

HONORING CHARLES RUTLEDGE III

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Charles Rutledge, III, a Mathematics Content Specialist with the Kentucky Department of Education in Northeast Kentucky.

Mr. Rutledge was recently selected by President Barack Obama to receive the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

This award is recognition of Mr. Rutledge's achievement and dedication during more than a decade in the education field. Before joining the Kentucky Department of Education, he was a teacher for 10 years at Prichard Elementary School in Grayson, Kentucky where he taught mathematics, second grade and third grade.

Mr. Rutledge was recognized by the President for his hands-on teaching style that brings math to life for his students and helps them to recognize numbers as representations of values, and not merely symbols.

Today, as we celebrate the accomplishments of this exceptional Kentuckian, it is my hope that others are inspired by his hard work and perseverance.

I urge the House to join me in commending Charles Rutledge for his time and devotion in teaching and helping the youth of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF ASIAN
PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE
MONTH AND THE HEP B FREE
CAMPAIGN

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and a particular effort to benefit the Asian Pacific American (APA) community, the Hep B Free Campaign. This is a month to acknowledge and celebrate the APA community's vital economic, cultural, academic, and political contributions to our diverse and dynamic country. I'm proud to join more than 150,000 of my APA constituents in California's 14th Congressional District, whose work enriches our lives every day.

As we acknowledge the extraordinary impact of the APA community, this is also a time to address a more sobering impact on the APA community, the grave health threat of Hepatitis B. Hepatitis B is the greatest cause of liver cancer in the world, resulting in up to 80 percent of all liver cancer, three hundred and fifty to four hundred million people in the world are chronically infected with Hepatitis B, which takes a life every 30 seconds. Most of them are Asian. One in ten foreign-born Asian Americans are chronically infected with Hepatitis B, 100 times the infection rate of the general population. Without treatment, 1 in 4 will die from liver cancer or liver failure, often in their prime adult years. In California alone, liver cancer is among the leading causes of

cancer deaths among Laotians, Cambodians, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, and Filipinos. Nearly 10 percent of the Asian population in my District is chronically infected, and nearly half have not been vaccinated to protect them from infection.

Given the gravity of this health challenge, I'm proud to recognize the outstanding work of the Hep B Free Campaign which promotes public and provider awareness, including programs for screening, vaccination, and linkage to follow-up treatment.

Hep B Free was originally started by Asian Week Foundation, a community-based non-profit that celebrates the diversity of Asian Pacific America through identity assemblage, with special expertise in bringing together the multiplicity of groups and personality that make up our community; Stanford University's Asian Liver Center, the only non-profit organization in the country addressing this pressing public health disparity; and the San Francisco Department of Public Health because they recognized the egregious health disparity experienced by APA in terms of Hepatitis B. I'm proud this campaign began in San Francisco, continued in San Mateo County and has now launched its campaign in Santa Clara County with the additional support of Asian Americans for Community Involvement and the Santa Clara County Public Health Department. I look forward to supporting Hep B Free as they expand their efforts to the rest of the country. As Assemblywoman Fiona Ma, Majority Whip of the California Assembly and Honorary Chairperson of the Hep B Free Campaign, said, "We can set a model for the nation and be an inspiration to efforts around the globe in eradicating Hep B."

We celebrate APA Heritage Month just a month after the death of Dr. Baruch Blumberg, a brilliant and compassionate scientist whose discovery of the Hepatitis B virus and creation of the vaccine won him a Nobel Prize and the gratitude of all whose lives are affected by the disease. The Hep B vaccine is known as the first anti-cancer vaccine because it is so effective at preventing Hep B infection and the liver cancer that could develop.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and the Hep B Free Campaign's extraordinary efforts to ensure that the millions of Asian Pacific Americans who strengthen our Nation can live long and healthy lives.

HONORING JOHN MURPHY

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate John Murphy, President and CEO of the Maine Credit Union League, on his induction into the Credit Union House Hall of Leaders.

For nearly two decades, John has served as President and CEO of the Maine Credit Union League. He has worked diligently on the behalf of credit unions for even longer. I have had multiple opportunities to work with John on the issues that impact his members and, as a result, the people and the economy of Maine, and I have always found him to be a dedicated and thoughtful advocate.

The Credit Union National Association inducted John into the Credit Union House Hall of Leaders because he has shown a unique level of commitment to ensuring that these vital community institutions are able to continue serving the individuals and small businesses that make up their customer base. His name will be on permanent display to the thousands of individuals that visit the Credit Union House each year. John is the first inductee from the State of Maine, and I cannot think of a more appropriate individual.

It has been an honor to work with John in the past, and I have no doubt that this recognition in the Hall of Leaders will inspire him to continue his advocacy on behalf of credit unions and the people they serve. I know that the sixty-four credit unions in Maine, as well as their 613,000 members, greatly appreciate John as a resource and as their representative fighting for the issues that matter to them.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring John Murphy and congratulating him on his induction into the Credit Union House Hall of Leaders.

IN SUPPORT OF MEDICARE

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for Medicare and to once again state my strong opposition to the Republican budget plan introduced by Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. This plan would end Medicare as we know it.

Medicare is a program that Americans pay into their entire working lives and expect to benefit from when they retire. Unfortunately, House Republicans continue to support a proposal that would strip away the guaranteed benefits under Medicare. Their plan calls for Medicare to be replaced from a program of guaranteed benefits to one in which seniors would be given a voucher to purchase insurance from an insurance company.

As if this were not bad enough, the vouchers this plan proposes to give Medicare enrollees would in no way keep up with the rising costs of health care. Therefore, enrollees would be saddled with more and more out-of-pocket expenses over time.

The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office Congress's official actuary projected that these vouchers could actually double out-of-pocket costs for the average beneficiary in the short-term and triple them in the long-term. This is something that I am adamantly opposed to and will fight against it taking place.

Now, to be clear, these changes would not affect current enrollees but it would affect the next generation of retirees including many of our children and grandchildren. But the Republican plan would immediately strip away all the benefits seniors stand to gain and perhaps already are enjoying from the health care law enacted last year.

The health care law is already closing the Medicare Part D coverage gap—known as the "Donut Hole"—providing for free preventive care to Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries and ensuring that America's seniors have access to the care they need.

The health care law also provides free preventive care for Medicare enrollees care that