

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN EDWARD J. QUIJADA

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 14, 2000*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Captain Edward J. Quijada who is retiring from the United States Navy after 30 years of distinguished service. Captain Quijada is a community leader, a patriot, a businessman and a friend.

A native of San Fernando, California, Captain Quijada graduated from Loyola Marymount University in 1969 with a Bachelor of Business Administration and in 1980 with a MBA. His dedication to community service was evident early in his life, as he chose to work for United Community Effort, Inc., East Los Angeles immediately after graduating college. He also had a passion for service to his country and he entered Naval Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island and received his commission in November 1969. Captain Quijada served aboard the U.S.S. *Albert David* (DE-1050) as Supply Officer and was released from active duty in July of 1973.

Captain Quijada's many military accomplishments include service in several Naval Regional Contracting Center and Defense Contract Administration Services Naval Reserve units. He proved himself to be a strong leader as the Commanding Officer of both the General VTU 1904 and NRCC 419, which was selected as the top unit of 41 units at the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Readiness Center Long Beach. Captain Quijada also held the position of Deputy/Vice Commander of NR Logistics Task Force, Commanding Officer of the AIRPAC SUPPLY 0294 at the North Island Naval Station in San Diego, and Commanding Officer of Defense Contract Management District West A919 in Irvine. Throughout his career, he received numerous military awards including two Meritorious Service Medals, a Combat Action Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal and the Joint Service Achievement Medal. He also earned the designation of a qualified Naval Aviation Supply Officer.

Once released from active duty, Captain Quijada applied his knowledge and leadership skills to the private sector. He helped manage companies including, Dataproducts Inc, Litton Data Systems and TRW, where he was Assistant Division Manager of Subcontracts and Material for sixteens years. Despite the pressures of his professional responsibilities, Captain Quijada has remained steadfast in his commitment to public service. He has served both on the Board of Directors and as President of Career Opportunities for Youth, an organization which provides scholarships to deserving students. Captain Quijada is currently the Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer of Tresieras Supermarkets.

It is my distinct pleasure to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Captain Edward J. Quijada for his outstanding 30 years of service to this country, and to congratulate him on his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT AS ONE OF THE BEST 100 COMMUNITIES FOR MUSIC EDUCATION IN AMERICA

**HON. JAY INSLEE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 14, 2000*

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I commend the Edmonds School District for being named one of the Best 100 Communities for Music Education in America.

This phenomenal program begins with a strong commitment to music education. Music is not perceived as an extra or optional subject, but as a core piece of a child's education that develops creativity, teaches self-discipline, enhances abstract thought and adds to a well-rounded education. They embrace a philosophy that music education is a valued aspect of the school curriculum. As with any other discipline, music courses are taught during the day and have State Essential Academic Learning requirements. This district offers opportunities to all students in kindergarten through 12h grade.

Edmonds School District offers a wide range of music programs. Outside of general music education classes and choir, students have the opportunity to learn instruments, join the Concert Choir, Orchestra, Concert Band, Vocal Jazz and Instrumental Jazz Ensemble in middle school. High school students have an even greater breadth of opportunities in Concert Band, Orchestra, Choir, Vocal and Instrumental Jazz, Marching Band, Pep Band and special programs such as Theory, History of Rock and Roll, Guitar, Percussion Ensemble, Steel Drum Ensemble and even African Drumming. Edmonds School District had the largest number of participants in band, orchestra and choir of any local school district involved in the 1999-2000 High School All-State Events.

Not only do many students get the chance to participate, but are they are recognized at state and national levels for their superior talents. Mountlake Terrace High School was one of 15 bands across the nation invited to play at the Essentially Ellington Festival at New York City's Lincoln Center. They have received top awards at the Reno Jazz Festival and Clark College Vocal and Instrumental Jazz Festivals. The combined district high school concert choirs recently performed at Seattle's new performance center, Benaroya Hall, and will entertain crowds this year at Carnegie Hall in New York. Lastly, Edmonds orchestra programs have won top honors at the Mercer Island Orchestra Festival and at the University of Idaho Festival in Moscow.

These expansive opportunities in music education and superior achievements are well deserving of this award. I commend the Edmonds music education staff for their contributions. They have been recognized as leaders in the field by frequent invitations to present at state level conferences. Mr. Speaker, I ask that this House please join me in recognizing, honoring and commending the students and staff of the Edmonds School District for being one of the Best 100 Communities for Music Education in America.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

**HON. DEBBIE STABENOW**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 14, 2000*

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, on April 12, I led an hour of debate on the topic of prescription drug coverage for senior citizens. I read three letters from around the state from seniors who shared their personal stories. On the 12th, I made a commitment to continue to read a different letter every week until the House enacts reform. That was five months ago. Although the House passed a prescription drug bill this summer, I believe it will not help most seniors. So, I will continue to read letters until Congress enacts a real Medicare prescription drug benefit. This week, I will read a letter from Shirley Radcliff of Gladstone, Michigan.

Together, Shirley and her husband spend \$1,042.36 for their prescription drugs. With the Democratic prescription drug plan, they would save \$286.32. Under the Republican plan, their costs would remain the same. In other words, the Republican plan would not help them.

Before I read Shirley's letter, let me share some information with my colleagues. In July, the Kaiser Family Foundation released a Prescription Drug Trends Chart Book that contains important findings.

In 1996, a third of the Medicare population had no drug coverage. This means that one third of those beneficiaries had there access to the prescription drugs they needed limited by their income.

Prices are rising and it is becoming increasingly more difficult for senior to pay for their medications out of their own pockets. In the past 5 years, the increase in prescription drug expenditures have been 2 to 4 times the percent changes in expenditure for most other health care services.

National spending for prescription drugs totaled \$91 billion in 1998, more than double the amount spent in 1990. Prescription drug utilization is the fastest growing component of health care, increasing at double digit rates nearly every year since 1985.

It is critical that Medicare be modernized to include coverage for this important component. I strongly support the Democratic proposal that creates a voluntary, defined benefit.

Text of letter: "Enclosed is a copy of the drugs taken and their prices that my husband and I have taken in 1999 (and are still taking in 2000).

"We are a couple on a fixed income and cannot afford these drugs that continue to escalate. Our income cannot keep up with it.

"Take note: the middle of the first page: 15 pills of Paxil are \$41.99. I cannot afford that and discontinued taking them because of it.

"And, at the top of page three, a two-month supply of Daypro is \$82.53. I no longer take these either, because I cannot afford them.

"Something has to be done! At your level! Someday you will be in my shoes. Pray that you are well and do not need prescription drugs. Sincerely, Shirley M. Radcliff."