

do not have a Medicare HMO option available to them. It is difficult to understand how beneficiaries who paid into the Medicare trust funds at the same rate and pay the same part B premium now receive very different AAPCC payments. This is not equitable or fair. Improving the AAPCC payment formula is critically important to fulfill our legislative promise of providing health care choices as well as equity and fairness to all beneficiaries.

Why can some beneficiaries today choose to receive their Medicare services from the traditional fee-for-service or an HMO and others cannot? HMO's and hospital associations suggested that a monthly payment between \$325 to \$350 begins to provide them with the opportunity to offer Medicare managed care services. For this reason, it was necessary to craft an AAPCC payment formula that would support the establishment and operation of an HMO or the new options of a provider-sponsored organization [PSO] or medical savings accounts [MSA's].

The Balanced Budget Act improves the AAPCC payment formula by setting a payment floor of \$350. This is extremely beneficial for counties in 43 States with below average payment rates between \$177–\$300 and offers hope to the more than 4 million beneficiaries in rural and efficient markets that they may soon have the choice to receive Medicare services through an HMO, PPO, MSA, or PSO. Other important rural health care provisions incorporated into the Balanced Budget Act only enhance the care and services available to rural America:

Clarifying the Medicare payments to essential access community hospitals/rural primary care hospitals.

Implementing a new Rural Emergency Access Care Hospital Program.

Increasing by 10 percent the Medicare bonus payment to 20 percent for rural, primary care physicians practicing in health personnel shortage areas.

Reinstating the Medicare Dependent Hospital Program for facilities with 100 or fewer beds and at least 60-percent Medicare patient discharges or days.

Establishing of a uniform reimbursement rate for physician assistants and nurse practitioners at 85 percent of the physician fee schedule payment for outpatient services.

Setting a floor for the area wage index used in determining prospective payments to hospitals.

Prohibiting the Medicare Geographic Re-classification Review Board from rejecting applications of rural referral centers on the basis of area wage index.

Extending the rural referral center classification for any hospital previously classified.

The health of rural health care and services to Medicare beneficiaries will only be improved with the enactment of these very important provisions in the Balanced Budget Act. I am pleased to lend my support to this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO COACH EDDIE G.
ROBINSON

HON. WILLIAM J. JEFFERSON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 1995

Mr. JEFFERSON. Mr. Speaker, we have honored many legends on this floor—men and

women who are revered and who will be so revered for generations. I come to this historic floor today to add still another name to this long list of distinguished Americans who we can truly call a legend of our time—one whose singular contributions will separate him from everyone else who has toiled in his profession.

Our Nation has produced many, many great football coaches. Men like Paul "Bear" Bryant, Woody Hayes, Ara Parseghian, Joe Paterno, Knute Rockne, Amos Alonzo Stagg, Bud Wilkerson, to name a few. But, today I rise to pay tribute to the historical accomplishments of Coach Eddie G. Robinson of Grambling State University—the winningest football coach of all time, the best that the game of football has to offer.

During a period spanning 55 years, Coach Robinson has led his Grambling State teams to more than 400 victories. No other coach has reached the 400 win milestone. Along the way, he has won 17 SWAC championships or co-championships. Coach Robinson started modestly at Grambling. Nevertheless, he grew to a giant in his profession. Yes, he has become the greatest coach of all time, but his first priority always was the development of his players. Coach Robinson nurtured his athletes into competent, strong, professional players, not only in game of football but in game of life. He has touched our hearts, our very souls. His achievements will stand forever.

We are left to wonder what Grambling State University would have been like had Eddie Robinson not walked through the doors of the then Louisiana Negro Normal and Industrial Institute in 1941. Would there have been the mentoring, that steady hand guiding countless young athletes to exalted levels of achievement? Would such players as Paul "Tank" Younger, Willie Brown, Willie Davis, Buck Buchanan, Doug Williams, Charlie Joiner, Frank Lewis, Essex Johnson, Billy Newsome, John Mendenhall and over 200 other players have been able to leave their mark on the National Football League? No. A Grambling State University, indeed the American way of life, without the contributions of Coach Robinson is not imaginable.

Coach Robinson, served as a coach, father and tutor to thousands of students at Grambling who have gone on to make great contributions to this Nation. Through his tenacity and guidance, he influenced countless young men and women who crossed his path. For this and for all that Coach Robinson through his success has meant to our country, we in the Congress offer our most heartfelt congratulations to him. All Americans are extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to experience the influence of this great man. Coach Eddie Robinson is a winner, and because he is, so are we all.

The Congress salutes Coach Robinson today not only for winning more football games than any other college coach, but for who he is.

IN HONOR OF MS. MALIN FALU, A
RADIO HOST PERSONALITY WHO
HAS ENTERTAINED AND SERVED
THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 1995

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Malin Falu, a Hispanic woman who has distinguished herself as a prominent radio personality. Ms. Falu will be honored today in a live broadcast on Radio WADO 1280 AM.

Ms. Malin Falu is the creator, producer, and commentator of the Hispanic radio program "Hablando con Malin." Speaking with Malin. This radio program is transmitted throughout the New York and New Jersey area. In her show, Ms. Falu discusses the important issues that affect the Hispanic community. She keeps them informed of events and issues that are notable and allows her listeners to participate and voice their opinions.

She has worked hard and strived to be one of the best commentators in Hispanic radio. Ms. Falu received her bachelor of arts degree from the University of Puerto Rico. She then went on to receive her masters of arts degree in media from the New School for Social Research. She has also studied theater in London, England. A well-accomplished woman, she now enjoys reaching out to the Hispanic community through the airwaves.

For the last 17 years, Ms. Falu's sweet voice has captured the hearts of all her listeners. Her show has been transmitted from all around the world, including Greece, Israel, and many countries in Latin America. With her charisma and dedication, Ms. Falu serves the community by exposing and finding solutions to the problems it faces.

She has inspired many to accomplish their goals and dreams. She has advised today's younger generation to enrich and develop their minds. She is a wonderful role model who has served her community with dedication and dignity. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this great woman, Malin Falu.

NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE
AGREEMENT

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 1995

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, today on the 2-year anniversary of the North American Free Trade Agreement, I rise to draw attention to NAFTA's failed promises. Two years ago I objected to the passage of NAFTA because of the thousands of American workers that would be displaced from their jobs and the lack of opportunities they would face in an uncertain market as a result of the trade agreement.

Due to the present political and economical instability of Canada and Mexico, I am even more concerned today about the adverse repercussions of agreeing to NAFTA. In 1994, the Department of Labor reported that 17,000 jobs were lost due to plant relocations to, or increased imports from Mexico or Canada. Last year, 152 companies filed petitions under

NAFTA's Trade Adjustment Assistance [TAA], the program designed to assist U.S. workers who have lost their jobs as a result of the relocation of workers and plant facilities. These thousands of jobs may not sound to some as a significant number, however, one displaced American worker, I believe, is one unemployed person too many.

Prior to its passage, proponents estimated that NAFTA would result in 27,000 to 550,000 new jobs. Earlier this year the Department of Commerce estimated that 340,000 jobs would be created because of NAFTA. However, the Department of Commerce has yet to provide documented evidence that new jobs have been created because of NAFTA. Instead, the Department refers to the increase of United States exports to Mexico and Canada as evidence that American workers are employed in new jobs. As expected, overall trade between the United States and Mexico has expanded significantly, but contrary to the predictions of NAFTA supporters; imports increased at a faster rate than exports. Two years ago we had a \$2 billion trade surplus with Mexico. Today, thanks to NAFTA, we have a \$15 to \$18 billion trade deficit with Mexico. What happened to the jobs that NAFTA proponents promised? I'll tell you where the jobs went, they went along with the businesses that moved to Mexico so corporations could take advantage of cheaper labor and generate more profits. All this, at the expense of the American worker.

The humane treatment of all citizens was and still is another concern I have about the North American Free Trade Agreement. Since the passage of NAFTA, numerous companies have been guilty of manufacturing goods produced by child labor. One report estimated that 10 million children under the age of 14 work illegally in Mexico's maquiladoras to supplement their families' incomes.

Unlike our labor laws that ensure worker protection and comparable wages, foreign workers do not have the power to form unions to protest against labor abuses. Consequently, this enables companies to terminate employees at will or without recourse. Unless these workers are guaranteed the right to organize, they will continue be taken advantage of.

According to the November 13, 1995 issue of Business Week, nearly a million people in Mexico have lost their jobs and they do not have any form of unemployment insurance. Adding to their misery is the inability of Mexico's bank to lend money to consumers and companies due to the astronomical interest rates brought on by the devaluation of the peso and the burden of bad loans. Facing this type of financial crisis, how can Mexico's standard of living rise as NAFTA supporters contend?

Just last month, Canada narrowly defeated an attempt by Quebec to become an independent country. Given the political and economical situations facing our trading partners, I believe we should re-evaluate the significance of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

As global warming increases, I believe the issue of the environment needs to be addressed in future trade agreements. Nevertheless, our existing trading partners need to understand that the quest for economic growth should not come at the expense of the environment. We must not allow low environmental standards and lax enforcement as an

incentive for foreign countries to entice companies to move, consequently, stealing jobs from American workers.

As I have stated in previous years, I am not against a fair trade agreement with Canada and Mexico. However, I do believe that Mexico's workers should be given the right to organize and to bargain for better wages and if NAFTA is renegotiated to guarantee that U.S. workers have retraining and education so that they can get one of these high-tech jobs as NAFTA proponents have promised, then I would be willing to support it.

Trade parity cannot be obtained at the cost of our domestic industries and jobs, our environment, and the health and safety of American and Mexican workers. The existing NAFTA fails to secure justice for American and Mexican workers; it fails to make a commitment to democratic ideals; and it fails to cast off the chains of poverty for those most in need of help. If NAFTA's proponents truly believe freer and open trade will lead to more jobs and economic prosperity, then it is only right and proper that we work to improve the vast differences of workers' wages and standard of living among NAFTA's participants.

THE SPEAKER SHOULD RESIGN

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 1995

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, African-Americans have had over 300 years of slavery, segregation, discrimination, and insults.

In most instances, these abuses have been sanctioned by law and today, we are still discriminated against and insulted.

We have walked in gullies, when whites walked on the sidewalk and we have gone in and out of millions of back doors.

We are still suffering from the lingering affects of slavery, segregation, discrimination and the back door policies of America, but we have never put this country at risk or in jeopardy because our feelings were hurt, because we were snubbed or because we had to go and come by the back door.

The position of the Speaker and what the Speaker is doing to this country, because of his hurt feelings while recently aboard Air Force One is un-American and I believe because of his actions, he should resign the office of Speaker.

TRIBUTE TO THE NORTHWEST INDIANA HISPANIC COORDINATING COUNCIL

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 1995

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to rise today to once again commend the efforts of the Northwest Indiana Hispanic Coordinating Council for their numerous contributions to Northwest Indiana.

On November 18, 1995, the Coordinating Council will conduct its Seventh Annual Conference on Hispanic Issues. The theme of this year's conference is "Citizenship: Our Rights and Responsibilities."

Recognizing the importance of citizenship, the Hispanic Coordinating Council has dedicated its conference to focus on topics that will help the residents of Northwest Indiana become better citizens of this great Nation.

In order to make this event as successful as possible, the Hispanic Coordinating Council has called on various community leaders to address issues pertaining to this year's theme. I would like to recognize the following distinguished individuals, who will lend their expertise and help make this conference a memorable occasion: Dr. James Yackel, chancellor of Purdue University Calumet; Juan Andrade, Jr., president and executive director of the Midwest Northeast Voters Registration and Education Project; Dr. Samuel Betances, senior consultant, Souder, Betances and Associates; Victor DeMeyer, manager of NIPSCO's Corporate Consumer and Community Affairs Department; Louis Lopez, assistant State director for Senator Richard Lugar; Joseph Mark, chief executive officer, St. Catherine's Hospital; Philip Meyer, telecommunications specialist, Ameritech; Erin Austin Krasik, project director, Students for an Educated Democracy; Ruth Dorochoff, U.S. Department of Justice's Immigration and Naturalization Service; Joseph Medellin, manager human resources, Inland Steel Company; and William (Bill) Luna, president of William Luna and Associates Management Consultants.

Since the focus of this year's conference is citizenship, the Hispanic Coordinating Council is concluding the conference with the swearing-in of 135 new citizens. The swearing-in ceremony will be conducted by the Honorable Rudy Lozano, U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana, and Brian Perryman, Deputy District Director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

I commend the efforts of all of those individuals who were involved in making this annual event a reality. It is because of their dedication that this conference is possible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other colleagues to join me in applauding the participants of the Hispanic Coordinating Council's Conference on Hispanic Issues, as well as those distinguished individuals who will receive one of our Nation's greatest gifts, citizenship.

JUSTICE FOR ALIZA MARCUS

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 1995

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased and relieved that on November 9, Turkey's State Security Court voted unanimously to acquit American citizen Aliza Marcus. Justice has been served with this complete vindication.

Ms. Marcus never should have been arrested in the first place. She committed no crime. Ms. Marcus only was guilty of reporting the truth about the ongoing Turkish military campaign of forced evacuation and destruction of Kurdish villages. She was merely doing her job—and doing it well.

Ms. Marcus' acquittal is an encouraging indication that Turkey may be willing to reform its ways. However, this is one small step down a long road. Turkey's prosecution of speech,