

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A POSITIVE ASPECT TO THE MEDIGRANT DISCUSSION

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage my colleagues to support the principles of home- and community-based services for the disabled and to urge States to consider these services as part of State initiatives to reform Medicaid through the MediGrant proposal.

I have had a longstanding admiration for the ability of our Nation's disabled to bear the burdens imposed on their day-to-day lives and the difficulties they face. It is no wonder that individuals affected by disabilities, as well as their families and friends, have sought greater access to long-awaited advancements in providing care for the disabled. Although this process has been slow at times, we are beginning to see a mindset emerge that encourages personal liberties, not discourages them.

I practice a management technique based on listen, learn, help, and lead. Well, I have listened to the disabled around the Nation and in the 6th Congressional District of Georgia where I have appointed a task force on disabilities. This task force has developed ideas that I think are thoughtful in addressing the needs of the disabled and which add a tremendously positive aspect to the MediGrant discussion.

The task force believes that there currently exists a bias in Medicaid toward institutionalization and away from home- and community-based services. While there are circumstances where institutionalization is the only viable choice, the task force believes that home- and community-based services should be the first option when appropriate for people with disabilities. I share in their assertion that no person should be forced into an institution to receive services that can be more effectively and more economically delivered in the home or community.

The task force points to the fact that 31 percent of the current Medicaid budget goes to institutional long-term care and only 6 percent goes to community-based long-term care. Furthermore, they assert that the average cost of nursing home care per person is \$38,000 annually and that allowing persons to remain in their homes and communities is more economical, as well as more humane.

I hope that my colleagues will carefully consider these ideas on behalf of their constituents and help to empower individuals to realize their maximum freedoms and potentials.

GIFT BAN LEGISLATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation sponsored by my Texas colleague, Representative JOHN BRYANT, to require lobbyists to register with the House and Senate and make conforming changes to the Rules of the House of Representatives with regard to restrictions on gifts given by lobbyists. In light of my support of this legislation, I have agreed to sign a discharge petition to bring this legislation to the floor of the House for consideration.

In the past, I have not signed discharge petitions. It is my belief that such devices are generally harmful to the legislative process, as they call for the avoidance of the committee system which serves our Government well. However, because of the majority's disdain for that very process, and the lack of consideration given to the attempts to bring the legislation before the appropriate committees for action, this extreme step has become necessary. Therefore, I will add my name to those seeking to bring the legislation before the House.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, I have added my name as a cosponsor to House Resolution 264, legislation sponsored by Republican Representative BURTON. This bill, which I hope will be up for a vote this week on the floor of the House, would require greater disclosure of gifts given to Members of Congress. I support the bill as a bipartisan solution to the need for comprehensive gift legislation. Under the Burton bill, Members are required to disclose all gifts and meals received which are worth more than \$50. The bill makes other appropriate changes to the Rules of the House regarding this issue.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF YITZHAK RABIN

SPEECH OF

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 8, 1995

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Prime Minister of Israel, Yitzhak Rabin, and to his historical struggle for peace; a struggle which ultimately cost him his life.

Mr. Speaker, I was very fortunate and honored to have met Prime Minister Rabin just this summer during my first visit to the State of Israel. Prime Minister Rabin impressed me as an extremely determined man who was at once genuine, engaging, and impressive in his diplomacy. In the short time we met, I caught a glimpse of those exceptional personal and political traits that were responsible for the monumental change he brought to the peace table.

As was said at the funeral on Monday, Rabin was a "martyr" for peace. In fact, the primary reason we visited Israel was to better understand both the desire for peace and the formidable obstacles which stood in its way.

Once in Israel, it did not take long to realize the enormity of the task that Rabin committed every day of his life to achieving. Indeed, Rabin was a warrior for peace, which is why the peace process will go on—others will follow his unparalleled leadership.

The significance of his legacy was perhaps best exemplified by the world leaders who mourned his death. The attendance of 40 world leaders, including Jordan's King Hussein and Egypt's Hosni Mubarak, demonstrates the respect he earned from so many people of so many faiths from so many corners of the world. This respect was earned by his leadership and commitment to peace.

Mr. Speaker, on this 57th anniversary of Kristallnacht—the Night of Broken Glass that marked the true beginning of the Holocaust—let us remember and salute all that Yitzhak Rabin stood for, fought for, and died for.

We must remember so we never forget. We must further be united to his life's goal—a true and lasting peace for the State of Israel.

TRIBUTE TO HARRY A. SCARR

HON. WILLIAM H. ZELIFF, JR.

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 1995

Mr. ZELIFF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment today to note the unexpected passing of Mr. Harry Scarr, the Deputy Director of the Bureau of the Census.

Immediately prior to his position as Deputy Director, Mr. Scarr served as the Bureau's Acting Director for almost 22 months. In 1988, Mr. Scarr received the Department of Commerce's highest award, a Gold Medal, for his contributions to Federal economic statistics and to the preparation for the 1990 census.

Mr. Scarr's 25 years of dedicated service to the Federal Government includes tenures at the Department of Commerce, the Department of Justice, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the National Institute of Mental Health. Having received his degrees from the University of Michigan and Harvard University, and having taught at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, Mr. Scarr chose a career in Federal service. His distinguished career is an example for all. He was among the best and brightest, and nobly chose Federal service.

As chairman of the subcommittee which exercises oversight over the Bureau of the Census, I was looking forward to working with Mr. Scarr. The Census Bureau will greatly miss his expertise and knowledge as it prepares for the 2000 census. I offer my condolences to the family of Mr. Scarr and his fellow workers at the Bureau.

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