

dramas "Listen to the People" and "They Burned the Books" as well as the so-called propaganda history "America." In this book, which was printed in many languages and distributed in thousands of copies around the world, he told his country's story with all the honesty and truthfulness that was his nature.

But Benet did not live to see the publication of "America." He died March 13, 1948, the victim of a sudden heart attack at just 44 years of age. Found among his papers at his death were the following four lines, which were perhaps the last he ever wrote:

Now for my country, that it still may live,
All that I am, all that I have I'll give.
It is not much beside the gift of the brave,
But yet accept it, since 'tis all I have.

I'd like to close by reading part of a prayer Stephen Vincent Benet wrote for President Franklin D. Roosevelt, known as the President's Prayer. Surely its sentiments are those which every man and woman of good will can still share today.

Our Earth is but a small star in a great universe. Yet of it we can make, if we choose, a planet unvexed by war, untroubled by hunger or fear, undivided by senseless distinctions of race, color, or theory. Grant us brotherhood, not only for this day but for all our years—a brotherhood not of words but of acts and deeds. We are all of us children of earth—grant us that simple knowledge. If our brothers are oppressed, then we are oppressed. If they hunger, we hunger. If their freedom is taken away, our freedom is not secure. Grant us a common faith that man shall know bread and peace—that he shall know justice and righteousness, freedom and security, an equal opportunity and an equal chance to do his best, not only in our own lands but throughout the world. And in that faith, let us march toward the clean world our hands can make.

PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT
OF 1998

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Democratic Caucus' proposal to protect consumers in managed care, the Patients' Bill of Rights Act of 1998.

Ten years ago, only one in seven of us would have been enrolled in managed care. Today, after huge and wrenching changes in our health care system, more than three in four Americans is now in managed care.

No matter how prosperous or healthy our lives, all of us at some point become patients and find ourselves at the tender mercies of our health care system.

When that happens, we are entitled to minimal rights and measures that will protect our health and dignity.

That's what the legislation we're introducing today is all about.

We have all heard the horror stories. Heart attack victims forced to drive miles to an approved emergency room. A woman vacationing in Hawaii forced to fly to her plan's participating Emergency Room in Chicago to get care for an emergency situation. Cardiac center's selected on the basis of price, not quality. Denials of treatment resulting in worse problems. A woman testified before our committee

late last year about a boy who lost his leg to cancer because the managed care organization would not approve the necessary treatment in time to stop its progression.

The legislation we propose is straightforward. It's the product of exhaustive and exhausting discussions involving the full range of views and opinions within the Democratic Party—perhaps the most diverse and contentious political organization ever assembled under one umbrella.

First, our legislation says that you should get the care you need when you are sick. If you need to see a specialist, you can see one. If you have an emergency, you can go to the nearest emergency room for treatment. You'll be able to become part of a clinical trial if there is no other treatment available, and you'll be able to get non-formulary drugs if there is cause for exceptions.

Second, you'll be able to get the information you need about your plan. You'll know what is covered, what is not, how and where to get care, who to talk to in order to get a complaint or grievance resolved, what providers are in the plan and how the plan measures up in term of providing quality care to members.

Third, if you've got a problem with your care, you'll know where and how to straighten it out. If your plan denies a treatment and you're harmed, you'll be able to hold the plan responsible.

Finally, our legislation requires plans to have a program to look at the quality of care they provide to the people they serve.

Ours is real, enforceable legislation. It doesn't give health care providers a right to bill. It gives patients a bill of rights.

We've worked with a range of organizations on this legislation. I'm proud to welcome representatives of both the American Medical Association and the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations in support of our efforts. That these two institutions are represented in support of our bill should tell you that this is a well-thought-out piece of legislation.

We don't believe that managed care is inherently evil. Managed care has controlled costs, and improved care for its patients in many instances. But the excesses that spawned managed care have in turn produced their own excesses.

The Patients' Bill of Rights Act is supported by the following groups and organizations. American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) [March 31, 1998 Letter]; American Cancer Society [March 13, 1998 Letter]; American College of Emergency Physicians [March 31, 1998 News Release]; American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations [March 31, 1998 News Release]; American Medical Association [March 31, 1998 Statement]; American Psychological Association [March 12, 1998 Letter]; Consumers Union [March 31, 1998 Letter]; Families USA Foundation [March 31, 1998 Letter]; HIP Health Plans [March 31, 1998 Letter]; Kaiser Permanente [March 31, 1998 Letter]; National Alliance for the Mentally Ill [March 31, 1998 Statement]; National Association of Children's Hospitals [March 31, 1998 News Release]; and National Mental Health Association [March 13, 1998 Letter].

As the baseball season begins across the country, I hope that my Republican colleagues—many of whom have joined in co-sponsoring similar legislation—will join in

working with me and my fellow Democrats so that we can put a bill on the President's desk by the time that the baseball season draws to a close this September.

AIR FORCE RESERVE BIRTHDAY
TRIBUTE

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the birthday of the United States Air Force Reserve. April 14, 1998 will mark fifty years of service by the Air Force Reserve to the United States of America. The Air Force Reserve traces its heritage to the National Defense Act of 1916, which authorized a corps of reserve officer and enlisted aviators. From this modest beginning, Reservists made noteworthy contributions during both world wars. On April 14, 1948, the Air Force Reserve became a component of the United States Air Force. In 1998, the Air Force Reserve celebrates the 50th anniversary of this event. During those 50 years, Reservists have served proudly and with great distinction during times of conflict.

They answered the call in Korea in the 1950s, in Berlin, Cuba, Korea and Southeast Asia in the 1960s, and in the Persian Gulf in the 1990s. In peacetime, while maintaining a high degree of readiness to respond during a crisis, Reservists perform humanitarian, rescue, hurricane reconnaissance and aerial-spray missions throughout the United States and around the world. They also support virtually every air force peacetime operational activity, from airlift missions and satellite operations, to patrolling the no-fly zones over Bosnia and Iraq.

The Air Force Reserve has grown from an "extremes force" to an integrated combat ready fighting force. As the Air Force Reserve moves into the 21st Century, they play an expanded role in meeting the fast changing needs of our country. They are developing more detailed long-range and annual planning documents to ensure the Reserve is a viable partner in the total force goal—to best use our capabilities, provide America an effective defense, and give the best value for our defense dollar. Originally intended for wartime augmentation, today these citizen airmen support national objectives on a daily basis.

Their day-to-day involvement has increased markedly in recent years. The Air Force Reserve participated in 11 contingencies between 1953 and 1990. In the last seven years, they have played a significant role in over 40 major operations. This is part of life and they are proud to do it. In every instance since Desert Storm, they have met these obligations with all volunteers.

The Air Force Reserve is a force of dedicated airmen who help support the world's most respected Air Force. Today, they provide 13 percent of total Air Force manning and roughly 20 percent of the Air Force's total air and space capability. Their mission is readiness, but their job is to support the total Air Force. Air Force planners and leaders recognize the need for their support and rely on them to step in wherever needed.

Their readiness has never been higher, and they are part of nearly every mission area. One of the keys to their success is compensating leverage as a force multiplier inherent within a fully trained and accessible force waiting on call. In reality, today's global situation dictates that they serve as a peacetime augmentation force as well as a ready, war-time force.

Air Force Reserve units maintain readiness levels on par with active duty units. Over 92% of Air Reserve units are currently combat ready, closely paralleling our active force.

The Air Force Reserve remains ready to support mission requirements at any time, under any conditions, anywhere in the world. They bring current, mission capable technology, at low cost, to meet the expectations of the active duty commanders they support. And they bring the creative ingenuity and dedication of a highly skilled and diverse workforce to meet their requirements and their responsibilities to the American people.

Some of the most notable accomplishments for the Air Force Reserve over the past 50 years have included:

April 14, 1948—The U.S. Air Force Reserve was officially designated.

1950–1952—All 25 Air Force Reserve wings, along with 118,000 individual reservists, came on active duty during the Korean conflict.

July 9, 1952—The Armed Forces Reserve Act standardized pay and training categories and established Ready, Standby and Retired mobilization categories.

Oct. 1, 1961—Five Air Force Reserve C-124 Globemaster groups and about 9,000 individual reservists, totaling more than 15,000 were mobilized during the Berlin Crisis.

Oct. 18, 1962—Eight Air Force Reserve troop carrier wings and six aerial port squadrons, total more than 14,000 reservists, were mobilized during the Cuban missile crisis.

Jan. 26, 1968—Six Air Force Reserve units were mobilized in the wake of the Pueblo Incident.

May 13, 1968—Seven Air Force Reserve units were mobilized to support the Air Force during the Vietnam conflict.

Aug. 21, 1970—The Total Force Concept was announced by Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird, making reserve components the initial source of augmentation for the active force rather than the draft.

Aug. 3, 1973—Secretary of Defense James R. Schlesinger elevated the Total Force Concept to the Total Force Policy, integrating the active, Guard and Reserve into a homogeneous whole.

Oct. 1, 1977—In a mission shared with the Air National Guard, the Air Force Reserve began rotating C-130s, aircrews, and support personnel to Howard Air Force Base, Panama, in support of Phoenix Oak, the Air Force's Latin American mission.

Oct. 23, 1983—Air Force Reserve airlift associate units assisted in the evacuation of more than 700 American and foreign citizens from Grenada during the civil turbulence on that island. Reserve maintenance, aerial port and medical personnel also supported the active forces.

Oct. 24, 1983—Air Force Reserve airlift associate aircrews helped evacuate wounded U.S. Marines from Lebanon. Reservists flew 63 strategic airlift missions transporting supplies and casualties into and out of Beirut.

December 1989—Reserve units took part in Operation Just Cause, airlifting passengers and cargo to Panama. Aeromedical, special operations and air refueling units also participated in the effort to ensure protection of Americans and U.S. resources. When the operation ended Jan. 31, 1990, Reserve airlift units had flown nearly 1,500 hours airlifting some 7,500 passengers and more than 4,000 tons of cargo. Reserve air refueling crews offloaded more than a million pounds of fuel to 18 receiving aircraft, and AC-130 gunships flew 157 hours and expended nearly 7,500 rounds of ammunition.

August 1990—Nearly 6,000 of more than 9,000 Reserve volunteers were on duty within two weeks after Iraq invaded Kuwait Aug. 2.

February 1991—There were more than 17,500 reservists on active duty. About 3,800 were officers and 13,700 were enlisted personnel. About one in four were women. Approximately 1,800 were air reserve technicians, 1,300 were individual mobilization augmentees and more than 500 were members of the Individual Ready Reserve. More than 7,000 of those reservists were in medical specialties.

March 1991—The mobilization reached its peak with almost 23,500 Air Force reservists on duty. Of them, more than 20,000 were assigned to 215 Reserve units, 2,300 were individual mobilization augmentees and 960 were members of the Individual Ready Reserve or retirees. Most members of the latter group were medical personnel. The Department of Defense authorized the commanders of the gaining major commands to demobilize reservists, consistent with military requirements.

May 8–10, 1992—The Command Band of the Air Force Reserve performed on Russian television May 7 and in the Kremlin May 8. On May 9, the band participated in the Peace Victory Parade, marking the first time a U.S. military unit has marched in the Russian capital.

July 15, 1992—A Reserve C-130 and two aircrews from the 934th Airlift Group, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station, Minn., joined active-duty and Air National Guard aircraft and crews at Rhein Main Air Base, Germany, to airlift desperately needed supplies and food into war-torn Sarajevo and Zagreb during Operation Provide Promise.

Dec. 8–14, 1992—Reservists flew 190 sorties, airlifted 1,076 passengers and 1,504 tons of cargo, and off-loaded nearly 1.8 million pounds of fuel in flight as part of Operation Restore Hope. The Air Force Reserve had 381 volunteers who were placed on active duty for 31 days. Of that total, 396 airlifted troops and equipment, 37 flew air refueling missions, 17 performed medical duties and 14 provided aerial port support.

Jan. 1, 1993—The Air Force Reserve entered the space program with the activation of the 7th Space Operations Squadron at Falcon Air Force Base, Colo.

Jan. 31, 1993—Air Force Reserve units reported airlifting 9,400 passengers and 11,728 tons of cargo in support of Operation Restore Hope, the relief mission in Somalia. Associate aircrews, flying active-duty aircraft, airlifted most of the passengers and cargo flown by the Reserve.

November 1993–January 1994—Air Force Reserve A-10 Thunderbolt II and F-16 Fighting Falcon pilots and aircraft participated with Air National Guard and coalition forces in Op-

eration Deny Flight, enforcement of a military no-fly zone over Bosnia-Herzegovina in accordance with a United Nations Security Council resolution.

June–September 1994—Reserve A-10 and KC-135 units deployed to Europe in support of the United Nations' no-fly zone over Bosnia. A-10s, aircrews and support people went to Aviano Air Base, Italy, again to provide fighter coverage. KC-135s, aircrews and support personnel staged air refueling operations from Pisa, Italy, and Istres, France, for U.S. and NATO fighters.

September 1994—Air Force Reserve airlift and air refueling aircraft flew missions in support of Operation Uphold Democracy, the peacekeeping mission in Haiti. By Sept. 20, more than 1,100 reservists volunteered to deploy or remain in place to assist the operation. Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., and Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., were staging bases. Homestead served as a jumping off point into Haiti, and Dobbins accommodated C-130s loaded with Army civil engineers from Fort Bragg, N.C.

December 1995—Reserve airlift, aerial refueling, and aeromedical units plus individual mobilization augmentees began supporting Operation Joint Endeavor, the NATO-sponsored peacekeeping mission to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

January–June 1996—Reserve fighter units, based at Aviano Air Base, Italy, continued to support the enforcement of the no-fly zone over the former Yugoslavia. The original UN-sponsored mission, Deny Flight concluded Dec. 21, 1995, when NATO assumed responsibility for what was then called Decisive Edge.

February 17, 1997—The Air Force Reserve was designated as an Air Force major command, from a field operating agency, and renamed the Air Force Reserve Command.

Air Force Reservists, through their unselfish devotion to duty, are dedicated "Citizen Airmen" who have served America proudly and with distinction for 50 years.

THE HISTORY AND BACKGROUND OF THE HUNGARIAN CROWN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on March 18 in Statuary Hall we held a ceremony celebrating the 20th anniversary of the return to the people of Hungary of the Holy Crown of Hungary, the Crown of St. Stephen. The United States government was custodian for a third of a century (from 1945 to 1978) of this most important symbol of the Hungarian nation.

At the time the Crown was returned to Hungary, Dr. Robert King, who currently serves as my Chief of Staff, was a member of the staff of the National Security Council at the Carter White House. He was involved on behalf of the White House in the decisions surrounding the return of the Crown, and he was an official member of the delegation headed by Secretary of State Vance which returned the Crown to Hungary. It is significant, Mr. Speaker, that Bob's association with Hungary and with the Crown predates our association in my office.