ACT OF 2015

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 15, 2015*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the National Guard and Reservists Debt Relief Extension Act of 2015, which I introduced earlier today with my colleagues JERROLD NADLER and DANA ROHRBACHER.

This bipartisan legislation ensures that certain members of the National Guard and Reserves who fall on hard economic times after their service will continue to obtain bankruptcy relief without having to fill out the substantial paperwork required by the so-called "means test" under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code.

This bill simply extends the existing "means test" exception, which will expire at the end of the year if Congress fails to act.

Under the means test, a Chapter 7 bankruptcy case is presumed to be an abuse of the bankruptcy process if it appears that the debtor has income in excess of certain thresholds. The National Guard and Reservists Debt Relief Act of 2008 created an exception to the means test's presumption of abuse for members of the National Guard and Reserves who, after September 11, 2001, served on active duty or in a homeland defense activity for at least 90 days. The exception remains available for 540 days after the servicemember leaves the military.

The National Guard and Reservist Debt Relief Extension Act of 2015 would simply extend the exception until December 2019.

This bill is a meaningful way for our Nation to recognize the tremendous sacrifice made by National Guard and Reserve members who have served on active duty or homeland defense since September 11, 2001 and may be suffering financial hardship.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

ACKNOWLEDGING TED BEATTIE

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 15, 2015*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge a dear friend and an exceptional leader, Mr. Ted Beattie, as he retires as President and CEO of Chicago's Shedd Aquarium. Ted has very many notable achievements during his tenure at Shedd, from the \$45 million Wild Reef exhibit that features one of the largest and most diverse shark exhibits in North America; the renovation of the aquarium's popular Abbott Oceanarium marine mammal pavilion; and housing of eight amazing beluga whales.

I have had been pleased that Ted opened the doors of Shedd to several of Chicago's school groups to learn more about marine based sciences and get an in depth look into the vast exhibits to encourage our children to engage in science and biology based careers.

Further, I have been told that Ted is an amazing golfer and as a high school golfer, played with Renee Powell against Legendary Boxer Joe Louis and Althea Gibson. While Ted has called Chicago home for many years, he is undoubtedly an extremely passionate and dedicated Ohio State graduate and fan (a rival of our Flagship University of Illinois).

Ted is an active member of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA), and serves on several boards including the American Association of Museums, the Arts Club board of directors and is a member of the Chicago Club, the Commercial Club of Chicago, Economic Club of Chicago, the Onwentsia Country Club and the Plantation Club in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL.

I am hopeful that Ted continues his services to the greater arts community and his Alma

Mata, the Ohio State University. I am certain that he will continue to enjoy the game of golf that he loves and will inspire those involved in marine sciences for many years to come. Transition to retirement can be fun, enjoyable and relaxing, so to Ted . . .

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,

may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

TRIBUTE TO CURTIS AND BRENDA MEIER

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 15, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Curtis and Brenda Meier of Clarinda, Iowa, for receiving the Gary Wergin Good Farm Neighbor Award. The Wergin Good Farm Neighbor award is named for Gary Wergin, a long-time WHO Radio farm broadcaster who helped establish the award.

The Wergin Good Farm Neighbor Award is made possible by the financial support of the Coalition to Support Iowa's Farmers. The award recognizes farmers who contribute their time and talents to their community, including caring for the environment and being good neighbors.

Curtis and Brenda are active in their community and their church. Curtis is a commissioner with the Page County Soil and Water Conservation District and serves on the County Fair Board. The Meiers run their local diversified farm with a number of their family members, including their son, daughter, and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Curtis and Brenda for earning this award. They are shining examples of how hard work and dedication can be a benefit to a whole community I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Curtis and Brenda for their accomplishments and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

RESTORATION TUESDAY

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 15, 2015*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge Restoration Tuesday, and the need to restore federal voter protections for vulnerable communities. Every Tuesday that Congress is in session shall be known as Restoration Tuesday, and I invite each of you to share constituent testimonials about modern-day barriers to voting.

I am a proud daughter of Selma, Alabama where 50 years ago the brave Foot Soldiers of the Voting Rights Movement dared to challenge an unjust system that prohibited people of color from voting in the South.

Unfortunately, Alabama has not yet fully learned the lessons of its painful past. We have witnessed a renewed assault on our sacred right to vote in the wake of Shelby County versus Holder. In the aftermath of the Supreme Court's decision, Alabama implemented