

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