

money from rank-and-file members laboring under a union security agreement—taking funds without permission and spending it on causes and activities with which the workers disagree—then let us not fool around with Section 501 of the Shays/Meehan bill. Section 501 is a fig leaf that falls woefully short of addressing the problem.

What we have today is a broken system that allows unions to raid workers' wallets, forces workers to resign from the union, requires workers to object—after the fact—to their money being removed from their paycheck, and then requires workers to wait for the union to rebate those funds, if they get around to doing so.

The Worker Paycheck Fairness Act is a proper and reasonable fix that truly implements the spirit of the Supreme Court's Beck decision. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

#### IRS REPLACEMENT ACT

### HON. HENRY BONILLA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 1, 1999*

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, the Spirit of '76 lives today. Two centuries ago, our forefathers rose up in revolt against an oppressive tyrant under the banner of no taxation without representation. They understood oppressive taxation was a form of tyranny, and they committed themselves to secure liberty against all odds. Who would have thought that we would triumph against that century's superpower, the British Empire. Yet, we all know we beat the odds and achieved the freedom we all enjoy today.

Today, taxpayers have had enough of a system that treats them as criminals, rather than customers. We need to abolish today's tyrant, the Internal Revenue Service, and replace it with a system that treats you—the taxpayer—fairly. Today, 76 Members of Congress are joining together to recreate that spirit and battle against the odds to make this goal a reality. We are introducing legislation that puts the Congress on a path to abolishing the IRS and implementing a more fair, and simple tax system.

The struggle for freedom is never ending. I committed to the people of the 23rd District that I would fight to abolish the IRS as we know it. Today 76 Members of Congress are joining together to keep that commitment and end this modern day tyranny. The Founding Fathers did not allow the long odds to deter them in their struggle for liberty. That Spirit of '76 lives today. My colleagues please join the 76 of us in recreating that spirit and cosponsor the IRS Replacement Act.

#### THE CONSUMER HEALTH AND RESEARCH TECHNOLOGY (CHART) PROTECTION ACT INTRODUCED

### HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 1, 1999*

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Consumer Health And Research

Technology (CHART) Protection Act to ensure the confidentiality of medical records.

There is currently no uniform standard to protect the privacy of a patients' medical records. There have been a number of startling examples of the potential effect of this void on the lives of Americans.

For example, The National Law Journal reported in 1994 that a banker who also served on his county's health board cross referenced customer accounts with patient information and subsequently called due the mortgages of anyone suffering from cancer.

Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Congress set a schedule for action on this issue. Should Congress fail to enact comprehensive legislation to protect the confidentiality of medical records by August of this year, the Secretary of Health and Human Services will be required to promulgate regulations.

Congress must act before the Secretary steps in.

We need to strike an effective balance between preventing the disclosure of sensitive information and ensuring health care providers have the information they need to treat individuals and make payments. The CHART Protection Act is an effort to achieve such an equilibrium.

The CHART Protection Act safeguards the confidentiality of medical records while protecting legitimate uses. The legislation sets out the inappropriate uses of medical information. These prohibitions relate specifically to individually identifiable information.

This is an important departure from the approach taken by other bills which seek to restrict the use of health information unless specifically authorized for disclosure.

The CHART Protection Act creates a "one-step" authorization process for the use of individually identifiable information by providing for authorization up front, while allowing individuals to revoke their authorization at any time for health research purposes.

Most other proposals create a "two-step" authorization process in which treatment, billing and health care operations are covered by one authorization, while all other uses are subject to a separate authorization, including use of information for research purposes. This approach has been the source of much controversy and is likely to damage our ability to enhance medical knowledge and improve patient care.

In addition, the CHART Protection Act allows patients to inspect, copy and where appropriate, amend their medical records.

Finally, the bill imposes stiff criminal and civil penalties for inappropriate disclosures of individually identifiable information and creates a powerful incentive to anonymize data.

We need to achieve a balance between a person's legitimate expectation of privacy and the right of a business to know what it is paying for.

It is my hope that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will recognize the necessity of passing a uniform and comprehensive confidentiality law which would serve to balance the interests of patients, health care providers, data processors, law enforcement agencies and researchers.

#### DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

### HON. TOM DELAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 1, 1999*

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) held its 108th Continental Congress this past April 19th. The DAR is committed to preserving the memory of our Founding Fathers who achieved independence for America and instituted our constitutional form of government. The members of the DAR passed the following commemorative and resolutions as part of their recent Continental Congress and I submit them for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

#### COMMEMORATIVE—GEORGE WASHINGTON

In commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the death of George Washington in 1999, it is appropriate to remember his words and deeds that still define and guide our country. George Washington said, "To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace."

The Father of our Country surveyed the wilderness; was an officer in the Virginia militia during the French and Indian War; owned a profitable plantation on the Potomac with its trading schooners; was Commander-in-Chief of the Patriot forces in the American Revolution; helped create our nation as President of the Constitutional Convention; then became the first President of the United States of America.

In an address to Congress in 1793 he said, "There is a rank due to the United States among Nations, which will be withheld, if not absolutely lost, by the reputation of weakness. If we desire to avoid insult, we must be able to repel it: if we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity, it must be known that we are at all times ready for war."

George Washington was indeed "first in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen."

#### EMERGENCY RESOLUTION—KOSOVO

Whereas, The President of the United States of America has authorized the use of air strikes in Yugoslavia due to the crisis in Kosovo without a clear mandate from the Congress of the United States of America, thus violating Article I, Section 8, Clauses 11,12,13 of the Constitution of the United States of America.

Whereas, This action of the member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is without clearly defined goals, objectives, and disclosures of the cost of maintaining an uncertain peace with no discernible conclusion in an ethnically divided nation; and

Whereas, The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution have always supported the Armed Forces of the United States of America and will continue to do so; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution express grave concern over the continuing expansion of United States involvement in the Balkans which places American lives in jeopardy in the absence of the constitutionally required action of Congress.

#### A STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE

Whereas, The armed forces have shrunk about 40 percent in force structure and troop levels since 1989, resulting in an over-tasked