EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

OPPOSITION TO H.R. 2425, THE MEDICARE PRESERVATION ACT OF 1995

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 1995

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2425, the Medicare Preservation Act of 1995. While cloaked in an innocent, nonthreatening title, when you peel off the title and clear the smoke and mirrors, what you find is that H.R. 2425 authorizes a legalized assault, and an all-out attack on the health of the Nation's seniors.

The measure destroys our Nation's health care system for the elderly—Medicare—by cutting $270 billion—from health care services for the elderly—in order to pay for a tax cut for the wealthy. It is absolutely essential for the American people to be aware that this figure is—three times more—than the $89 billion which the medicare actuaries and the medicare trustees have determined is needed to ensure Medicare's solvency.

The Republican measure forces the American people to needlessly pay more for less. Seniors' health care premiums will double. Gone are the limitations on the amount that doctors and hospitals can charge patients. In fact, the Republicans' balance billing provision allows providers to charge patients as much as they want, well beyond what Medicare pays.

With respect to choice, seniors' choice of provider is seriously restricted. Seniors are forced through a maze of financial maneuvers under the Republican Medicare-Plus provisions. These provisions are specifically designed to make it increasingly difficult for seniors to remain with their current private doctor, forcing seniors into HMO-type health care systems.

Mr. Speaker, where will our Nation's frail, poor, and sick elderly turn for care, when H.R. 2425 seriously erodes and threatens the very survival of the Nation's safety net hospitals. Uncompensated care will escalate.

As if these destructive provisions were not enough, H.R. 2425 provides fertile ground for fraud and abuse. Current provisions that are designed to prevent kickbacks and promote accurate billing are repealed. CBO estimates that this provision alone will cost the American people over $1 billion. These are but a few of H.R. 2425's life threatening provisions.

Mr. Speaker, I know the standard of living and quality of life for the 1.6 million beneficiaries in my State, Ohio, will be drastically reduced. They certainly cannot absorb the over $8 billion that Ohio will lose under the Republican proposal. This 20—ballooning to 30—percent cut will devastate Ohio's health care systems.

Let me take just a moment to share with you just a snapshot of the worries and fears that haunt the seniors in my district as they see medicare being ripped apart just for the sake of providing a tax cut for the wealthy.

Ms. Erline Chess is a 78-year-old widow who has been receiving home oxygen for nearly 10 years. She is concerned that the increased cost of care could put an end to her existence.

Mr. Eli Strinic has had the same doctor for over 15 years and does not want to be forced into a HMO-type health care system. Mr. Strinic is proud of the fact that his doctor knows his medical history, and understands his health care needs.

Mr. Speaker, I think that Ms. Anita Woodward, a health professional in my district sums up the situation most appropriately. She writes, ''I fear not only the loss of quality. I worry that the sick will be forgotten, and patients that I see every day will really have to make the choice between the prescription blank and the grocery list.''

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge you and my colleagues to listen to the plea of America's seniors in particular, and the American people in general. Do not destroy medicare. Join me in voting ''No'' on H.R. 2425.

WELCOME BACK LOUISVILLE SLUGGER

HON. MIKE WARD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 1995

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the Louisville Slugger, the world's finest baseball bat, back to its hometown of Louisville, Kentucky.

This Saturday, October 21, 1995, the Louisville Slugger will return to the Louisville skyline at the future site of the Hillerich and Bradsby headquarters at Eighth and Main Streets in downtown Louisville. The factory will open in Louisville this January. This event will also correspond with the first day of the World Series. In front of the future headquarters, the world's largest baseball bat will be installed, reaching a height of 120 feet. This giant bat will represent not only the quality product manufactured by Hillerich and Bradsby, but will also come to embody our Nation's love for the game. A public street party and other events will take place to welcome Hillerich and Bradsby and the large bat back to Louisville.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the company of Hillerich and Bradsby on their dedication to producing a high quality product, on their dedication to the game of baseball, and on their dedication to the city of Louisville. Mr. Speaker, in Louisville, we may speak softly, but we carry a big bat.

TRIBUTE TO MAJ. GEN. JERRY C. HARRISON

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 1995

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a great American, a great Army officer, a great Missourian, and a great soldier. This month Jerry Harrison will complete over 32 years of dedicated service to our country. As a soldier, leader, and finally as a trusted advisor to the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the Army he has provided dedicated and distinguished service.

Today as we honor his retirement, Jerry Harrison serves as the Army's Chief of Legislative Liaison. This is the capstone of a remarkable career which started in 1959 when he entered the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and where he was commissioned as a second lieutenant of field artillery in 1963. Over the course of the past three decades, he served in a variety of exceptionally challenging troop and staff assignments in the United States, Germany, Korea, and Vietnam.

As a leader, he has commanded at the battery, battalion, and brigade levels, culminating in his command of the U.S. Army Laboratory Command. As a staff officer and commander, he saw duty in many tough and challenging positions, validating the confidence the Army placed in his demonstrated abilities. He commanded the 1st Battalion 29th Field Artillery at Fort Carson, Colorado, followed by a staff assignment as Chief, High Technology Test Division, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans. His skills were recognized when he was chosen for higher command and served as the Division Artillery Commander, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Stanley, Korea. This was followed by a tour with the Deputy Chief of Staff for Research, Development, and Acquisition as the Deputy Director.

His selection to Brigadier General led him to Fort Sill, Oklahoma where he served as the Assistant Commandant of the Field Artillery School, followed by an assignment as the Chief of Staff, Army Materiel Command. Upon his selection for promotion to Major General, he was given command of the U.S. Army Laboratory Command. Since January 1992, he has served with distinction as the Chief, Army Legislative Liaison.

During his tour as the Chief, Army Legislative Liaison, he shepherded the Army's relationship with Congress wielding a deft and skillful touch during a period of tremendous change. Throughout this period, Jerry Harrison ably assisted the Army's senior leadership in its dealings with Members of the Congress and helped them to understand the needs of America's Army as it transformed itself from a forward deployed force to a power projection force. Drawing on this years of experience he skillfully charted the way for an enhanced understanding of the Army's role in the legislative process and for telling the Army story. His

leadership resulted in cohesive legislative strategies, well-prepared Army leaders, and a coherent Army message.

Jerry Harrison's career reflects a commitment to our Nation, characterized by dedicated selfless service, love for soldiers, and a commitment to excellence. Major General Jerry C. Harrison, the consummate professional, whose performance in over three decades of service, in peace as well as in war, personified those traits of courage, competency, and integrity that our Nation has come to expect from its Army officers. On behalf of the Congress of the United States and the people of this great Nation, I offer our heartfelt appreciation and best wishes for a soldier who served his country so admirably.

TRIBUTE TO MABEL HOGGARD

HON. BARBARA F. VUCANOVICH

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 1995

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take time to honor and pay tribute to an individual who spent her life in the service of others. In doing so, Mabel Hoggard became a pioneer, both for her race and for women. Born on March 10, 1905, in Pueblo, CO, Mabel left her home State after high school to attend the University of Tennessee at Nashville, then known as Tennessee A&M, to pursue a teaching degree. Upon completion, she started teaching in a two-room schoolhouse in the coal fields of Jenkins, KY, for $100 a month. Mabel went on to do graduate work in education at Chicago University, University of Utah, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

A lifelong Republican, Mabel was the first black writer for the Williamson, West Virginia News and the first black administrative staff person for the Williamson Housing Authority. Mabel Hoggard was not to be satisfied with these important contributions, however. In 1944, she moved to Las Vegas and became the first black teacher in the State of Nevada. Mabel spent 25 years with the Clark County School District, teaching at a number of schools including Matt Kelly, Highland, Westside, and C. V.T. Gilbert. In 1975, the Board of Trustees honored her by changing the name of the former Bonanza Elementary to the Mabel Hoggard School. The University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 1977, awarded Mabel the ''Outstanding Citizen'' award.

Mr. Speaker, Mabel Hoggard was a true pioneer in the great spirit of Nevada and we honor her memory today as an inspiration not only for Nevadans, but all Americans.

NAVAL ACADEMY'S CLASS OF 1955 PRESENTS COLD WAR MURAL

HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 1995

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, in June 1955, 742 young men graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and received commissions in the Navy, the Marine Corps and the Air Force. Today the Class of 1955 returns to the Academy for its 40th reunion. The U.S. Naval Academy was founded in October 1845. In recognition of the Academy's 150th anniversary, this evening the president of the class of 1955 will formally present an 85′ x 10′ mural to the superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy. The mural is mounted in Alumni Hall and is described by the following text:

WINNING THE COLD WAR

On the occasion of our 40th reunion, the Class of 1955 proudly presents this mural to salute the 150th Anniversary of The United States Naval Academy. Conceived and commissioned by the class, the mural reminds today's midshipmen of the Cold War's scope and complexity. Through numerous examples, the mural illustrates the extensive efforts by our nation to win the longest war in our history. The mural makes the point that winning the war occurred in part as a result of values imparted to midshipmen of all the classes of the era by the Academy.

The historical purpose of the mural is to portray the world as it evolved during the period of sustained tension between the free world and the Communist nations from the late 1940's to the early 1990's. This period generally coincides with the active duty service of the Class of '55. The images of historic events and Naval Academy activities are chosen to remind viewers that the national security environment during the Cold War was very different than today's, and that the Naval Academy environment was different in many ways as well.

The Cold War is but one of many periods in our nation's history in which Naval Academy graduates made significant contributions to the preservation of our freedom. Despite the changing nature of the challenges, the Naval Academy prepares midshipmen to make these important contributions by emphasizing a traditional set of core values that provide the foundation for continued success by Academy graduates. These values are illustrated by the four themes in the mural: Leadership, Academics and Technology, Athletics, and Excellence and Professionalism.

LEADERSHIP

The Naval Academy consistently produces high quality graduates who understand and practice the fundamental principles of leadership. Academy graduates of every rank lead men and women in training and battle, in the execution of supporting technical and administrative duties, and rise to the most senior positions in their services. During the Cold War, Naval Academy graduates (including many members of the Class of '55) commanded ships, planes, squadrons, companies, battalions and other fighting units in the Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force. The two glass panels flanking the central world map present the insignia of all the services, the Department of Defense, and the Naval Academy.

The central panel of the mural illustrates the enormous geographic size of the Communist Empire directed by the very large and powerful Soviet Union. The comparatively small United States mounted a sustained 40 year campaign of moral, military, economic, and technical superiority to defeat the Communist threat to our free existence. The hexagon shaped panels illustrate some of the significant events that collectively contributed to Winning The Cold War. Naval Academy graduates participated in these events that resulted in the total collapse of the Soviet Union and subordinate nations of the Communist Empire. The mural suggests the internal decay of that empire by the rusty steel and popped rivets around the borders of Communist countries.

ACADEMICS AND TECHNOLOGY

The angled wall to the right of the map illustrates the role of the Naval Academy in preparing midshipmen for future intellectual challenges. Some of the most amazing technological advances in history occurred during the years spanned by the service of the Class of '55. As midshipmen, we used the slide rule for general calculations and analog computers for gun laying. A few years after graduation, the digital computer entered our professional careers and triggered an exponential technological explosion. The solid academic foundation provided by the Naval Academy enabled graduates to master emerging technologies and lead their subordinates through the challenges of the computer and nuclear age. The glass overlays on each end of the central panel, together with the adjacent painted scenes, illustrate representative ship, submarine and aircraft systems of steadily increasing complexity in which Naval Academy graduates served during the Cold War. The consistent ability of our nation to stay ahead of the former USSR in the development and application of technology forced a series of Communist leaders to recognize that they could not compete successfully in a military confrontation with the United States.

ATHLETICS

The angled wall to the left of the map illustrates the important contribution of the Naval Academy athletic programs in developing high quality graduates. Over the years, brilliant performances by individuals, combined with a unique Naval Academy emphasis on teamwork, resulted in significant victories over national colleges and universities with much stronger and heavily subsidized athletic programs. As an example, the ''team called *DESIRE*'', led by the Class of '55, overpowered favored Army and then defeated Mississippi, the Southeastern Conference Champions, 21–0 in the 1955 Sugar Bowl. Other teams and individuals represented on the panel won Olympic, National, Eastern Intercollegiate, and League Championships. A fierce competitiveness, the will to win, and a refusal to quit characterize the performance of Navy teams across a wide spectrum of collegiate sports. The special tolerance for pressure and for leadership under stress developed by participation in Navy sports enabled Academy graduates to withstand the physically demanding requirements of combat operations, space flight and in some cases prolonged detention as a prisoner of war. The Naval Academy athletic programs also motivate graduates to remain physically fit and apply the same winning habits to their professional careers.

EXCELLENCE AND PROFESSIONALISM

The plebe at the left end of the mural represents all midshipmen entering the Naval Academy. Each new plebe class contains individuals from every state, a few foreign nations, and some with previous military service. These fledgling midshipmen represent a wide range of value systems, family backgrounds and ethnic cultures. During their four years at the Academy, these young people grow in their sense of ethics, truthfulness and honor, and learn to respect the need for spiritual guidance. The first class midshipman at the right end of the mural is about to graduate, well prepared for commissioning as an officer in one of the armed services. The habit of excellence developed as midshipmen is transformed into the professionalism that distinguishes Naval Academy graduates as they lead military organizations, work on the frontiers of technology, and participate in programs of national importance.

The Cold War is over. Our national ability to remain strong and unyielding for over 40