

host of ethical questions for all of us. And although we are learning along with everyone else, we were one of the first companies to actually put our Code on the Internet (<http://www.nortel.com/english/ethics/>). We want everyone—our shareholders, our customers, our employees, our suppliers and the communities where we are located—to know what we stand for.

At Nortel, we believe that as a multinational, we have a responsibility to act honestly and responsibly wherever we operate in the world. Putting together a Code that speaks to all our employees globally is helping us to create a Nortel culture where we are upholding high ethical standards and acting with integrity in all our operations.

THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ASCENSION OF HIS MAJESTY
KING BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ TO
THE THRONE OF THAILAND

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, June 9 marks the 50th anniversary of the ascension of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej to the throne of Thailand. He is the longest reigning Monarch in his country's history. The King's work in social and agricultural development throughout Thailand is well known. The many innovative, pioneering projects he has created are evidence of His Majesty's unselfish willingness to see that all Thai people come into the age of modern technology.

The King has made major contributions to the stability, security, religion, culture, performing arts, and social welfare of his people. In Thailand he is known as King Rama the 9th of the Chakri Dynasty. In the United States he is known as the Thai Monarch who was born in Massachusetts, and is a loyal friend and ally to the United States.

Today I wish to send my sincere warm regards to his Majesty on his 50th anniversary. I wish him health, happiness, and peace.

FELIZ CINCUENTA ANIVERSARIO A
LA LEGION POSTAL AMERICANA
500

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, many Americans fought to preserve democracy in World War II, including the many Mexican-Americans who bravely fought for their country. On June 29, the Hispanic Americans of American Legion Post 500 in Saginaw, MI, will be celebrating the post's 50th anniversary, having been chartered on April 20, 1946.

Many of the veterans of World War II formed a Latin American club for Veterans in November 1945, to provide an opportunity for these brave individuals to recount their experiences, to renew old ties, and to develop new alliances for the future. With many of these individuals having come to Michigan from other areas to take advantage of work opportunities, the club was an excellent way of maintaining their contacts with the Hispanic culture. In

1946, a temporary charter was granted to Latin American Legion Post 500, with Valentino Gallegos as the first post commander.

The members of the post honored their fallen colleagues by renaming the post after the first four Mexican Americans from Saginaw killed in the war: Pvt. Louis Martinez, killed in action in France, June 12, 1944; Pfc. Julian Garcia, killed in action in Guam, 1944; Pfc. Sifred Nerio, wounded in France, July 1944, and subsequently dying in a British hospital on August 1, 1944; and Pvt. John Reyes, a paratrooper killed in action in Italy, October 18, 1944. The approximately 1,000 veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and Desert Storm who have been members of the post since its inception have a proud heritage that is worthy of recognition.

There has been a greater awareness in recent years of many Americans who fought for their country in World War II and in other battles, and failed to receive adequate recognition for their service and sacrifice. Posts like American Legion Post 500—the only Hispanic American Legion Post in Michigan—were vital in promoting the special needs of Hispanic veterans, particularly at times when there may not have been as much recognition of their contributions and sensitivity to their needs as their should have been.

Mr. Speaker, these Mexican-Americans deserve our thanks for all that they have done over the years. I ask that you and our colleagues join me in offering them our thanks, and in wishing them the very best for the 50th anniversary of Martinez, Garcia, Nerio, Reyes American Legion Post 500. Les deseamos ontros 50 años con mucho exito y mucha salud.

THE SHAMELESSNESS
SURROUNDING MEDICARE

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, there does come a time when partisanship must be put away and the well-being of those we are sent to represent must prevail. Such an instance is the ongoing Medicare debate. Partisanship has no place in this debate, because the health care of our seniors and of future generations is at stake.

On that note, I wanted to draw your attention to an editorial printed in one of my district's newspapers. In the editorial, some very disturbing figures and statistics are pointed out. These figures and what they mean are clear to everyone. When Medicare outlays are more than its revenue, the system needs to be changed.

The editorial points to a veto by President Clinton of last year's balanced budget. This budget would have saved \$226.7 billion in the Medicare Program through 2002, which would have preserved the entire Medicare Program until at least 2010. Clinton was faulted in the editorial as "shamelessly play[ing] on the fears of senior citizens * * * to score political points against Republicans," and "Clinton needs to stop feeding the fears of seniors for political gain and make substantive changes to this entitlement program." In a matter that is so critical to our seniors, we should expect more of

the President. This partisan bickering must stop now and sound solutions to the Medicare Program must be developed. I would urge the President to join with the Congress to begin to solve the problems of Medicare.

STOP PLAYING POLITICS AND FIX MEDICARE
NOW

Those in charge of the federal Medicare program say the hospital fund will be nearly \$29 billion in the red by 2001 if the system isn't changed.

Medicare trustees also reported yesterday that Social Security will go broke by 2029 if that program is not adjusted.

President Clinton insists that Republicans and Democrats are not that far apart on numbers that would extend the life of the Medicare system.

He says bankruptcy could be avoided.

We have heard that line before. The fact is, deep-seated political differences virtually assure that a solution to this pressing problem is not going to be reached before November's presidential election.

The statistics are sobering, if not downright frightening.

By 2002, the hospital fund will owe \$86 billion more than it has, and by 2006, the red ink could grow to more than \$400 billion, according to Congressional Budget Office estimates.

Clinton last year vetoed the balanced budget bill passed by Republicans, which was projected to save about \$226.7 billion in the Medicare program through 2002.

Under the Republican plan, the program would move more senior citizens away from expensive fee-for-service plans into less expensive managed-care programs.

The plan would also set up medical savings accounts that would include a high-deductible catastrophic insurance system.

Congressional Democrats immediately accused Republicans of trying to unfairly gut the coverage that senior citizens now have under Medicare.

Clinton shamelessly played on the fears of senior citizens in this regard to score political points against Republicans in the bitter federal budget battle this year.

Medicare's hospital fund actually started spending more last year than it took in through the payroll tax, but it had a \$134.3 billion surplus to dip into.

Social Security's financial problems are not as acute yet because the system still takes in more than it pays out.

While Social Security has been getting the most attention, it is the 30-year-old Medicare program that is clearly in the most trouble.

Medical costs for an ever-increasing aging population have escalated at an alarming rate. They will continue to do so.

The problem will be even greater in 2010 when the first of 76 million baby boomers turn 65.

Spending will continue to exceed revenues, eating up the surplus and running growing deficits by 2001 unless the system is changed.

This is a crisis that can no longer be mired in partisan bickering.

Clinton needs to stop feeding the fears of seniors for political gain and make substantive changes to this entitlement program.

Seniors are simply going to have to learn to put up with less doctor choice if the system is to survive.

Republicans, meanwhile, need to make sure that those who can pay for part of their benefits do so, instead of letting the rich off the hook.

The political risks in making any radical change are daunting. But the numbers say they must be taken.