

In closing, I will leave with the powerful statement of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

IN HONOR OF JIM CALHOUN

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a constituent of mine, Jim Calhoun of Mansfield. Mr. Calhoun is the Coach of the University of Connecticut Men's Basketball Team. On December 30th of 1997, Jim recorded his 500th victory as a college coach and more significantly, he is the first coach to win 250 games at two different Division I schools: the University of Connecticut, which is my *alma mater* and Northwestern University.

Mr. Calhoun is the first New England coach to reach the 500 victory mark and he now has more victories than any Division I coach in that six-state region. It is all part of a composite that has earned him a standing as one of Connecticut's most popular personalities.

In the 500 victory category, Calhoun joined such giants of the sport as Dean Smith, John Wooden, Phog Allen, Adolph Rupp and John Thompson. Thompson, the Georgetown mentor, made a significant observation when he was quoted as saying "Jim doesn't get the credit he probably deserves nationally, but he's one of the best coaches in the country."

Calhoun was the 46th coach in Division I history to reach the 500 win milestone, but he is number one among UConn fans for the contributions he has made to the State University since he took over its basketball program in 1986. His first coaching assignment after college was at Old Lyme High School, one of the excellent schools in the Second District that I proudly represent.

Since his time at Old Lyme, as one newspaper headlined, he has been a "consistent winner." That is the most accurate assessment of this legendary coach in the fullest measure of the term.

My congratulations to Jim, Pat, his wife of 31 years, and his children.

Calhoun and UConn, a wonderful and productive partnership for his students, players, University, and for our entire community.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Engineers Week which is being celebrated on February 22–28, 1998.

I am so proud of the engineers in the Sixth District of Massachusetts. Engineers are a vital component of the work force, and these individuals make significant contributions not only to technology, but to society as a whole. I am particularly proud of the more than 500 engineers working for our national defense at Hanscom Air Force Base, home of the Air

Force Electronic Systems Center. These men and women have developed and fielded countless new capabilities for our armed forces, systems that help protect our military members in wartime and deter potential aggressors during peacetime. These systems serve as the eyes and ears of our military commanders, using the latest technologies to cut through the fog of war and see where no one else can see. The engineers at Hanscom Air Force Base have a long and proud legacy of developing electronic systems—from the DEW Line to AWACS to Joint STARS—and they are working today on the new capabilities that will maintain America's technological superiority. They are true pioneers of possibilities, working with the belief that excellence is the basis for success and tomorrow will be better than today.

On February 19, General Electric Aircraft Engines in Lynn, Massachusetts, celebrated Engineering Recognition Day. The day highlighted past achievements of GE personnel in the areas of engineering, technology, and customer service, recognizing those individuals and teams who made truly notable contributions during the course of the year. This year's theme, "Product Preeminence Through Six Sigma Quality," captured the importance that business places on the Six Sigma initiative and its potential for GE Aircraft Engines. The 550 engineers and the additional 500 technical and support staff at GE in Lynn work in harmony to comprise the aerospace industry's top engineering functions—designing, manufacturing and supporting the best jet engines in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the accomplishments of the engineers all over America, and in particular the engineers of the Sixth District of Massachusetts. I hope my colleagues will join with me in recognizing National Engineers Week and the engineering profession for their tireless work to advance American society.

TRIBUTE TO GREG GUINAN

HON. DAN SCHAEFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my friend, a native Coloradan Greg Guinan who is retiring after a stellar career of nearly forty years with the Tribune Company and for the past 29 years with its Denver station, KWGN the very first television station in Colorado.

Under his guidance, Denver's channel 2 has gone to extraordinary lengths to report on, inform and uplift our community. For the past 27 years, Greg has produced and appeared on "Your Right to Say It," featuring leaders from Colorado and the nation. Greg has been the catalyst for environmental initiatives "Clean It Up Colorado." He has overseen the telecast of various activities from Denver's St. Patrick's Day Parade to our Easter Seal's Telethon, to a moving 50th anniversary documentary of World War II. In 1996, he spearheaded a remarkable "Yes to Youth" fund which raised \$2.2 million for Colorado non-profit organizations.

Let me note in closing that my good friend Greg is also a former Marine. To best describe this wonderful person and the fashion in

which he conducted himself throughout his remarkable career, I think the Marine Corps motto fits best—*Semper Fidelis*, always faithful.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3205

HON. MERRILL COOK

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague from Massachusetts, Congressman MCGOVERN as an original cosponsor of H.R. 3205, legislation that will address some serious problems caused by certain provisions included in the Balanced Budget Act.

There were several provisions included in the Balanced Budget Act intended to target Medicare waste and fraud occurring in the home care industry. However, some of these provisions missed the target, and one, the so-called "Interim Payment System"—or IPS—is causing a great deal of hardship and heartbreak for seniors in Utah and across the nation.

The IPS was intended to transition the home care industry from a retrospective, cost-based reimbursement system to a prospective payment system. The IPS will impose tight spending limits on home care providers. A prospective payment system is currently used by Medicare to calculate reimbursement to hospitals and other providers. Moving home care to a prospective payment system is a sensible reform which I support. However, we also need a sensible transition to a prospective payment system. The IPS as it has been implemented by the Health Care Financing Administration, is not providing a sensible transition. Instead, the IPS is creating chaos and financial distress for home care providers and beneficiaries. Why is it doing that?

First, the IPS has put the cart before the horse. It was put in place beginning in October of last year. However, HCFA will not be able to tell home care agencies what their new IPS spending limits are until April of this year—the earliest. Home care providers have to guess how much they need to cut back care. If they do not cut enough, they will be penalized. If they cut too much, it will obviously hurt beneficiaries. As one of my constituents who runs a home care agency wrote: "we are operating completely in the dark." Common sense argues for announcing regulations first, then requiring compliance.

Second, the IPS has created a Rube Goldberg system where home care providers are rewarded or punished depending on what kind of fiscal year they use. Let me try to explain this. Under the IPS, reimbursement rates are projected from a base year which is defined as "fiscal year 1994." Because different agencies use different fiscal years, this provision will impact the agencies differently. This grossly distorts payments to home health care providers and the entire market for home care. Agencies who have a "favorable" fiscal year will have a competitive advantage over agencies with an "unfavorable" fiscal year. For example, an agency with a fiscal year that begins on October 1, will have its reimbursement rate based partially on what it was spending in 1993. Other agencies base years will be in calendar year 1994, when their spending may

have been higher than a fiscal year that straddles 1993 and 1994.

The legislation that Congressman MCGOVERN and I have introduced will address these problems and provide a sensible transition to a prospective payment system. First, it will extend HCFA's deadline for developing the Interim Payment System to August, 1998, and delay implementation of the caps under the IPS until October 1, 1998. That way the regulations will be announced before the home care providers have to comply. It will let the providers know what kind of cost limits they need to meet and more importantly, it will give them more time to meet those limits.

H.R. 3205 will also change the base year used to calculate the agency's cap. Instead of "federal fiscal year 1994," the home health care providers would be permitted to use a cost reporting period ending either during fiscal year 1995, or calendar 1995. This will soften the severity of the cuts by moving the base year forward to 1995 and eliminate the distortions created by agencies' use of different fiscal years.

While this bill applies directly to home care providers, it is obviously critically needed for the senior citizens who are the recipients of home care. Often home care makes all the difference between our senior citizens remaining independent and moving into institutional care. Many of the letters and phone calls that I am receiving from my elderly constituents emphasize the crucial difference that home care makes. More individuals receiving institutional care means more state and federal Medicaid spending. These provisions in the Balanced Budget Act could ultimately cost money as spending moves from the Medicare/home care side of the ledger to the Medicaid/nursing home side.

Prior to the Balanced Budget Act, Medicare was in desperate need of reform. Most of the reforms included in the Balanced Budget Act are sensible and will help this vital program survive into the 21st Century. I want to commend Congressman MCGOVERN for developing a sensible, measured bill that will address these serious problems. I look forward to working with him to see this legislation through to passage.

GUAM AND HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the Bill of Rights contained in the Constitution of the United States outlines the fundamental freedoms granted to all American citizens. There have been many interpretations and challenges to these amendments, yet it is evident that the Bill of Rights are timeless principles which guarantee protection and accord opportunities for all Americans.

Many of us have taken our fundamental rights for granted. Although we are constantly reminded by current events that the citizens of other nations are not afforded these essential liberties, it is easy to forget that the rights we enjoy are not shared by a majority of the world's population.

On December 10, 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations overwhelmingly

adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a document based on the United States Bill of Rights. This document explicitly sets forth a list of fundamental rights from the right to life to the right to participation in the cultural life of a community.

I cosponsored a resolution last year, H.Con.Res. 185, which calls on the United States to reaffirm its dedication to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights' tenets.

The celebration of Human Rights Day on December 10 is in direct correlation to the approval of the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Not only does this remind us of the continuing global fight for basic human rights, it also serves as a forum to honor those committed to this fight. I commend the following individuals from Guam for their initiatives in the fight for human rights: Senot Carlos P. Taitano, Senot Antonio M. Palomo, Senot Eddie D. Reyes, Senot Ted S. Nelson, Senot Ben G. Blaz, Governor Carl T.C. Gutierrez, Senot Joseph F. Ada, Senot Paul M. Calvo, Judge Benjamin J.F. Cruz, Attorney Michael F. Phillips, Senator Angel L.H. Santos, Senator Mark C. Charfauros, Senora Hope A. Cristobal, Senora Marilyn D.A. Manibusan, Dr. Katherine B. Aguon, Senot Henry M. Eclavea, Senot Vicente U. Garrido, Senot Manuel L. Tenorio, Senot Ivan Blas DeSoto, Senot Antonio A. Sablan, Senot Juan M. Flores, Senot Ed Benavente, Senot Ron Rivera, Senot Ron Teehan, Senot Chris Perez-Howard, Senot William Hernandez, and Senot Norbert P. Perez.

On December 10, 1997, the Ancestral Landowners' Coalition (ALC) invited me and several other community leaders to their forum on human rights. I applaud the ALC's efforts for supporting the people of Guam's struggle to fight for our civil rights, for although Guam is under the American flag, there are still issues, such as our petition for commonwealth status, with which the people of Guam feel the federal government has not addressed sufficiently.

Remembering Human Rights Day on December 10 will renew our dedication to supporting universal civil rights. I encourage the people of the United States to set the example for the rest of the world: continue supporting Human Rights Day and bring attention to the plight of those punished for exercising their right to simply live as a human being.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MILLBRAE, CALIFORNIA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to congratulate the beautiful City of Millbrae, California, on the 50th anniversary of its incorporation. Located just 16 miles south of San Francisco on magnificent sloping land between San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean, Millbrae has evolved through the years from rural farmland to a sleepy town to a bustling suburban community. Despite all these changes, Millbrae has remained an outstanding home to its 21,000 citizens, a nourishing environment for parents to raise children and for citizens to become involved in their schools and their neighborhoods.

Millbrae's history begins long before the presentation of its City Charter on January 14, 1948. It can be traced back to the years prior to the birth of our country. The first documented residents were the Costanoan Indians, who were joined during the 18th century by Spanish explorers traveling north from Mexico. The first sighting of San Francisco Bay by the European newcomers took place near Millbrae's present border, on Sweeney Ridge in 1769.

Growth was quite limited during the next century, Mr. Speaker. In the 1860s, financier and philanthropist Darius Ogden Mills purchased a large tract of land in what is now Millbrae. He encouraged the development of his property, which he named Millbrae, combining his last name with the Scottish word brae, which means "rolling hills." While the area encompassed by the estate remained largely rural, dairy, a train depot, and several other buildings eventually joined Mills' impressive mansion.

As San Francisco matured into a leading American city, Millbrae and other surrounding communities steadily grew and began to thrive. Around 1919, the West Coast Porcelain Works Factory opened in Millbrae, creating enough jobs to boost the area population to over 300 people. Eight years later, on May 7, 1927, Mayor James Rolph, Jr., of San Francisco dedicated the Mills Field Municipal Airport just east of Millbrae. By the end of 1928, 22,352 flights carrying 38,302 passengers had used the new airport. Today—seventy years later—the facility, now called San Francisco International Airport, handles over 35 million passengers annually, is one of the major airports in the United States, and remains a major boon to Millbrae's economy. The City currently claims over five hundred flourishing business, including six major hotels, and branch offices of leading financial institutions.

Millbrae organized a volunteer fire department in 1931, a signal of the progress and rapid growth that continued unabated during the Great Depression and post-World War II years. This progress culminated in the incorporation of the City of Millbrae less than three years after V-J Day.

The half-century since its incorporation, Mr. Speaker, has witnessed the continuing growth and invigoration of Millbrae's economic and social life. As the able and devoted city mayor, Mark Church, explained:

Despite tremendous growth and change in and around the City, Millbrae still remarkably maintains its unique charm. Millbrae is strengthened by its citizenry who give selflessly for the betterment of the community. An economically viable, balanced community, where residents enjoy a high quality of life is the result.

Mr. Speaker, the outstanding quality of life that the citizens of Millbrae enjoy is the result to a long line of dedicated city officials and city workers, including Mayor Church, the current Millbrae City Council, the City Administrator and the 136 full-time employees. They serve as a hallmark of the City's long tradition of public service and devotion to community.

I would like to encourage all of my colleagues to visit this splendid city. Millbrae is the host of a number of wonderful events throughout the year. One of the premier activities is the annual Millbrae Art & Wine Festival, one of Northern California's premier events with over 250 craftspeople and 20 international food vendors. The City also boasts a