

and success and congratulate him for being chosen as "1998's Small Business Person of the Year."

CONGRESS SHOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRET SERVICE

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 1998*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am told that the Majority Whip, Mr. DELAY, will soon offer an extraordinary and unprecedented amendment to the Treasury-Postal appropriations bill which seeks to involve Congress in pending litigation between the Secret Service and the Independent Counsel, Kenneth Starr.

That litigation, which is before the federal appeals court in the District of Columbia, concerns whether Secret Service agents can be required to testify about private activities of the President. Under this Republican amendment, Congress would direct the Attorney General to withdraw the Secret Service's appeal from an order that affects them, and every future President, profoundly.

What the gentleman from Texas and the Republican leadership want is for Congress to weigh in on an important and difficult legal issue and give free and unsolicited legal advice to the Attorney General. The amendment is bad policy and, I am quite sure, unprecedented. Never, in my memory, has the Congress tried to involve itself in such sensitive litigation, and certainly not in the context of an Independent Counsel's investigation of the President.

Former President George Bush, in a recent letter to Secret Service Director Lewis Merletti, wrote, based on his experience, that he hoped that Secret Service agents "will be exempted from testifying before the Grand Jury." President Bush went on to say that "[w]hat's at stake here is the protection of the life of the President and his family, and the confidence and trust that a President must have" in the Secret Service. Even the three-judge panel of the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals that originally heard the case itself said that "ensuring the physical safety of the President is a public good of the utmost importance."

Just this past Sunday, the Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Mr. ORRIN HATCH, said that his committee would hold hearings to consider legislation in this area, a proposal that I think is quite reasonable. But until Congress considers this complex area, I don't believe that we have any business trying to dictate to the Attorney General what position she should take in this litigation.

The Secret Service has a unique relationship with every President of the United States. Secret Service agents necessarily are within earshot of every confidential communication that a President has. Are we ready to require these agents to repeat everything that they overhear the President or the head of a foreign country say? The gentleman's amendment threatens the open and close relationship between the Secret Service and the President, a relationship that must provide the President with maximum security and protection.

As a matter of principle, the Secret Service has independently decided that the issue is important enough to seek rehearing before the entire District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals. Given the Secret Service's strongly held views, isn't it a bit presumptuous of us to consider the invitation of the gentleman from Texas to take a position on this issue?

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL L. LAVER

**HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 1998*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Daniel L. Laver, a long time resident of San Diego, who has recently retired as Director of the San Diego County Area Agency on Aging. Mr. Laver leaves behind an agency that has become the leader in services to the elderly and disabled populations in our county. For almost forty years, Mr. Laver gave his all to the County of San Diego and its citizens, often times putting his life on hold to meet the challenges and break the roadblocks that prevented the agency from providing the highest quality services. Several services and products developed under Mr. Laver's leadership have been deemed "Best in Class" at the local, state and national levels. Dan's motto has been: "If it's good for seniors—do it! It's not—don't."

Dan is known for his tenacity in enhancing options for elderly and disabled people to remain living independently in their own homes and communities and for his creativity in program development and management. Highlights of his remarkable career include: building and renovating 18 senior centers throughout the county under the Senior Center Bond Act of 1984; creating "Meals on the Move" which delivers hot, nutritious meals to the homebound elderly on holidays, weekends and on an emergency basis; expanding the county's case management program to embrace younger persons with disabilities, as well as the elderly; establishing "Links-to-Life," which provides emergency medical identification bracelets for low-income seniors; and helping to establish "Christmas in April," which rehabilitates the houses of low-income elderly and disabled homeowners.

Mr. Laver is currently President of the National Association of Area Agencies (N4A) on Aging and leads them in their nationwide advocacy. In that capacity, he testified on the Older Americans Act before the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth and Families, which I chaired at that time. In 1988, he was given N4A's highest honor, the Distinguished Director Award. He also led the California Association of Area Agencies on Aging as its President from 1986 to 1987.

I commend Dan Laver for making a significant impact on the lives of elderly and disabled people in San Diego County and throughout the nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 1998*

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, on June 22, 1998, I mistakenly cast a "yea" vote on rollcall vote 256 on H. Con. Res. 452, expressing the sense of the House that the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service (USPS) should reject the recommended postage rate increase. Please let it reflect in the record that I intended a "nay" vote.

The USPS faces enormous challenges, primarily maintaining universal mail service at an affordable price across our entire nation. The USPS needs to be more efficient and to improve local service in some areas, including parts of Connecticut's Fourth Congressional District. But I do not believe the increase is unreasonable.

Congress pushed for the Postal Service to be run like a private business and, therefore, should not interfere now in the decisions its board makes. The increase in the price of a first-class stamp, to 33 cents, is less than one-third the rate of inflation over the more than three years the 32-cent rate has been in effect.

COMMENDING THE TOWN OF CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

**HON. JAMES H. MALONEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 1998*

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, during this past Fourth of July district work period, most of us participated in a variety of events in our congressional districts across the nation that underscored the patriotism that we all hold for our country. These events reminded us all of our heritage and the privilege of living in the greatest nation in the world.

Such a reminder should be noted not only on one day a year, but day-in and day-out. Accordingly, the people of the Town of Cheshire in my congressional district have recently taken steps to make patriotic pride a mainstay of every day life in their community. This past April 25th, the Town dedicated the Medal of Honor Plaza and a "Living Classroom of Historic Trees" to honor the Town's two Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, as well as other veterans with roots in Cheshire.

Captain Eri Woodbury, who fought with the Vermont Cavalry during the Civil War was the Town's first recipient in 1864. He was followed in 1965 by Vietnam War veteran Col. Harvey C. Barnum, USMC (Ret.). Only 3,500 individuals have received the Congressional Medal of Honor since its inception in 1862. Given the town's relatively small population of about 26,000, two Medal of Honor recipients is a highly notable distinction.

Near the center of the Town there now stands a black granite monument commemorating Captain Woodbury and Col. Barnum. The memorial is centered on a star shaped Plaza paved with bricks, each one bearing the name of one of over 400 other veterans with ties to Cheshire.

The "Living Classroom of Historic Trees" are seedlings taken from historic trees from

around the country: Valley Forge, the Gettysburg battlefield where President Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address, the site of George Washington's Delaware River crossing, Mt. Vernon, Nathan Hale's home in Connecticut, as well as the Charter Oak, the famous Connecticut state tree. These historic trees represent not only great events, but people who made significant contributions to the history of our country.

Mr. Speaker, the Plaza and the Historic Trees are visible reminders of the fact that freedom is not free, but, indeed, comes only at great price. The Town of Cheshire is a proud community, proud of its heritage and that of our nation. The Cheshire Plaza signifies that pride, and the Town and its residents are to be commended for it.

INTRODUCTION OF THE  
MEDICARE+CHOICE COLD-CALLING  
PROHIBITION ACT

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 1998*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a number of my colleagues to introduce "The Medicare+Choice Cold-Calling Prohibition Act." This bill would prohibit unsolicited telemarketing sales of new Medicare+Choice health plans to Medicare beneficiaries.

Under the new Medicare+Choice program developed in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA), Medicare beneficiaries will no longer have only a choice of traditional Medicare or HMOs. Seniors will now get to choose among an alphabet soup of additional options such as PPOs, PSOs, POSs, Private FFS, and MSAs. All of this would undoubtedly lead to real confusion.

Adding to that confusion will be the fact that many more private health insurance programs will be competing to capture large segments of the Medicare population.

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 recognized the power of these insurance advertising budgets to sway seniors into decisions that may not be in their best interest. The law requires that marketing materials be submitted to the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) for review and that fair marketing standards be followed that prohibit cash or monetary rebates as an inducement to enroll.

HCFA's proposed regulation for implementing the BBA go even further. They prohibit insurance companies from marketing their products door-to-door, forbid misleading activities in marketing practices (such as intimating that the government endorsed their plan), and the plans must market to the disabled population as well as seniors. While all of these protections are good, they don't go far enough.

In addition to adding new managed care options to the Medicare program, the BBA greatly enhanced the ability of states to enroll their Medicaid populations in managed care. The marketing protections for Medicaid enrollees actually go further than those for Medicare beneficiaries. The BBA ensures that managed care plans "shall not, directly, or indirectly conduct door-to-door, telephonic, or other 'cold-call' marketing of enrollment under this title." So, our Medicaid population is protected from becoming prey to telemarketers whose

paychecks depend directly upon the number of healthy risks that they sign up for the plan.

Unfortunately, our nation's Medicare beneficiaries are not protected from telemarketers. And, we know the senior population is especially vulnerable to a well-honed health insurance sales pitch. Many of you will recall the evidence we uncovered in the late 1980's that pushed us to enact standardized Medigap policies and to prohibit the sale of duplicative policies. We found seniors who were literally paying for a dozen Medigap plans—most of which covered the exact same benefits! And, a dozen policies for one individual wasn't even the most egregious of the examples.

That's why we rise today to introduce the Medicare+Choice Cold-Calling Prohibition Act". This bill does exactly what its title indicates—it would protect our seniors from being inundated with unwanted sales pitches. It provides the same protections granted to our Medicaid recipients to Medicare beneficiaries.

The BBA Medicare changes are significant—the most significant changes made to the program since its inception in 1965. It is important that Medicare beneficiaries learn as much as possible about these changes and make sure that the choices they make are in their best interest. The unfortunate reality is that we know from past practices that telemarketers will not be looking out for seniors' best interests. They will be looking out for making the biggest commissions possible. That's why passage of the Medicare+Choice Cold-Calling Prohibition Act is so important.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA HONORS  
HIAWATHA COUNCIL FOR SUP-  
PORT PROGRAM

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 1998*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to publicly commend members of my Central New York community who have achieved great stature for the Hiawatha Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

By instituting the Boypower Program and endowment facility, these outstanding individuals have enhanced the future of the Hiawatha Council.

I know these people to be civic leaders beyond compare. For their work in scouting, they were honored recently at the national meeting of the BSA in San Antonio, TX. They are Hiawatha Council Scout Executive Bill Moran, President of the Council John Chambers, Arnie Rubenstein, and George and Barbara Schunck. They and everyone they work with should be proud of this national honor.

Across the Nation, as some of my colleagues will know, endowment giving in the BSA has more than doubled since 1994. The results have been increased staffs, expanded services to at-risk children and support for ordinary operating expenses.

Four years ago, the Hiawatha Council got excited about endowment giving possibilities. They set out to support something they believe in—a community helping its own. The estimated \$23.5 million in gifts they handled during the past four years is a tribute to their effort and commitment.

I want to ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating

the Hiawatha Council and all those who have been involved in this outstanding program.

TRIBUTE TO LISA MENDOSA

**HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 1998*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lisa Mendosa. Lisa Mendosa, an accomplish woman of the '90s, has added the title of Community Relations Coordinator for Borders Books to her credit. Having worked in numerous fields, Lisa Mendosa is in many respects, considered a renaissance woman.

Lisa Mendosa has had an impressive career, and still has much of her life ahead of her. In 1987, she was named one of America's top 100 women in Communications/Hispanic USA. In the same year she also won an award in the Associated Press television-radio competition. In 1989, she was named one of America's top 100 junior college graduates. In 1995, Lisa Mendosa received an Emmy Award for her coverage of the Leer Jet crash in Fresno. She was one of the first peoples to be given an Emmy Award for broadcasting.

Lisa Mendosa has also published a number of books on animals and children. She has a great love for animals and has raised two dogs from the age of eight weeks and studied their development for more than 8 years. Lisa Mendosa spent 17 years working in TV news researching, writing, producing and presenting thousands of news stories. At Channel 24, Lisa went from management to being a producer. After winning her Emmy, Lisa was offered a position by Channel 30, which she took. Currently, she is a Community Relations Coordinator for Borders Books. Today, she works harder than ever to establish a close community relationship with the Borders Books staff.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Lisa Mendosa. Already being an accomplished woman of the '90's and considered a renaissance woman, Lisa Mendosa continues to be dedicated to her work. Her dedication and exemplary efforts should serve as an inspiration to all. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Lisa Mendosa continued success for the future.

KELSEY TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD  
IN CHRIST CELEBRATES DIA-  
MOND JUBILEE 1923-1998

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 1998*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of its Diamond Jubilee, I rise to celebrate the Kelsey Temple Church of God In Christ and its founder, Bishop Samuel Kelsey.

Mr. Speaker, The life and history of the late Bishop Samuel Kelsey speak volumes about the church legacy he bequeathed to the citizens of the Nation's Capital. The church officers and members, in the Washington, D.C. Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ, take great pride in the combined histories of their great church and its founding father.