

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JOSEPH B. WARSHAW,
M.D., FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE
TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional member of the New Haven, CT, community and a good friend, Joe Warshaw, as he leaves the Yale School of Medicine to become the Dean of the School of Medicine at the University of Vermont.

Joe, who currently serves as professor and chairman of Pediatrics and Deputy Dean for Clinical Affairs at the Yale University School of Medicine, has been an outstanding figure at Yale Medical School for over 30 years. His deep commitment and dedication has always been focused on some of our Nation's most vulnerable citizens—our children.

Joe is broadly published in his pediatric subspecialty, developmental biology and neonatal and perinatal medicine, and Joe is well-known for his dedication to improving children's health. Throughout his career, he has been an active member on a number of boards and medical organizations, including the American Pediatric Society, the American Society for Clinical Investigations, and Eastern Society for Pediatric Research. Joe has served on the Advisory Council of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development of the National Institute of Health, numerous external review panels, and the editorial boards of Pediatrics and Pediatric Research. Just this year, Joe was honored for his work in neonatology and developmental adaptation by the Cerebral Palsy Foundation with the 2000 Weinstein-Goldenson Medical Science Award.

Joe's profound humanitarianism extends beyond his medical abilities and has touched hundreds of lives. Some of my most cherished memories of Joe are of his selflessness during the Christmas season. Each holiday season my husband, Stan, and I have the privilege of touring Yale-New Haven Hospital with Joe, who dons his Santa Claus suit, visiting each hospital room and spreading Christmas cheer. The most precious of these moments are when he arrives at the neonatal care unit—bringing the promise of hope and holiday miracles to these very special infants and their families. Words cannot begin to express the inspiration Joe has been to our community.

Joe's career has taken him across this great Nation—New Haven and the Yale School of Medicine has been fortunate to have been home to his talent for so many years. Joe has been a strong leader in New Haven's healthcare community, always ensuring that those least able to make their voices heard.

It is with great pride that I stand today to join family, friends, and colleagues in extending my sincere thanks and appreciation for his

many contributions to our community. My best wishes to Joe and his wife Cynthia as they depart for Vermont. He will certainly be missed, by the Yale Medical community and the city of New Haven alike.

JEWISH HERITAGE MUSEUM ACT

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce legislation for the establishment of a new national museum in Washington, DC, celebrating the contributions of the Jewish people to the United States and to the world generally. The museum will be called the National Museum of Jewish Heritage. It will profile the role played by Jews in the aesthetic, cultural, and intellectual history of Western Civilization.

The new museum will offer to Jews and non-Jews alike a source of knowledge and information on a people whose contribution to a world we all share has been remarkable, and remarkably disproportionate to their numbers. The museum will offer to all an accessible doorway into the many facets of the Jewish legacy.

Currently there is no museum in Washington, DC, and few, if any, elsewhere in the world, dedicated to presenting the full range of contributions made by Jews over the ages, and the relationship of those contributions to the civilization of which we all partake on a day to day basis.

There is, of course, the U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC. It is however, devoted only to a most traumatic and anguished period of the Jewish experience. The new museum would offer a balance to that uniquely dark narrative. I believe that it would indeed be unfortunate for the rich Jewish history to be defined by that tragic chapter alone. The new museum will see that that does not occur. It will do so by profiling the many happy chapters of that history. It is a history to revere, and to learn from, and this new museum will allow this to happen in the Nation's Capital.

The new museum will accomplish its important goals by creating galleries that sweep from the archaeological artifacts of antiquity to contemporary painting and sculpture, to music, literature, cinema, sports, science, military, education and, in general, to the world of creative ideas. The museum would mount the kinds of exhibits that reflect the diverse involvement and attainments of Jews across history and geography—from Einstein and Salk to Freud and Marx.

The proposed legislation makes it clear that this will be a private initiative. No appropriated funds are being nor will be authorized. The role of the Government is highly limited. The President will appoint members of the Board

of Directors. Honorary members will be appointed by congressional leaders. Other national museums may lend works or art and other objects to the new museum. The National Park Service will assist the museum in finding a site in the Nation's Capitol, which could be provided by the U.S. Government. The legislation will, however, offer the recognition and appreciation of the Government of the United States.

I am proud of the contributions made by the Jewish people to the civilization we all enjoy. I am all the more proud to sponsor this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO POLLY FISHER

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a great Arkansan, and I am proud to recognize Polly Fisher in the Congress for her invaluable contributions and service to our Nation.

Polly Fisher distinguished herself through her devotion to her family, friends, and community. She was born in Fishersville, TN, on May 19, 1920, the daughter of Dr. John Samuel and Alverta Dunn Miller. Shortly thereafter, she moved to Arkansas, and graduated from Parkin High School before attending Arkansas Tech University in Russellville.

One of the happiest days of her life surely must have been March 5, 1945, when she married Harrell Cecil Fisher. Many more happy days followed, thanks to the births of her daughter, 5 sons, 10 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren. One of those sons, Roger Fisher, worked for the people of the First Congressional District of Arkansas as a field representative, and he was a tremendous asset to our office, to the people of our State, and to our Nation.

Polly Fisher is probably best-known for her work with developmentally disabled and delayed children through Miss Polly's Day Care Center in Wynne, AR. Her generosity and hard work touched many families in Cross County and surrounding areas, and her legacy will inspire those who continue to provide these important services at the facility that bears her name.

Sadly, Polly Fisher passed away last month. Her congregation at the Wynne Baptist Church, where she was church secretary for 20 years, will miss her greatly, as will her family and friends.

I am among this group, and on behalf of the Congress I extend my deepest sympathies to her family, even as I encourage them to join me in celebrating her extraordinary life.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

A TRIBUTE TO THE GENERAL MOTORS BALTIMORE ASSEMBLY PLANT ON THE UNVEILING OF ITS 12 MILLIONTH VEHICLE

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to an important member of Baltimore's manufacturing community and an institution central to the cultural and social life of Maryland. On Wednesday, September 27, 2000, the General Motors Baltimore Assembly Plant will unveil the 12 millionth vehicle assembled at this plant.

Production at the Broening Highway plant began in 1935, in the midst of this country's Great Depression. But the new plant, combined with a willing and capable work force, set new standards for quality production. Throughout the second half of the 20th century, the Baltimore Assembly Plant adapted to the changing needs of the American market. Renovations and upgrades to the assembly line and manufacturing process positioned the plant to remain productive. However, the competitive edge for the Baltimore Assembly Plant has been assured by innovative management and a highly trained and skilled work force.

The production of the 12 millionth vehicle marks not only a milestone in a great manufacturing tradition, but sends a clear signal that the Baltimore Assembly Plant is ready to meet new challenges. General Motors Corporation, management at the Baltimore Assembly Plant, the skilled workers, the unions, and Maryland's elected representatives have acknowledged that new products will offer this plant the opportunity to continue its legacy of fine automotive manufacturing. We look forward to, and accept the challenge of working together to secure the future of the Baltimore Assembly Plant.

I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing congratulations to all those associated with the great past, and a strong future of the General Motors Baltimore Assembly Plant, in Baltimore, MD, on this milestone date.

WELCOMING THE "ISLENDINGUR" IN CELEBRATION OF THE MILLENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF LEIF ERICSON'S VIKING VOYAGE ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I stand today to welcome Ambassador Hannibalsson and the "Islandingur" to the New Haven Harbor as many gather to celebrate the millennial anniversary of Leif Ericson's voyage from Iceland across the North Atlantic to the shores of North America. The center of a long historical debate, the Viking Sagas come to life with an outstanding cultural exhibit and the arrival of the "Islandingur"—a replica of the Viking Ship "Gaukstadaskip" that sailed 1,000 years ago.

For centuries, the Vikings did not record their history in books. Instead they passed

their culture, traditions, and stories generation to generation in oral sagas. Much of our knowledge of these courageous people comes from the written records of their European neighbors which, unfortunately, recounts only a 200-year history as raiders and plunderers. It is only in the past century that archeological digs have brought credit to the stories of the Norse expansion across the Atlantic—bringing a new fascination and excitement for this rich culture.

The most recent archeological work has revealed important evidence of the Viking expansion. Uncovering settlements, complex trade networks, and well-preserved artifacts has given us tremendous insight into the lives of the Vikings. Remarkable mariners, without maps or navigational equipment to chart a course, Viking captains, like Erik the Red and Leif Ericson, relied on their knowledge of the stars, sun, and the patterns of nature to guide them across the seas. When we look at the incredible accomplishments of the Icelandic people, we see a group that displayed unparalleled courage—leaving everything they knew to discover and explore new lands.

Throughout history, we have witnessed a unique quality in the human spirit, a drive to explore beyond what we know and understand, to travel into the unknown in search of new experiences. The Vikings embodied this drive and it is this spirit that we celebrate today. I am honored to rise today and join the Icelandic Millennium Commission and the New Haven community in commemorating this very special era of our history. My congratulations and best wishes to all.

HONORING RICHARD A. ALAIMO

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, Richard A. Alaimo, as he is honored for his contributions to our community. Dick is founder and President of the Alaimo Group, Consulting Engineers, which is located in Mount Holly and Paterson, New Jersey.

As a Consulting Civil and Municipal Engineer, and a licensed Professional Engineer in several states, he and his five associated firms have served over 70 municipalities and public agencies through the years.

His staff of over 100 engineers, planners, architects and construction managers have completed numerous large state projects in addition to municipal design and reconstruction programs.

Established over 30 years ago, Dick Alaimo's firm has designed facilities with constructed values in excess of \$1 billion.

Dick is a member of many civic organizations, among them the South Jersey Port Corporation, which he serves as Director and Chairman; Burlington County United Fund; Mount Holly Rotary; and, Rutgers University Foundation Board of Overseers.

Through the years, he has been selected as recipient of various awards such as Outstanding Young Man and Outstanding Citizen of the Greater Mount Holly Area; Longsdorf Good Citizenship Award; Distinguished Citizen Award; and, one of the Outstanding Young Men in America.

I am privileged and honored to recognize the accomplishments of Richard A. Alaimo, and to congratulate him on his service to the community.

ARE DRUG PROFITS NECESSARY TO RUN AN ONCOLOGY PRACTICE? NOT IN THE CASE OF ONE FLORIDA PRACTICE! ONCOLOGISTS PARTNERS HID \$2.6 MILLION IN DRUG PROFITS FROM OTHER DOCTORS—DIDN'T PUT DRUG PROFITS INTO THE PRACTICE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, Medicare has delayed reducing the level of reimbursement for various chemotherapy drugs, because of lobbying by some oncologists and drug companies that the profits are essential to cover the cost of running an oncology medical practice.

Hmmmmmm.

Not in one Florida practice, where a lawsuit between several partners who are gastroenterologists and oncologists reveals how the oncologists pocketed millions in profits from drugs, didn't put the money into the practice, and (apparently) the practice was successful in more than meeting its costs.

I am happy that HCFA is going to review its reimbursement of the costs of administering chemotherapy drugs. I hope they will check out this court case, before they buy all the arguments of the industry.

The following excerpts from the court case were provided by an attorney from Florida and I submit into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

July 24, 2000.

Re Summary of Information that you may find illuminating and helpful in understanding the False Drug Pricing Scheme that Generates Huge Kickbacks From Medicare and Medicaid to Oncologists; Medical Practice Partners' Litigation Between Gastroenterologists and Oncologists Over Profits from the Sale of Chemotherapy Drugs From Medicare, Medicaid and Private Insurance Being Kept Secretly by the Oncologist Partners and not shared with the Gastroenterologist Partners.

Dear Representative STARK: The original complaint in the *Chetan Desai, M.D., et al. v. Jayaprakash K. Kamath, M.D., et al.* case charges that two (2) oncologists made 2.6 million dollars in profits from the sale of chemotherapy drugs between 1993 and 1997 (page 4 ¶10). Additionally, the complaint charges that the two oncologists in 1997 overdraw their compensation by approximately \$385,000 (page 4, ¶11). By the time the Amended Complaint was filed, the feuding doctor partners and their lawyers had realized that a public fight in written documents over 2.6 million dollars in chemotherapy profits for two oncologists in four years' worth of practice may raise eyebrows of the court and law enforcement. Therefore, the Amended Complaint and the depositions were done with an agreement between the feuding parties not to mention the 2.6 million dollars worth of chemotherapy profits in four years for two oncologists but to only discuss chemotherapy profits in general and the \$385,000 1997 overdraw of compensation. Nevertheless, the accounting exhibits, Plaintiffs' Exhibit No. 33, Defendants' Exhibit No. 12 and Plaintiffs' Exhibit No. 34

show the tremendous profits in "reimbursement" for chemotherapy infusion and other infusion drugs from Medicare over the actual costs in obtaining the drugs from the manufacturers.

The following are some excerpts from the depositions in the case:

1. Geetha Kamath, M.D. is one of the oncologist defendants, the wife of the gastroenterologist defendant who allegedly changed the accounting system so that the oncologists got all the benefit from the sales of oncology drugs. You will note that the oncologists testified that it was common knowledge among all the partners, administration and all physicians generally that huge profits were made from the sale of oncology drugs. However, the gastroenterologists and some administrators (and physicians that we have interviewed in other specialties that oncology) testified that they had no idea that huge profits were made by oncologists merely from the sale of the drugs from their reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid.

EXCERPTS OF TESTIMONY OF THE DEPOSITION OF
GEETHA KAMATH, M.D.

(A) Deposition of November 6, 1998 of Geetha Kamath, M.D.

Page 156, Line 21.—I always thought that it was such a well known fact that drugs are profitable; it's a known fact in the medical community as far as I am concerned.

Page 163-164.—Exhibit No. 34 is a history of gastro and onco collections which reflect the increase in collections by oncologists between 1987 and 1995.

(B) Deposition of November 11, 1998 of Geetha Kamath, M.D.

Page 8, line 25 through Page 9, line 5.—Profit from chemotherapy drugs went to the oncologists. Profits from the sale of chemotherapy drugs were not shared by the gastroenterologists.

2. Belur S. Sreenath, M.D. is a gastroenterologist plaintiff. He sued the defendant oncologists because of their failure to distribute money from chemotherapy profits.

EXCERPTS OF TESTIMONY OF THE DEPOSITION OF
BELUR S. SREENATH, M.D.

(C) Deposition of September 17, 1998 of Belur S. Sreenath, M.D.

Page 23, line 6 through 23.—The gastroenterologists do not make any money from the sales of drugs. They write a prescription and the patients go to the patients' pharmacists and get their prescriptions filled. (essentially the same testimony on page 24, line 20-25)

Page 39, line 21 through Page 40, line 5.—He sued the oncologists because they diverted the profits from chemotherapy drugs in the amount of \$385,000.00

Page 72.—The gastroenterologists were aware that oncologists were being paid more from insurance companies and Medicare; however, they didn't know that the large profits were from the sale of chemotherapy drugs.

Page 124.—That Dr. Sreenath knew in 1997 the revenue from one oncologist, Dr. Geetha Kamath was \$2,490,000.00 and Dr. Sreenath's total revenue was only \$363,909.00 but he only understood that each oncologist was making a lot more money than he was but he didn't know that it came from the profits from the sale of chemotherapy infusion drugs.

Page 127.—He first realized that there was so much chemotherapy profits in the end of the year of 1997.

3. Pothan Jacob is a gastroenterologist partner suing for his share of the 2.6 million dollars in chemotherapy drug profits.

EXCERPTS OF TESTIMONY OF THE DEPOSITION OF
POTHAN JACOB

(D) Deposition of July 14, 1998 of Pothan Jacob:

Page 107.—More than 2.6 million dollars in profits from chemotherapy drugs were paid by GOA to the defendants from 1993 to the filing of the suit in April 1997.

Page 51.—The oncologists are paid for a professional component when they administer the chemotherapy drugs and they also get reimbursed separately for the oncology drugs administered.

Page 60.—Medicare pays for the chemotherapy drugs at a parallel or same time that the oncologists have to pay the manufacturers for the chemotherapy drugs.

Page 61.—The dramatic difference in revenues between the oncologists and the gastroenterologists are the chemotherapy drug profits received by the oncologists.

Page 66.—Gastroenterology physicians' receipts were lower in 1995 and 1996 because reimbursement was lowered for gastroenterology services and the cost of malpractice insurance was higher.

Pages 71-72.—Endoscopic procedures are personally done by gastroenterologists. Chemotherapy is not personally administered by an oncologist but by a nurse.

Page 83.—For drugs by gastroenterologist, the patient pays the cost, either buying from GOA at cost or buying it from the pharmacy.

Page 155.—The first time he learned of the extent of chemotherapy sales' profits in GOA was in the middle of 1997 when they were investigated entering MSO.

4. Debra Mitchell was the administrative nurse who was demoted in salary by the administrator physician partner, Dr. Jay Kamath, husband of one of the oncologists. He hired a second administrator just to work for the two oncologists.

EXCERPTS OF TESTIMONY OF THE DEPOSITION OF
DEBRA MITCHELL

(E) Deposition of July 14, 1998 of Debra Mitchell, R.N.:

Page 75-76.—In December of 1997, oncologist Dr. Geetha Kamath had revenue of \$2,497,938.00 and oncologist Anil Raiker had revenue of \$1,327,570.00

Page 82-83.—The old reports only showed Medicare allowables. The new reports showed the amounts being reimbursed by Medicaid (reviewing Exhibit 11).

Page 83.—GOA first began tracking the cost of the chemotherapy drugs in November of 1996.

Page 85.—The only doctors that saw the chemotherapy reports were the oncologists. The GI doctors were never given copies of the chemo reports.

Page 86-87.—In November of 1996, the witness was told by the accountant Odalys Lara there's profit in chemotherapy drugs. Exhibit No. 12 sets up the spread sheet showing the month to date and the year to date profits for each of the oncologists for the sales of chemotherapy drugs.

5. Odalys Lara was the CPA for GOA from April 1994 to the date of her deposition on September 3, 1998.

EXCERPTS OF TESTIMONY OF THE DEPOSITION OF
ODALYS LARA

(F) Deposition of September 3, 1998 of Odalys Lara, C.P.A.:

Page 14.—When she began, she did not know that there was any profit in the sale of chemotherapy drugs.

Page 25-26.—She first found out there was profits in the sale of chemotherapy drugs in July or August of 1997.

Page 32-33.—Plaintiffs' Exhibit No. 4 is a report of infusion and chemotherapy drug profits by year in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997.

Page 35.—In 1994 profits from the sale of infusion and chemotherapy drugs for two oncologists went from \$489,000.00 in 1994 to \$814,000.00 in 1997. From 1994 to 1997, 2.6 million dollars in chemotherapy and infusion drug profits were made by the two

oncologists. Those totals do not indicate the reimbursements from private insurance which is a separate figure. These figures only include Medicare's reimbursements. It is a conservative figure because insurance companies reimburse more.

There's some very good gem testimony regarding the huge profits made by oncologists from Medicare for the sale of infusion and chemotherapy drugs. Also there is excellent testimony about how the knowledge of these huge chemotherapy drug sales profits was kept secret from partner physicians who were not oncologists. However, these gems are buried in a morass of deposition harrangue.

I trust that this information will be useful for people reviewing the frauds against the Medicare and Medicaid Programs in the infusion, and oncology drug business.

STUDENT CONGRESSIONAL TOWN MEETING

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding work done by participants in my Student Congressional Town Meeting held this summer. These participants were part of a group of high school students from around Vermont who testified about the concerns they have as teenagers, and about what they would like to see the government do regarding these concerns.

I submit these statements into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, as I believe that the views of these young persons will benefit my colleagues.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

KAYLA GILDERSLEEVE: To start off, good afternoon, Congressman Sanders. We sincerely thank you for providing some time for young people to be able to voice their opinions and concerns for our state and our country. And today we have come to you to encourage you to continue the battle with pharmaceutical companies for our senior citizens.

ANGELA DEBLASIO: In the Year 2000 the United States of America as well as our fine State of Vermont have a problem, the soaring cost of prescription drugs. There are millions of Americans, an estimated 13 million elderly Americans who need drugs; they cannot afford them because they do not have prescription drug coverage. This just does not affect poor people. Many middle class seniors without additional private insurance struggle to pay for what they need. Those who cannot afford the prescription drugs pay for their drugs by taking their limited amount of money out of their food budget or not adequately heating their homes in the winter season; thus their quality of life deteriorates. The result is that some do without their prescribed medications, take half a dose or in extreme cases use their partner's medication, assuming they are one in the same, and so they suffer, die, or travel to the emergency room with higher cost to the health care and Medicare systems.

TESS GROSSI: Congressman Sanders, you have stated in a May 3rd press release that, and we quote, "The industry is continuing to fleece Americans while working to kill major prescription drug legislation in Congress." As the Fortune 500 number shows us, pharmaceutical companies took in more profit than the top auto, oil and airline companies. This is approximately an 18.9 percent

profit, the highest margin of any industry in the nation. These pharmaceutical companies are raking in more profit, and the elderly and the sick all over can't afford the care and the help they desperately need.

KAYLA GILDERSLEEVE: Of course these companies make claims that their high profit margins are necessary to support research and development.

These development costs do not even begin to explain the rising prices of existing drugs which are projected from the price competition by patent. However, only 20 to 30 cents of each dollar is spent in actual; research and development and less; between 5 to 25 cents is spent on actual production of the drug. The remaining 40 to 70 cents is spent in marketing, selling and administration.

Many industry critics call the R & D warning a scare tactic, noting a huge percent return on revenues for the previous year. The reality is that they are earning a lot more than they spend on research and development. In addition, drug companies spend approximately \$30 million on ad campaigns to combat any attempts to regulate drug pricing. They spend even more on state and federal lobbying efforts.

TESS GROSSI: Congressman Sanders, we have an industry that makes an exorbitant profit off of sickness, misery and illness of people, and that is disgusting. Drug companies come close to getting \$4 billion every year in tax breaks and still Americans pay more and more for these drugs than citizens from other countries. There should be a way that consumers can afford the prescription drugs and at the same time a way for drug companies to make a modest profit and continue research and development. Senior citizens need fair, modest drug prices and it is in America's best interest to do so.

ANGELA DEBLASIO: Therefore, we urge you to continue your work with the International Prescription Drug Parity Act which allows pharmacists, wholesalers and distributors to re-import prescription drugs from other countries as long as those drugs meet strict FDA standards. We also encourage you to continue to take bus trips to Canada to help our elderly fill or refill their prescriptions. It is one of those random act advantages in living in a border state that not every American has access to which is why continuing to push for prescription drug legislation is necessary and vital to our economy and the lives of our country's senior citizens. We must fulfill our responsibility to protect elderly Americans and to do this we must provide affordable prescription medication.

KAYLA GILDERSLEEVE: Thank you for your time.

NEED FOR ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES TO KEEP KIDS FROM ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND TOBACCO

APRIL NILES: I am April and I am the PR outreach worker for Youth services and I work with Kids Against Tobacco group which is these guys, and we are basically here to talk about alternatives to doing drugs and alcohol and just trying to think up some activities to keep teens from doing drugs. And as it is now we have one activity night a week down at the Living Room where I work, and we just basically play pool and watch movies and we cook a dinner every Thursday but we would like to have more activities to do. And that is about it.

BLAKE KINCAID: I am Blake and we just recently held a dance in our group and it was Kids Against Tobacco and we had facts on the walls for students to read, and we had speakers and we held a raffle and Craig will tell you about the speakers.

CRAIG STEVENS: We had two speakers at the dance, one of them was Wes who lost his

voice box and used a machine to project his voice. Another one we had was Lola, and she lost her father to emphysema or lung cancer.

NATE POWERS: Some of the activities that we are trying to do, we are trying to have the towns build board parks or skate board parks. Also we have a very strange question. We have asked local officials why they are worried about giving two-dollar parking tickets instead of smoking underage tickets for \$1.50 and why they are more worried about two-dollar tickets than students' lives. So we have come to—Blake and I and one of our other CAT members went to a job share a few days ago and we were asked to ask a couple questions about exactly—Blake asked why they were doing two dollar tickets instead of \$2.50 tickets. Mine was how many fires start with tobacco use, and there was a significant amount of fires and deaths the last two years that I have know. And that is about it.

BLAKE KINCAID: The activities we would like to do beside the skate park, we would also like to have bike paths and we would like to have better places for students to go because The Living Room is only open from one until five, so that does not give students much time to do what they have got to do because from five on they are out on the streets and they cannot do anything about that. It is just one to five without funding.

NATE POWERS: And around St. J. our local bike path is in Newport which transportation for these children is a big problem. These children say the reason that they are smoking is because there are not any activities for them to do. I have to agree with the clubs, drug-free clubs, yeah, I agree with that. But I think it is our officials that let that happen because I mean some children ruin it for other students.

We have had significant changes in Lyndonville's local restaurants. They have had a lot of business since the smokers had to be kicked out, and we just want to put out the smoking instead of the children, and I just think that the dance with Wes was talking to children, made a lot of children screaming because it was pretty horrible when they saw what happened to these children when they smoked, and Wes is a nice guy.

SAME SEX MARRIAGE

KELLI FREEMAN: I am here today to tell you about an issue that I have a strong opinion about. That issue is how Vermont gets dumped on because of the Civil Unions Bill. I think that for the safety of one's state the law should have been talked about more carefully. I have heard some pretty mean and nasty jokes that have been said about Vermont and I do not agree with it. Sometimes in different towns and states people spray painted signs, saying "Vermont, the Gay State" and "Take a Fairy to Vermont" and comments like that. Vermonters do not need to hear or see stuff like that because we are upset as it is. We are afraid to leave the state because we are embarrassed about our license plates because we are afraid of what other people are going to say. That is the main reason why I am talking about this today; we should not be afraid or threatened of what people are going to say about us and we should not be embarrassed because we are Vermonters.

The people who harass us about the law that was passed, they do not know what it is like to live in a state that everyone discusses in a negative way all the time. We are sick and tired being called the Gay and Lesbian State and if you care at all about the people in this state, then you would think they absolutely would hate what is going on. They are probably scared and just as upset as you

are. So when you see a Vermont license plate or a Vermont sign before you say "The Gay State," look at the other citizens and then ask yourself what are they going through because they have to live there and they do not like how they are being pictured either.

YOUTH ADVOCACY RIGHTS

STEVE HOFFMAN: We work in Burlington, that is where the majority of our work is with Club Speak Out around Chittenden County, and I am just going to read off our vision and our mission to give you an idea of what Club Speak Out is and our goals.

Our vision is Club Speak Out envisions the ability for youth to take the initiative without any constraints, being able to embody positive outcomes in our own lives with the feelings of being valued by the community through interests that arise in the area of youth development.

And our mission is, Club Youth Speak Out's mission has become a resource for all the youth in all aspects of their life, empowering youth to help themselves in creating healthy developmental programs and resources that will impact their lives positively, using businesses, legislators, schools, the community, and any other area where outcomes can be positive. And that is what this program was designed for, was to go out in Chittenden County and we worked in Burlington to build a model and to give children something to do, take them out of risky behavioral situations and put them where the outcomes can be positive.

And what we are here today is to ask a question: What can the government do or have in order to increase positive outcomes in the lives of youths? And some of the things that we came up with is provide less competitive monetary funds for programming, and give it to the state and local governments in order to give out to the organizations that are around for youth. What happens is that when you go to apply for a grant there is not that much money out there and there is a lot of competition, and when a new program does come in, a lot of people are scared and they try to stop it. And that is just not right because as long as the program has the right passion and it is designed to work functionally with other programs and positive outcomes can be made then they all have should be given a chance because every little bit helps and counts. If the federal government can provide more money that would be great, and they did just decrease the safe school money I believe, National Safe School money, that was just decreased by 17 percent which is tremendous. And a lot of the grants given out now the money has to be cut which is not too good when we are trying to build programs to build healthy communities.

Another thing is increase the ability for youth to utilize the resources that state and federal representatives offer; more awareness for youth to be able to come to your office or come to Senator Jeffords and Leahy's office and their local governments and be able to come up and say, This is an issue that we have, how can you help us, what steps do we have? And then form youth governmental boards that have the ability for youth to have a say in working and forming youth policies in accordance with adult policymakers, and we feel that that is real important.

One issue that did come up today was the dance club and that is something we are working on because we had a Speak Out and with other youth have come up and said we really need something to do, we need a dance club. 242 is a nice club but unfortunately it is not diverse enough and does not really fit the mission and the original reason why it

was in place. So we want to kind of start a dance club where all students can go with a game room without any drinking so if they didn't want to dance there is other stuff that they can do that is open until twelve o'clock at night every night. We hire youth, it is run by youth, the money goes right back to the youth, it is not in any business's hands.

So that would be nice to get definitely some money and support from the government for that too, because we can easily go out and get different companies to donate their services, but as far as the funds and stuff it does cost a lot of money to fundraise that, and it is just a lot, especially with the skateboard park where we had to raise \$50,000 for that, and it adds up, and when you keep asking people they are like How much do we have to give? So we feel that is very important.

JONATHAN CUMMINGS: We would just really like to see youth be involved. When youth run their own organizations they accomplish a lot more and they are a lot more connected with what they are doing which is why our mission is both youth and not necessarily have adults run our programs. I am trying—like my group, I run myself now and I see that students that I work with are a lot more involved when it is youth leading them rather than an adult.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD BIEDERMAN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding attorney and model citizen, Mr. Donald Biederman who will be saluted tonight by Southwestern University Law School on his appointment as the head of its Entertainment and Media Law Institute. I have been proud to call Don a friend for almost twenty years. He is a man of enormous energy, intellect and integrity, who is an outstanding choice for this position.

As a J.D. and LL.M. recipient from Harvard and New York University Law Schools respectively, Don has enjoyed an illustrious legal career in both the private sector and academia. He first began practicing entertainment law in 1972, when he became the chief legal officer at CBS Inc. From there, he moved to ABC Records Inc., where he served as the Vice President for Legal Affairs and Administration. Prior to starting his most recent position to the private sector, Executive Vice President and General Counsel at Warner/Chapell Music, Don was a partner at the law firm of Mitchell, Silberberg and Knupp.

Throughout his legal career, Don has been a vigilant and outspoken opponent of intellectual piracy. The Record Industry Association of America and Billboard are just two of the many organizations that have honored him for his efforts in this area.

Despite leading a distinguished career in the corporate world, Don has found the time for an equally outstanding tenure in academia. He has taught at such institutions of higher learning as: Peperdine University School of Law, USC Law Center, the UCLA School of Law, the Anderson School of Management, Vanderbilt, Harvard and Stanford. Prior to assuming his current position at Southwestern, Don was the director of USC's Entertainment Law Institute.

While in academia, Don co-authored Law and Business of Entertainment Industries, a widely-used textbook on Media Law. He also wrote articles for a variety of publications including: the Hastings Communication/Entertainment Law Journal, Entertainment and Sports Lawyer, and the Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment Law and Practice.

I am proud to be a friend to such an accomplished individual, and it is my distinct pleasure to ask my colleagues to join with me in saluting Professor Donald E. Biederman on his new position as the Director of Southwestern University Law School's Entertainment and Media Law Institute. Southwestern could not have chosen a finer individual.

THE HIGH COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF GENERIC MEDICINES

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about the importance of generic drugs and competition in the pharmaceutical market. This year, as in the past, brand drug manufacturers are asking Congress to support legislation that will extend patents on their most profitable medicines. The most profitable industry in the world is asking Congress for permission to continue gouging consumers, especially seniors and the uninsured.

The most notable bills now before us are S. 1172 and H.R. 1598, commonly known as the "Claritin" bills. Claritin's manufacturer, Schering-Plough is pushing these bills to protect its popular allergy drug, Claritin, and six drugs commonly used by seniors from less costly generic competitors.

Researchers at the University of Minnesota School of Pharmacy estimate high consumer costs if the Claritin bills pass. Americans may be forced to pay an additional \$11 billion for this medicine over the life of the patent extension because more affordable alternatives will be barred from the market. That is an enormous burden to place on consumers, seniors and taxpayers, especially at a time when health costs are escalating.

Fortunately, the Claritin bills are stalled. Unfortunately we expect Schering-Plough and other brand companies to continue to push patent extension bills in years to come, because patents are scheduled to expire on tens of billions of dollars worth of drugs.

For the sake of 15 million seniors who lack adequate prescription drug coverage, we must stop all patent extensions whether they are offered directly, or are couched in supposedly consumer friendly language. Consumer and senior groups throughout the nation oppose these bills. We must too.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE DRUG COVERAGE FOR TRANSPLANT PATIENTS ACT OF 2000

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced the Comprehensive Immunosuppressive Drug Coverage for Transplant Patients of 2000 Act which will help Medicare beneficiaries who have had organ transplants. Every year, over 6,000 people die waiting for an organ transplant. Currently, over 67,000 Americans are waiting for a donor organ.

Given that organs are extremely scarce, Federal law should not compromise the success of organ transplantation. Yet that is exactly what current Medicare policy does, because Medicare denies certain transplant patients coverage for the drugs needed to prevent rejection. Medicare does this in three different ways.

First, Medicare has time limits on coverage of immunosuppressive drugs. Medicare law only provides immunosuppressive drug coverage for three years with expanded coverage totaling 3 years and 8 months between 2000 and 2004. However, 61 percent of patients receiving a kidney transplant after someone has died still have the graft intact five years after transplantation. Nearly 77 percent of patients receiving a kidney from a live donor still have their transplant intact after five years. For livers, the graft survival rate after five years is 62 percent. For hearts, the five year graft survival rate is nearly 68 percent. So many Medicare beneficiaries lose coverage of the essential drugs that are needed to maintain their transplant.

Second, Medicare does not pay for anti-rejection drugs of Medicare beneficiaries, who received their transplant prior to becoming a Medicare beneficiary. So for instance, if a person received a transplant at age 64 through their health insurance plan, when they retire and rely on Medicare for their health care they will no longer have immunosuppressive drug coverage.

Third, Medicare only pays for anti-rejection drugs for transplants performed in a Medicare approved transplant facility. However, many beneficiaries are completely unaware of this fact and how it can jeopardize their future coverage of immunosuppressive drugs. To receive an organ transplant, a person must be very ill and many are far too ill at the time of transplant to be researching the intricate nuances of Medicare coverage policy.

The bill that I am introducing today, the "Comprehensive Immunosuppressive Drug Coverage for Transplant Patients of 2000 Act" would remove these short-sighted limitations. The bill establishes a new, easy to follow policy: All Medicare beneficiaries who have had a transplant and need immunosuppressive drugs to prevent rejection of their transplant, would be covered as long as such anti-rejection drugs were needed.

As Congress considers further improvements to the Medicare program, I urge my colleagues to support this important effort to ensure patients waiting on the organ transplant have access to the anti-rejection drugs that are so needed.

HONORING ALBERTUS MAGNUS COLLEGE ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to congratulate Albertus Magnus College on its 75th anniversary. With the purchase of a New Haven mansion renamed Rosary Hall, the Dominican Sisters of Saint Mary of the Spring founded Albertus Magnus in 1925. Since then, the Albertus Magnus community has become a landmark in the city of New Haven.

Initially a women's college, Albertus Magnus has expanded its program base to meet the needs of a our changing community. Dr. Julia McNamara, President of Albertus Magnus, has served as the driving force behind these innovations. Her dedication to students, commitment to excellence, and creative energy have been the key to the renaissance at Albertus Magnus. The New Dimensions Program is an excellent example of how Albertus Magnus has created new and innovative programs to open the doors of education to a broad spectrum of students. Introduced only six years ago, the New Dimensions Program is an alternative education program that allows working adults to obtain their Associate's, Bachelor's, and Master's degrees in Management at an accelerated pace convenient to their schedule. This nontraditional program has allowed hundreds of working men and women to further their education while continuing in their careers.

In addition to its dedication to educational opportunity and academic excellence, Albertus Magnus is a tremendous resource to the New Haven community. Administrators, faculty and students are involved with service organizations throughout the city—demonstrating a deep commitment to enriching our neighborhoods and making a real difference in the community. As a host site for the 1995 World Special Olympics, Albertus opened its campus to thousands of children and families who traveled to New Haven to participate in the games, playing an instrumental role in the success of that extraordinary event.

Albertus Magnus College, though small in comparison to other local schools, is rich in history and committed to providing its students with the skills and confidence necessary for future success. Over its 75-year history, Albertus Magnus has continually dedicated itself to providing its students with an exceptional college experience. I was privileged to be asked to teach international politics in the 1970's at the college, and I thoroughly enjoyed this experience. Recently graduating the largest class in its history, Albertus Magnus has succeeded in fulfilling the dreams of the Dominican Sisters of Saint Mary of the Springs—creating a collegiate environment that successfully challenges students to realize their full potential as scholars and as human beings.

It is my great honor to join with the administrators, faculty, students, alumni, and community members who have gathered this evening to express my heartfelt congratulations on the 75th anniversary of Albertus Magnus College and extend my best wishes for continued success.

INTRODUCING MIDDLE EAST PEACE THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS ACT, H.R. 5272

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. Gilman. Mr. Speaker, because many of my colleagues and I remain extremely concerned about the possibility that Yasser Arafat and the PLO will declare a Palestinian state unilaterally, I am introducing legislation today that would underscore the need for a negotiated settlement between the two parties.

The Peace Through Negotiations Act of 2000 recognizes that resolving the political status of the territory controlled by the Palestinian Authority is one of the central issues of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The Palestinian threat to declare an independent state unilaterally constitutes a fundamental violation of the underlying principles of the Oslo Accords and the Middle East peace process. That threat continues unabated.

Accordingly, the bill I am introducing today would establish that it is the policy of the United States to oppose the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state, and that diplomatic recognition should be withheld if one is unilaterally declared. The bill would also prohibit all U.S. assistance to the Palestinians except for humanitarian aid, and would downgrade the PLO office in Washington, D.C.

Additionally, the measure would encourage other countries and international organizations to join the United States in withholding diplomatic recognition, and would authorize the President of the United States to withhold payment of U.S. contributions to international organizations that recognize a unilaterally declared Palestinian state.

Mr. Speaker, over eighteen months ago, Congress spoke with one voice about the prospects of a unilateral declaration of statehood by the Palestinians. Non-binding legislation adopted by both houses stated that "any attempt to establish Palestinian statehood outside the negotiating process will invoke the strongest congressional opposition."

The Peace Through Negotiations Act is a measured, but legislatively binding response to that possibility. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues' cosponsorship and strong endorsement of this landmark legislation (H.R. 5272) and request that the text of the legislation be printed at this point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

H.R. 5272—A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR A UNITED STATES RESPONSE IN THE EVENT OF A UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF A PALESTINIAN STATE

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Peace Through Negotiations Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Resolving the political status of the territory controlled by the Palestinian Authority is one of the central issues of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

(2) The Palestinian threat to declare an independent state unilaterally constitutes a fundamental violation of the underlying principles of the Oslo Accords and the Middle East peace process.

(3) On March 11, 1999, the Senate overwhelmingly adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution 5, and on March 16, 1999, the House of Representatives adopted House Concurrent Resolution 24, both of which resolved that: "any attempt to establish Palestinian statehood outside the negotiating process will invoke the strongest congressional opposition."

(4) On July 25, 2000, Palestinian Chairman Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Barak issued a joint statement agreeing that the "two sides understand the importance of avoiding unilateral actions that prejudice the outcome of negotiations and that their differences will be resolved in good-faith negotiations".

SEC. 3. POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES

It shall be the policy of the United States to oppose the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state, to withhold diplomatic recognition of any Palestinian state that is unilaterally declared, and to encourage other countries and international organizations to withhold diplomatic recognition of any Palestinian state that is unilaterally declared.

SEC. 4. MEASURES TO BE APPLIED IF A PALESTINIAN STATE IS UNILATERALLY DECLARED.

(a) MEASURES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, beginning on the date that a Palestinian state is unilaterally declared and ending on the date such unilateral declaration is rescinded or on the date of a signed negotiated agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority under the terms of which the establishment of a Palestinian state is mutually agreed upon, the following measures shall be applied:

(1) DOWNGRADE IN STATUS OF PALESTINIAN OFFICE IN THE UNITED STATES.—

(A) Section 1003 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989 (Public Law 100-204) as enacted on December 22, 1987, shall have the full force and effect of law, and shall apply notwithstanding any waiver or suspension of such section that was authorized or exercised subsequent to December 22, 1987.

(B) For purposes of such section, the term "Palestine Liberation Organization or any of its constituent groups, any successor to any of those, or any agent thereof" shall include the Palestinian Authority and the government of any unilaterally declared Palestinian state.

(C) Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to preclude—

(i) the establishment or maintenance of a Palestinian information office in the United States, operating under the same terms and conditions as the Palestinian information office that existed prior to the Oslo Accords; or

(ii) diplomatic contacts between Palestinian officials and United States counterparts.

(2) PROHIBITION ON UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE TO A UNILATERALLY DECLARED PALESTINIAN STATE.—United States assistance may not be provided, directly or indirectly, to the government of a unilaterally declared Palestinian state, the Palestinian Authority, or to any successor or related entity.

(3) PROHIBITION ON UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE TO THE WEST BANK AND GAZA.—United States assistance (except humanitarian assistance) may not be provided to programs or projects in the West Bank or Gaza.

(4) AUTHORITY TO WITHHOLD PAYMENT OF UNITED STATES CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT RECOGNIZE A UNILATERALLY DECLARED PALESTINIAN STATE.—The President is authorized to—

(A) withhold up to 10 percent of the United States assessed contribution to any international organization that recognizes a unilaterally declared Palestinian state; and

(B) reduce the United States voluntary contribution to any international organization that recognizes a unilaterally declared Palestinian state up to 10 percent below the level of the United States voluntary contribution to such organization in the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year in which such organization recognized a unilaterally declared Palestinian state.

(5) OPPOSITION TO LENDING BY INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director at each international financial institution (as defined in section 1701(c)(2) of the International Financial Institutions Act) to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to oppose—

(A) membership for a unilaterally declared Palestinian state in such institution, or other recognition of a unilaterally declared Palestinian state by such institution; and

(B) the extension by such institution to a unilaterally declared Palestinian state of any loan or other financial or technical assistance.

(6) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS TO EXTEND UNITED STATES RECOGNITION.—No funds available under any provision of law may be used to extend United States recognition to a unilaterally declared Palestinian state, including, but not limited to, funds for the payment of the salary of any ambassador, consul, or other diplomatic personnel to such a unilaterally declared state, or for the cost of establishing, operating, or maintaining an embassy, consulate, or other diplomatic facility in such a unilaterally declared state.

(b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a), the term "United States assistance"—

(1) means—

(A) assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.), except—

(i) assistance under chapter 8 of part I of such Act (relating to international narcotics control assistance);

(ii) assistance under chapter 9 of part I of such Act (relating to international disaster assistance); and

(iii) assistance under chapter 6 of part II of such Act (relating to assistance for peacekeeping operations);

(B) assistance under the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.) including the license or approval for export of defense articles and defense services under section 38 of that Act; and

(C) assistance under the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945; and

(2) does not include counter-terrorism assistance.

TO HONOR MR. JULIAN CLAUDIO NABOZNY—NATIONAL RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate Julian Claudio Nabozny, a McDonald's owner/operator beloved and celebrated for his services to the Phoenix, Arizona community, which I proudly represent. For his tireless generosity, Mr. Nabozny has just been honored by the National Restaurant Association as Cornerstone Humanitarian of the Year.

Mr. Nabozny has made his South Phoenix restaurant a veritable community center for the

Hispanic neighborhood. His beneficent acts are numerous and varied. These are some highlights.

For the past five years, Mr. Nabozny has hosted Thanksgiving Day celebrations for as many as 3,000 residents. He distributes free McDonald's food, gifts, turkeys, and fruit baskets and provides for entertainment, including the beloved Ronald McDonald.

Throughout the year, the restaurant sponsors fund-raising nights for a local school. Mr. Nabozny donates 10 percent of the evening's sales and tickets to popular events for the PTA to raffle off. He also provides a school reading program with over 8,000 hamburger certificates a year to use as learning incentives for children.

Two years ago, Mr. Nabozny brought a mobile mammograph unit to the restaurant to offer free cancer screening exams. Hundreds of economically disadvantaged women received these vital tests, many for the first time.

This spring, Mr. Nabozny initiated and sponsored a pioneering partnership to educate the community on current immigration laws and related government services. Through the program, over 1,200 individuals received free confidential consultations with attorneys and other qualified volunteers, and many others received assistance through a handout developed specifically to address common concerns and needs. These services will be again extended this fall.

For the past three years, Mr. Nabozny has served as chair of the Phoenix area Hispanic American College Education Resources (HACER) program, a partnership between the Ronald McDonald House Charities, its local affiliate, McDonald's owner/operators, and restaurants owned by the corporation. Mr. Nabozny has also personally donated scholarships to deserving minority high school students in the Phoenix area.

Mr. Nabozny comes from a family and belongs to a franchise system that believe in giving back. His dedication to this principle has justly earned him the Restaurant Association's award and a special place in the heart and history of the Phoenix community.

A TRIBUTE TO OLYMPIC MEDALIST CRISTINA TEUSCHER

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to recognize Cristina Teuscher, a resident of the City of New Rochelle, NY and winner of a bronze medal at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney. No athletic contest provides a showcase for the world's talent like the Olympics, and no personal accomplishment is greater than medaling in an individual event. In 1996, still only a recent high school graduate, Cristina won gold in the 800 meter free-style relay. This year, she added a bronze medal in the 200 meter individual medley to her list of Olympic achievements. Cristina's brave performance throughout the race and remarkable sprint in the final fifty meters were inspirational. Undisturbed when she fell behind early, Cristina persevered and reached the wall with her personal-best time.

Cristina's accomplishments, however, have extended beyond the reaches of a pool. Once

an outstanding student at New Rochelle High School, Cristina recently graduated from Columbia University, assuring that her success in life will extend well into the future. It is my pleasure to congratulate Cristina and her family on this momentous occasion. Cristina is a credit not only to the City of New Rochelle, but to the entire United States, and to all great swimmers throughout the world.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MUSIC OWNERS' LISTENING RIGHTS ACT OF 2000

HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues, Representatives BURR, LAHOOD and UPTON, in the introduction of legislation to reform our copyright laws so that individual consumers can store their own music on an Internet site and gain quick access to it anytime they choose, from anywhere they choose.

The introduction of this legislation is a necessary step in addressing the growing chasm between new technology and old laws. It is a matter of high importance to Internet users. A new poll found that 79 percent of frequent Internet users believe that "copyright laws should not infringe on an individual's access to the music that they have legally purchased." Our legislation will ensure that this wholly legitimate public expectation is not thwarted.

Those same Internet users understand the responsibility that consumers have to pay legitimate royalties to the artists whose music they enjoy. Approximately the same majority of those surveyed (78 percent) said that the sharing and swapping of music which has not been purchased or without the consent of the artist or record company should not be permitted.

Our legislation, the Music Owners' Listening Rights Act of 2000, makes the Internet based transmission of a personal interactive performance (PIP) of a sound recording acceptable under copyright law. Simply stated, a consumer who lawfully owns a work of music, such as a CD, will be able to store it on the Internet and then downstream it for personal use at a time and place of his choosing.

This technology makes it possible for people to travel from one place to another without needing to carry their record collection with them. Instead, they will be able to turn on a computer or other Internet connection device and gain immediate access to their music through the services of an Internet music provider. After the consumer shows proof of ownership of the music, he will be able to listen to it streamed to him over the Internet from any place that he has Internet access. Consumers would not be able to transfer music to someone else or use the music for commercial purposes under the provisions of our legislation.

Since the only people who will be able to use the provision we are proposing have already purchased the music, the song writers, recording artists and record labels will lose not a penny in sales. The person who purchases music will, however, have a new opportunity to listen to his music from any place that he has Internet access.

The new Internet application that enables purchasers to listen to their music from a variety of locations is a major advance. It offers greater mobility and convenience to those who purchase music while not depriving music creators of sales. We believe that the technology which gives rise to this new convenience should be encouraged, and our legislation will remove legacy copyright restrictions which were written for a different era and that threaten to strangle the technology in its infancy.

It is our hope that other Members of the House will join us in recognizing the significant opportunities this new generation of technology holds and in recognizing the tremendous new consumer convenience this new Internet application makes possible.

The co-sponsorship of our measure by other Members is welcome.

IN RECOGNITION OF STATE SENATOR M. ADELA "DELL" EADS' OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF CONNECTICUT

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the end of an era in the government of my home state of Connecticut. With the retirement of State of Senator M. Adela "Dell" Eads, the Connecticut Legislature is losing more than just a valued and respected member, it is losing a woman who represents the best that Connecticut has to offer, the epitome of the finest tradition of public service.

With over 24 years of service in the Connecticut State Legislature, Dell has left her mark on countless pieces of landmark legislation. From her work to establish the Connecticut Office of the Child Advocate to her leadership on welfare reform, Dell always championed the cause of Connecticut's children and families and acted to protect their interests.

But while Dell's legislature accomplishments are too numerous to mention, the one quality she will be remembered for is clear: Leadership. Whether it was as leader of the Republican caucus or as President Pro Tem of the Senate, Dell commanded the respect of adversaries and allies alike. Her career in the legislature is a testament to the fact that civility, intelligence, integrity and strength are qualities that can be found in one individual. Such a public servant is a gift to be treasured in a democracy.

Connecticut and our country are the beneficiaries of the outstanding service provided by M. Adela Eads. I have been privileged to serve with her and to enjoy her friendship as well. I wish her all the best for a happy, healthy and productive retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. RAMON L. YARBOROUGH

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and extend my most sincere best

wishes to Mr. Ramon L. Yarborough, President of Fayetteville Publishing Company and publisher of The Fayetteville Observer, who will be retiring at the end of September after 35 years of service to the citizens of Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Mr. Yarborough, a native Fayetteville, began working at Fayetteville Publishing in September 1965 as its Vice President. Under his leadership, the company has expanded greatly and experienced large growth. Today, Fayetteville Publishing's properties include The Fayetteville Observer, the Fayetteville Online website, and the Carolina Trader. It also prints various other publications, including the Carolina Flyer at Pope Air Force Base and the Paraglide at Fort Bragg.

Throughout his entire career, Mr. Yarborough not only has worked hard to achieve enormous success within his company, but he also has generously shared his many talents to make this community a better place to live for all. As an active participant in civic and community affairs, Mr. Yarborough serves on various boards and foundations, including the Methodist College Board of Trustees, North Carolina Community College Foundation, Cumberland Community Foundation, the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex, and the North Carolina Press Association. He is also a member of St. John's Episcopal Church and the Fayetteville Kiwanis Club.

Jim Rohn once said, "whoever renders service to many puts himself in line for greatness . . . great return, great satisfaction, great reputation, and great joy." The life of Mr. Yarborough has indeed been one exemplified by greatness—a greatness defined by his service to others.

As he enters this next stage of his life, I am confident that Mr. Yarborough's talents and energies will continue to be of benefit to many. Through his commitment to his family, community, and church, Mr. Yarborough will forever be remembered and appreciated for his distinguished career and service. Now, it is his turn to enjoy the good life he has given to so many. May God's strength, peace, and joy be with Mr. Yarborough always.

TRIBUTE TO SAMUEL G. FREDMAN

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, today I express my great admiration for Judge Samuel G. Fredman, a man of high principle, piercing intelligence, and boundless commitment to service.

Admitted to the Bar more than fifty years ago, Judge Fredman has always expressed a burning passion for the law and for the enduring principles upon which it is based. First in private practice, and then as a New York State Supreme Court Justice, Judge Fredman has been universally recognized for his integrity, decency, and legal acumen.

Judge Fredman's contributions to our community, however, extend far beyond his professional obligations. He has been among the great political leaders in Westchester's history, chairing the Westchester County Democratic Committee, helping to lead the New York

State Democratic Committee, and inspiring countless men and women to seek public office.

At the same time, Judge Fredman has devoted considerable time and energy to a wide variety of community organizations. Whether raising funds for the White Plains Hospital, helping to shape the charters of White Plains and Westchester, building support for local libraries, or leading the Westchester Jewish Conference, Judge Fredman commands the trust and respect of all with whom he works.

It is entirely fitting that Judge Fredman should be recognized for a lifetime of remarkable service and for the high ideals he so clearly embodies. I am pleased to join the chorus of tribute for a good friend and outstanding human being.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE RENAMING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUILDING IN MEMORY OF PRESIDENT HARRY S TRUMAN

HON. KAREN McCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Ms. McCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the day of a ceremony to name the U.S. Department of State building in Washington, D.C. after Missouri's Favorite Son, Harry S Truman, the 33rd President of the United States of America. I am proud to represent the 5th Congressional District of Missouri where Harry Truman spent most of his life. He grew up in Independence, ran a haberdashery in Kansas City, and in his later years helped with the family farm in Grandview, Missouri. He was a soft spoken man from the Midwest whose vision and leadership led to lasting world accomplishments benefiting the citizens of our country as well and the world.

Renaming the Department of State Building in our nation's Capital for President Harry S Truman is an appropriate tribute to a great leader. President Truman called his first year in office 'a year of decisions,' in dealing with the end of World War II, the beginning of the Cold War, and the founding of the United Nations. He was able to ensure national security while at the same time impacting a worldwide stage of engagement through the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan to resist communist threats and revive the ailing economies of Europe after World War II. President Truman is credited as a leading force in the creation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), an organization that has guaranteed peace throughout the Cold War and remains crucial to our nation's efforts to support democracies throughout the world.

A leader in so many aspects, President Truman's vision and accomplishment on a worldwide level are reflected in the relative tranquility we experience throughout all regions today. His willingness to confront difficult and complex issues and find solutions to questions facing our nation during the most difficult time of his presidency is an inspiration to me. When I look at his picture hanging in my office, I draw strength from his courage and determination to take responsibility for the tough choices he had to make for our country. I am confident this public symbol of renaming the

Department of State Building for President Truman will similarly inspire world leaders of today to continue to shoulder the responsibilities of public office and rise to the challenges before each of them to benefit our world.

President Truman's legacy is appropriately captured in the Truman presidential Library located in the heart of my congressional district in Independence, Missouri. Last year I joined Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to commemorate the 50th anniversary of NATO and the accession of the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. This momentous occasion brought home to the heartland the reality of the vision and leadership which President Truman demonstrated in foreign policy which the Clinton Administration continues today. The reflections of this century will duly note the uncompromising spirit of President Truman and his bold implementation of foreign policy initiatives which unquestionably changed the course of history. Whether it be through humanitarian efforts or demonstration of strength or consummation of alliances, Harry Truman fought for the common man both in our nation and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to President Harry S Truman by remaining the Department of State Building in Washington, D.C. in his memory. I, along with my colleagues from Missouri who cosponsored the enabling legislation, pay this tribute to President Truman to publicly acknowledge the Truman legacy. President Truman, we thank you for your service to our United States and the world, and I say thank you Mr. President for giving them hell!

JUDE THADDEUS CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS POST 1975 ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Jude Thaddeus Catholic War Veterans Post 1675 in Toledo, Ohio. The post celebrates its anniversary this month. On June 12, 1950, a charter was granted to the Jude Thaddeus Post by the National Department of the Catholic War Veterans. Those first meetings were conducted in the loft of the St. Francis de Sales Parish near downtown Toledo. After traveling from parish to parish for a time, the Post sought a permanent home. Those original members got to work in rehabilitating a small building on Stickney Avenue in North Toledo, which became the organization's first headquarters. As the membership expanded the Post moved again, establishing a hall and canteen on North Toledo's vibrant Lagrange Street. Tragedy struck, however, when a fire destroyed the building in 1965. Nonetheless with the help of the Ladies Auxiliary and every single other veterans organization in the neighborhood as well as many in the greater Toledo area, the Jude Thaddeus Post was able to regroup, raise funds, and rebuild at its present location.

The Post strives to maintain its mission to serve veterans. Residents of the Ohio Veterans Home are regularly brought to the post

home for meals and games. The Auxiliary helps out every month at the Toledo VA Outpatient Clinic. The Post makes all kinds of donations to veterans hospitals in Ohio, and it lends equipment such as wheelchairs, canes and walkers to area veterans in need.

Saint Jude Thaddeus is the patron saint of impossible tasks. Through all the Post's trials and hardships, its namesake stood as a beacon and reminder that anything could be accomplished with prayer, cooperation, and effort. All members of the Jude Thaddeus Post of the Catholic War Veterans are proud to say, "I belong" and put that strength of belonging into practice to achieve their loftiest goals.

As the members of the Post and Auxiliary take time to celebrate and reflect on fifty years of growth and change, remembering friends and families who may no longer be with them, reliving old glories and hardships, yet still looking forward to the future and its possibilities. I am pleased to represent our community as a part of the celebration. May I offer my own, our community's, and our nation's everlasting thanks to the members of the Jude Thaddeus Post and Auxiliary for their sacrifice in battle, and equally important, for their accomplishments in peace.

TRIBUTE TO LILLIAN L. ADAMS AND PETER J. MACERONI

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor four outstanding individuals for their exceptional and distinguished service in Macomb County: Lillian L. Adams, Executive Director of Sterling Heights Area Chamber of Commerce, the Honorable Peter J. Maceroni of the Macomb County Circuit Court, who are the year 2000 honorees for the 17th annual March of Dimes "Alexander Macomb citizens of the Year" award dinner and, Donna Greco Issa and Philip E. Greco of the Philip F. Greco Title Company who will receive the eighth annual "Family of the Year" award.

Lillian L. Adams has served 8 years as Executive Director of the St. Clair Shores Chamber of Commerce and 24 years in the same position at the Sterling Heights Area Chamber of Commerce. Her participation with the Macomb County Community Growth Alliance and the St. Joseph Mercy Community foundation has contributed to the growth of the county. Lillian is also a loyal supporter of the March of Dimes and the Kiwanis Club, along with serving on the boards of the Otsikita Girl Scouts and Macomb Symphony Orchestra. She is also a founding member of the Sterling Heights and Shelby Township Community Foundations, and is past president of the Utica Community Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence. I have been privileged to personally work with Lil Adams on a variety of community projects including the massive improvement to M-59 in Macomb County, the anti-drug program of the Utica Community Action Team and the widening of Van Dyke Avenue.

Judge Peter J. Maceroni, who was elected to the new Ninth Circuit Court Judgeship in 1990 and re-elected in 1996, was appointed to the Michigan Trial Court Assessment Commis-

sion by Governor John Engler. Judge Maceroni, as Chief Judge, is responsible for the supervision and operation of the entire Ninth District Court and instituted special programs for the video transmission of prisoner arraignment hearings. This video program has increased security by having fewer prisoners transported over public roads. He has also served as president of the Macomb County Circuit Court, the Italian-American Bar Association and director of the Macomb County Bar Association.

Philip E. Greco and Donna Greco Issa, hold the positions of President and Treasurer, respectively at the Philip F. Greco Title Company. Working alongside their father, Philip and Donna learned the business and are extremely active in the Macomb community. They are indeed deserving of the "Family of the Year" award.

Philip is a leader in many community groups and organizations. He was President of the advisory board for St. John's North Shore Hospital and is a serving member of many charitable committees.

Donna Greco Issa volunteers at St. Joseph's Hospital, the Italian-American Cultural Center, the Macomb Medical Society Toys for Tots and various area women's Councils of Realtors. Donna plays an important role with the March of Dimes, and has been involved with the March of Dimes WalkAmerica since 1986. She now serves as a proud member of the Southeast Michigan chapter board of directors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and recognizing Lillian L. Adams, The Honorable Peter J. Maceroni, Philip E. Greco, and Donna Greco Issa for their outstanding contributions to society. I wish them success as they continue to make their community a better place.

TIME TO HOLD OPEC NATIONS ACCOUNTABLE

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, while our nation is suffering from a severe energy crisis, the American people are losing the battle on two fronts—they are being held hostage by OPEC and its policies, and they are the victims of the current Administration's inability to formulate a coherent, strategic, prospective, short and long term energy policy. With oil prices at record levels and rising towards 40 dollars per barrel, the time for "quiet diplomacy," as Energy Secretary Richardson refers to the Administration's dealings with OPEC, is over! This crisis comes at a time when total U.S. reserves are at a 24-year low of 1.53 million barrels from 1.63 million barrels a year ago, according to the Energy Information Agency.

With the recent decision by the Administration to release 30 million barrels in the Nation's Strategic Petroleum Reserve it is hopeful that we are at long last beginning to take the first steps needed to achieve this much-needed policy overhaul.

It is imperative that the Administration more effectively address these issues. Our hard working people are being strangled, not only by oil prices, but by overall energy prices. There is not a person or a business in our

country that is not affected, or is going to be affected, by the outrageous, prohibitive costs of energy in the coming months.

In its "Short Term Energy Outlook for September", The Energy Information Agency reports, "Unless the winter in the Northeast is unusually mild and/or world crude oil prices collapse, substantial price gains for heating oil and diesel fuel are highly likely." What the Agency is saying to the American people is we should hope that oil prices, that are at 10 year record levels will collapse, which is highly unlikely, and wish for a mild winter—and that is absurd!

Once again, it appears that mother nature dictates the Administration's energy policy, rather than the Administration being pro-active, creating and implementing both a short and long term energy policy that takes and plans for winter weather rather than hoping for mild weather. Our nation deserves better!

The United States imports 55 percent of its crude oil. OPEC produces 40 percent of the world's oil supply. In 1999, more than 50 percent of the crude oil imports into the United States came from OPEC members. This places the United States in the precarious position of relying on foreign powers to fulfill our crude oil requirements. Many of the oil producing nations are "states of concern," whose national interests run counter to our own. In a recent publication of the Clean Fuels Development Coalition, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency R. James Woolsey believes that our dependence on foreign oil is one of the three major threats to the national security of the United States. The American people must find this as troubling as my colleagues in the Congress do.

Ten years ago, our nation, sacrificing American blood and resources, intervened in the Persian Gulf to quell the invasion of Kuwait by Saddam Hussein's Iraqi forces. At that time the price of oil rose to the record levels we see today!

Today, our nation is under attack from OPEC. While the cartel promised to increase oil production by 800,000 barrels per day commencing on October 1st, there is no way we can verify what they are actually producing. There must be more transparency and accountability in OPEC's dealings with the United States.

Furthermore, with all the saber rattling over the latest dispute over oil between Iraq and Kuwait, the next time we are asked to intervene in the Persian Gulf, perhaps we may not act with the same timing or speed as we did ten years ago to prevent that aggression!

OPEC is aware of the gravity of the situation as evidenced by OPEC President, Venezuela's Oil Minister, Ali Rodriguez' statement, [that] "we are approaching a crisis of great proportion because oil production capacity is reaching its limit." The cartel is fully aware that an increase by 800,000 barrels is not enough—by half—to bring down the price of crude oil to a reasonable level for both consumers and producers alike. It is regrettable that by the time additional measures are taken by OPEC, it will be too late to bring down the price of oil for this winter when the cost of heating oil, a distillate of crude oil, is already 51 percent higher than the average cost for last fall and winter, (The New York Times (9/12/00).

While we are under attack from OPEC, and with the Administration standing by, I intro-

duced two bills that hold the OPEC nations liable and accountable. My foreign Trust Busting Act (H.R. 4731), will allow lawsuits to be brought against foreign energy cartels, where previously, courts threw out these lawsuits because such suits would impede the carrying out of the President's foreign policy program, and would embarrass the administration. My International Energy Fair Pricing Act (H.R. 4732), directs the President to make a systematic review of its policies and those of all international organizations and international financial institutions, such as the IMF and the World Bank, to ensure that they are not directly or indirectly promoting the oil price fixing activities, policies and programs of OPEC. If they are, the U.S. representative would not support any loan, support of a project or program, or to any financial support. Furthermore, along with my colleagues I co-sponsored the following legislation: H. Con. Res. 273, urging President Clinton to release the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) to mitigate the high heating oil and gas prices; H.R. 3608, the Home Heating Oil Price Stability Act; H.R. 2884, Energy Policy and Conservation Act, which authorizes the Department of Energy to establish, maintain, and operate a Northeast home heating oil reserve; and to the Sanders-Shays-Markey-LoBiondo-Strickland Amendment to the Interior Appropriations to establish a home heating oil reserve.

As a direct result of the work and hearings on the oil/gas crisis that the Congress undertook this past winter, the Secretary of Energy at the direction of the President, announced on July 10, 2000, that a heating oil component of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) is to be established in the Northeast to protect the American people from the possibility of fuel shortages in the upcoming winter.

In addition, I have called upon the President, the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of State, urging them to intervene and put an end to this crisis, now! I have been pursuing this point in meetings with representatives of the OPEC nations in the United States. I intend to continue to pursue a strategic, coherent energy policy by this Administration that makes sense for the American people.

We need a pro-active Administration rather than a reactive one. Since the beginning of the Clinton-Gore Administration domestic oil production is down 17%, while the U.S. dependency on foreign oil is at an all time high. We need to be exploring alternative energy sources, the use of coal, the use of hydro-electric power, of biomass, geothermal, photovoltaic, solar thermal and wind, utilizing ethanol, creating a system of electric reliability, increasing the exploration and supply of natural gas, and retrofitting or building cost efficient oil refineries. In addition, we need to utilize government land for responsible oil and natural gas exploration. The API advocates that an effective national energy policy, must at a minimum allow for all of the above.

For their part, the American people must harness their creative spirit by car pooling, using mass transportation where available, contacting their local utilities to find out how to become more energy efficient, and by demanding that the Administration develop and implement a coherent, strategic, and prospective, short and long term energy policy. Such a policy in the short term must include taking heed to bi-partisan calls for a release of the

Strategic Petroleum Reserve to mitigate the outrageous and prohibitive cost of oil. Additionally, the Administration must meet bi-laterally with representatives of OPEC member nations, and tell them to end this crisis—and to do it now!

Mr. Speaker, I submit into the RECORD the two recent letters that I sent to President Clinton regarding OPEC and the oil crisis:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 8, 2000.

President WILLIAM J. CLINTON,
The White House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Our country is suffering from a severe energy crisis, and the American people are being held hostage by OPEC. The price of crude oil contracts at \$34.90 per barrel are now the highest they have been in a decade. As reported on the front page of the Washington Post (9/7/00), the Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration (EIA) reports that total U.S. crude oil reserves are at a 24-year low, while there is a 30 percent projected rise in home heating oil prices this winter over last year's high prices. This will further strangle our hard-working American families already suffering from exorbitant fuel and oil prices.

The United States imports 55 percent of its crude oil. OPEC produces 40 percent of the world's oil supply, placing the United States in a precarious position of relying on foreign powers to fulfill our crude oil requirements. Many of these oil producing nations are "states of concern" and have national interests that run counter to our own. In a recent publication of the Clean Fuels Development Coalition, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, R. James Woolsey believes that our dependence of foreign oil is one of the three major threats to the national security of the United States.

By September 8, 2000, it will be 20 days that oil prices are above \$28 per barrel and will trigger OPEC's price band mechanism. This mechanism mandates that OPEC produce an additional 500,000 barrels per day. Regrettably, this additional production will do little to reduce, and contribute to stabilizing crude oil prices. In fact, in its Short-Term Energy Outlook, the EIA projects that imported crude oil will remain above \$28 per barrel for the remainder of the year. Even if OPEC agrees to increase its production at its meeting on September 10th, the EIA reports that "only Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and, to a lesser degree, the United Arab Emirates will have significant capacity to expand production." Analysts report that if OPEC increases total production by one-million barrels per day, the oil would not be available to consumers until mid-November, 2000, and will do little to prevent further spikes in imported oil prices this year.

Mr. President, while you have expressed concern and encouraged OPEC to raise output at the United Nations Millennium Summit, I urge you to use the full powers and resources of your office to mitigate this crisis with the OPEC 10 before its meeting on September 10, 2000. Thank you for your urgent attention to this matter of grave concern to the people of our country and to the national security of the United States.

Sincerely,

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,
Member of Congress.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 13, 2000.

President WILLIAM J. CLINTON,
The White House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Following OPEC's meeting on September 10th, the cartel announced that it would increase production of

crude oil by an additional 800,000 barrels per day. This increase in production was to reduce the price of crude oil which has been at near record prices of \$34 dollars per barrel, which OPEC members freely admits is too high. This raise constitutes an increase of 3 percent. Regrettably, this increase is simply not enough to bring down the price of crude oil. OPEC needs to undertake aggressive measures to bring down the price of oil, and an increase in production of 3 percent is not enough—not enough by half!

OPEC is aware of the gravity of the situation, as evidenced by OPEC President and Venezuela's oil minister Ali Rodriguez' statement, "[that] we are approaching a crisis of great proportions because oil production capacity is reaching its limit." In the midst of this crisis, OPEC's increase will not even go into effect until October 1st. OPEC agreed to meet again on November 12th to reassess "market conditions," with full knowledge that its increase was a trivial gesture towards reducing prices of imported crude oil. As reported in The New York Times (9/12/00), heating oil is at record levels, its highest price in a decade—now 51 percent higher than the average for last fall and winter. Some analysts believe that imported crude oil may further spike at \$40 dollars per barrel. Conservatively, it will take a minimum of 6 weeks to ship the increased oil to the United States and another week to 10 days to refine it. Mr. President, we are looking at early December before the oil (and its by-products) will be available to consumers. In real terms, OPEC's increase is too little, too late to alleviate the astronomical and nearly prohibitive cost of home heating oil that confronts the hard working people of our country.

Parts of Europe are in a state of paralysis over this crisis, and in England, Prime Minister Blair authorized the use of the military to quell protesters. In our own country Mr. President, this crisis is grave enough that there are calls to release oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) which is maintained for use during wartime and national emergencies. This crisis comes at a time when total U.S. reserves are at a 24-year low of 1.53 million barrels from 1.63 a year ago according to the Department of Energy's Energy Information Agency (EIA).

Mr. President, this grave crisis calls for strong measures in dealing with OPEC, and therefore it is imperative that you use the full powers and resources of your office in showing OPEC that its good faith gesture, is not good enough for the people of our country. Mr. President, I will welcome any plans that the Administration is developing to resolve this oil crisis, and I thank you for your urgent attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,
Member of Congress.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR DANIEL
PATRICK MOYNIHAN

SPEECH OF

HON. NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the great senior Senator from New York, DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN. Although words can not do justice to his many contributions over his decades of public service, I wish to offer my thanks for everything he has done on behalf of the people of New York State and the entire nation.

Senator MOYNIHAN gave truth to the cliché of being a gentleman and a scholar. After receiving his bachelor's degree (cum laude) from Tufts University, he studied as a Fulbright Scholar at the London School of Economics. He then returned to the states and completed his studies at Tufts University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, where he received his M.A. and Ph.D. Before coming to the Senate, he served as a valued member of four consecutive administrations, starting with the Kennedy Administration and serving through the Johnson, Nixon, and Ford Administrations, holding various positions within the Department of Labor. His lifelong dedication to public service was only enhanced by his time in the private sector when he was a Professor of Government at Harvard University in the mid sixties. He served the Nixon and Ford Administrations as U.S. Ambassador to India from 1973 to 1975 and U.S. Representative to the United Nations from 1975 to 1976.

Born and raised in New York City, Senator MOYNIHAN decided to pursue elected office. Upon leaving his position at the United Nations, he was elected U.S. Senator from New York in 1976. His many accomplishments in that office have been well documented. He has served as a strong advocate for welfare reform by promoting the creation of opportunities to increase self-sufficiency, while also maintaining a strong safety net. He has fought to preserve social security and modernize our nation's transportation system, just to name a few.

However, a listing of his legislative accomplishments can not do justice to many of the crucial and intangible qualities he brought to the Congress. Throughout his career, Senator MOYNIHAN's high ideals and great dignity have served as an exemplary model for his colleagues, constituents, neighbors and friends. In a time of increasing partisanship, his wisdom is recognized and sought across party lines. He stands firm for what is right, despite the ever changing political winds. His graciousness and his steadfast reliance on his principals have been an inspiration to all of us who are lucky enough to know him.

New York State, and the entire nation, are better because of his public service. He will be greatly missed, but I hope that he will continue to serve as a voice for the people of the country and a conscience for those of us who represent them.

THE CONSUMER ASSURANCE OF
RADIOLOGIC EXCELLENCE ACT
(CARE)

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. LAZIO. Mr. Speaker, CARE is legislation aimed at patient safety that would ensure technologists administering medical imaging and radiation therapy procedures have sufficient training and expertise. Medical imaging and radiation therapy involve the application of potentially dangerous articles like x-rays, nuclear isotopes, and powerful magnetic fields. Medical imaging provides radiologists and other physicians the vital imagery to diagnose illness and prescribe appropriate treatment. Radiation is the application of radiation to can-

cers as prescribed by oncologists. Currently, over 250,000 individuals work in thirteen disciplines in this field.

CARE would provide incentives for states to license or register persons who perform medical imaging and radiation therapy. Currently 15 states have no regulations governing the education or competence of individuals administering x rays and 29 states have failed to regulate individuals administering nuclear medicine tests. This legislation seeks to redress the deficiencies in the Consumer-Patient Radiation Health and Safety Act of 1981, by encouraging states to put in place minimal standards for the education and certification of practitioners in the field.

CARE is endorsed by the Alliance for Quality Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy. The Alliance consists of the following organizations: American Association of Physicists in Medicine, American Registry of Radiologic Technologists, American Society of Radiologic Technologists, Association of Educators in Radiologic Sciences, Association of Vascular and Interventional Radiographers, Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology, Joint Review Committee on Education in Nuclear Medicine Technology, Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board, Section for Magnetic Resonance Technologists of ISMRM, Society of Nuclear Medicine-Technologist Section, and Society for Radiation Oncology Administrators.

CARE is also endorsed by the Following organizations: American College of Radiology, American Organization of Nurse Executives, Cancer Research Foundation of America, National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship, the American Cancer Society, Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc., Help Disabled War Veterans, Help Hospitalized War Veterans, International Society of Radiographers and Radiologic Technologists, National Coalition for Quality Diagnostic Imaging Services and Philips Medical Systems, Inc.

TRIBUTE TO ALAN EMORY

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Alan Emory, a veteran writer for the Watertown Daily Times who is battling pancreatic cancer.

June 7 marked Alan's 51st year with the Times, 47 years of which he spent covering the Capital, earning him the title of Times Senior Washington correspondent. As a reporter, Alan has always held himself up to the highest standards of journalistic integrity. His readers have come to expect objective, accurate and intelligent reporting of events, both big and small.

Alan's readers have also come to expect from him a thoughtful understanding of the issues and events that affect our everyday lives. Through his weekly Sunday column, Alan has touched the lives of many by relating his own experiences, which enlighten and inspire, motivate and comfort. One such experience is his battle with cancer. In his weekly column, he recounts this very personal ordeal with his usual candor, and never before have his sense of humor, his courage, and his humanity been more clearly demonstrated to all

those who have come to know him personally and through his articles.

This is not Alan's first brush with cancer. In 1991, he had been diagnosed and treated for prostate cancer. Experience, however, has not made the second time any easier. There were weeks of tests. There were unforeseen health complications that delayed surgery. There were innumerable pills to take, complicated doctors' orders to follow, and long trips back and forth to the hospital.

Yet—through all this—Alan's spirit, optimism, and courage are undiminished. He is gracious and humble as ever and, in his weekly articles, he has thanked his friends, family, and his readers for their support and prayers.

Alan's account of his battle with cancer offers hope to all those who find themselves in similar circumstances. Fighting a deadly disease can be a lonely experience, even with the support of loved ones.

Alan's articles over the last several months have been important for another reason. They were among the first to bring public attention to the Health Care Financing Administration's proposed regulation to implement severe cutbacks on reimbursement costs to physicians for vital outpatient chemotherapy treatment for senior patients. The attention that Alan's articles brought to the issue, and the subsequent pressure that his readers brought to bear upon public officials, were crucial in bringing the Clinton administration to put off plans to reduce payments for cancer drugs. I joined with my colleagues in writing the Clinton administration objecting to the proposed cutbacks, which I felt would put Medicare beneficiaries with cancer unnecessarily at risk by denying adequate reimbursement for essential drug therapy. Thankfully, the Administration reconsidered its position and ultimately decided not to reduce payments to doctors.

In sharing his experience, Alan not only shares his optimism and his spirit, he has helped prevent a potentially devastating regulation from coming into effect. Because of their significance in this regard, I ask that copies of Alan's stories, those on his own battle with cancer, as well as those on the Medicare cancer cutbacks, be printed in their entirety in the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great journalist, and more importantly, a good friend, Alan Emory. He has touched the lives of thousands—many of whom will never get the opportunity to thank him for all he has done in the course of his career. From all of us, I say thank you, Alan.

[From the Watertown Daily Times, July 2, 2000]

PAYMENT CHANGE MAY SPELL END OF
OUTPATIENT CHEMOTHERAPY
(By Alan Emory)

The Clinton Administration giveth and it taketh away.

The president makes a big deal of wanting the federal Medicare program to cover the cost of many prescription drugs for senior citizens who cannot afford them. He has pressed Congress to pass legislation providing for that help.

He says nothing, however, about a regulation issued by Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala that runs flatly contrary to what he is asking from Congress.

That rule, by the Health Care Finance Administration which would take effect Oct. 1 unless scrapped by her department or

blocked by lawmakers—would effectively end vital outpatient chemotherapy treatment of senior cancer patients in the offices of oncologists and, perhaps later, in hospitals.

It would be achieved by cutting back severely on reimbursement costs to physicians. In other words, at a time of huge budget surpluses likely over the next decade, the folks with green eyeshades and blue pencils would come out on top at the expense of patients.

From all appearances, analyses by experts have found that by swallowing 5 percent of chemotherapy drug costs, oncologists and hospitals get a fair reimbursement. But the new HCFA regulation would increase that shortfall to as much as 13 percent, effectively pressuring physicians to discontinue their chemotherapy office procedures, dismiss nurses and send patients to long lines at hospitals, assuming the hospital can continue to treat them.

There is a very good chance the hospitals might decide to close down their outpatient treatment services, too, in which case the patients would have no idea where to obtain their drugs.

About 60 percent of chemotherapy is now delivered in doctors' offices, a more comfortable environment for patients and a setting where they and their doctors and nurses can have a satisfactory relationship.

The compensation doctors receive would, on Oct. 1, be determined by an average wholesale price of the drugs set by a Justice Department "red book" for 20 drugs to treat cancer, and the pressure is on to lower that figure even more.

Letters to Congress have stressed that oncologists deserve an increase above that price, not a reduction, and they point out that many hospitals and doctors cannot obtain the needed drugs at those prices.

This is not the story of greedy drug manufacturers boosting prices to the point where some Americans travel to Canada to obtain medication at reasonable prices. It is not a story of doctors and hospitals pocketing huge markups. It is one about a reduction in compensation for doctors that may be cut even more to a point where the welfare of senior citizen cancer patients is endangered.

Basically, some surveys find, chemotherapy administration is essentially a break-even proposition in hospitals. More losses could persuade them to shut down their outpatient cancer programs.

This obviously is not Congress's intent in moving on prescription drugs, but lawmakers appear to have been influenced by the stories of profiteering on non-cancer drugs. It is highly likely, according to local medical groups, that many oncology offices will close down or reduce size and staff.

The oncologists have a compelling argument. They cite the large cost of providing chemotherapy in a setting that is not adequately reimbursed under Medicare. Shutting down their operation would force patients to shift to hospitals, where costs would be greater and timely treatment imperiled.

Furthermore, hospital bureaucracy is a far cry from the convenience and comfort involved in office chemotherapy.

This does not contradict the need to strike a balance between providing adequate cancer care and controlling the cost of that care. However, substantial reduction in reimbursement cannot but damage quality care.

Many government experts—though, apparently, not Ms. Shalala—understand oncologists do not receive adequate reimbursement for cancer drugs and administering chemotherapy. It is repugnant to force cancer patients into hospitals because Medicare rules threaten the financial viability of treatment in a doctor's office.

The losers, says one medical organization, will be cancer patients who may lose access to quality cancer care in the setting that is most convenient and appropriate for them.

Oncologists argue that Medicare's payment for chemotherapy administration "is only a fraction of what is necessary to cover expenses." They cite requirements for specially trained nurses, special equipment and considerable time, entirely aside from the strong preference Medicare patients have for the office treatment.

Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y., as the ranking minority member of the Senate Finance Committee, which supervises Medicare, is in a position to help solve the problem.

Either Congress or the White House can halt this devastating move on Medicare cancer treatment, but the Oct. 1 deadline is looming ever larger.

[From the Watertown Daily Times, Sept. 9, 2000]

MOYNIHAN APPLAUDS AS MEDICARE "BACKS OFF" PAYMENT REDUCTIONS

(By Alan Emory)

WASHINGTON.—Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan late Friday hailed a Medicare decision not to reduce payments to doctors that would have threatened treatments for up to 750,000 senior citizens with cancer.

The New York Democrat, senior minority member of the Senate Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction over Medicare, said, in a statement to the Times, that he was "pleased to learn that the Health Care Financing Administration will not be interfering with the ability of cancer patients to receive chemotherapy in their own doctors' offices."

Although Health and Human Services Secretary Donna E. Shalala had proposed a severe cut in Medicare reimbursement for outpatient cancer care, HCFA told members of Congress it has decided not to implement the cuts for 14 oncology drugs and three clotting factors.

The move, which confirmed what HCFA officials had hinted was in the works, in interviews with the Watertown Daily Times, would protect treatment with drugs "furnished incident to a physician's services" and oral anti-cancer drugs.

HCFA uses figures published by the Justice Department on which to base reimbursement.

The agency detailed its decision in letters to Chairman Thomas Bliley, R-Va., of the House Commerce Committee and Rep. Fortney Stark, D-Calif., the ranking minority members.

The first word was contained in a telephone call to the Times from Dr. Robert Berenson, director of the HCFA division in charge of Medicare reimbursement policy.

The Watertown Times broke the news about the proposed cutback July 2 and reported the possible reversal of policy shortly after that following interviews with HCFA and Senate Finance Committee officials.

Rep. John M. McHugh, R-Pierrepont Manor, had signed a letter, with colleagues from both parties, to Ms. Shalala, objecting to the cutbacks, according to his deputy chief of staff, Dana Johnson.

HCFA has told insurance companies and drug companies it had "concern about access to care related to . . . wholesale prices for 14 chemotherapy drugs" because of other Medicare payment policies associated with treatment of cancer and hemophilia.

They were instructed not to consider using current Justice Department data for the drugs to establish Medicare allowances until HCFA had reviewed those concerns and developed alternative policies.

Dr. Berenson said his agency would consult with oncologist groups on a substitute policy of payments for nursing help and other office facilities in the application of chemotherapy.

"We plan to adjust Medicare allowances under the outpatient prospective system" for drugs subject to government reimbursement rules, HCFA said, in a statement. Congres-

sional offices expressed satisfaction with what they said was the government's "backing off" of the cutbacks.

Sen. John Ashcroft, R-Mo., has introduced legislation that would bar such cuts until after full congressional hearings and that would require an investigation by the General Accounting Office into the possible impact of a reduction of government aid.

Physician, patient and other citizen groups had described the original proposal, which could have taken effect Oct. 1, as a severe threat to cancer care.

No new reimbursement changes are now expected for at least the next four months, during which time HCFA will be redrafting its cancer reimbursement policies.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 26, 2000 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 27

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the status of U.S. military readiness.

SH-216

Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-342

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Research, Nutrition, and General Legislation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on Department of Agriculture financial management issues.

SR-328A

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 2052, to establish a demonstration project to authorize the integration and coordination of Federal funding dedicated to community, business, and the economic development of Native American communities; to be followed by a business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-485

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the marketing of violence to children.

SR-253

Judiciary

Criminal Justice Oversight Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Wen Ho Lee case.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Finance

Business meeting to mark up H.R. 4844, to modernize the financing of the railroad retirement system and to provide enhanced benefits to employees and beneficiaries.

SD-215

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings on strategic petroleum reserve.

2360 Rayburn Building

2:15 p.m.

Environment and Public Works

Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Clean Air Act.

SD-406

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.

SH-219

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

S-116 Capitol

SEPTEMBER 28

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To resume hearings on United States policy towards Iraq.

SH-216

Environment and Public Works

Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee

To hold hearings on H.R. 809, to amend the Act of June 1, 1948, to provide for reform of the Federal Protective Service.

SD-406

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Commerce trade missions and political activities.

SR-253

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Securities Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the proposal by the Securities and Exchange Commission to promulgate agency regulations that would restrict the types of non-audit services that independent public accountants may provide to their audit clients.

SD-538

Aging

To hold hearings to examine nursing home initiatives.

SD-562

10 a.m.

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold oversight hearings to examine the impacts of the recent United States Federal Circuit Court of Appeals decisions regarding the Federal Government's breach of contract for failure to accept high level nuclear waste by January 1998.

SD-366

10:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine slavery throughout the world.

SD-419

2 p.m.

Judiciary

Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine agricultural competition.

SD-226

3 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Foreign Relations

To hold joint hearings to examine the status of the Kyoto protocol after three years.

SD-419

OCTOBER 4

9:30 a.m.

Small Business

To hold hearings on U.S. Forest Service issues relating to small business.

SR-428A