

combines my own bill to provide money for Magnet hospitals Accreditation and another bill I offered to retain and attract nurses. Magnet hospitals enjoy low turnover and top-notch work conditions. Nurses at magnet hospitals consistently report greater job satisfaction than other nurses, and patients also give these types of hospitals high ratings. Attracting more nurses to move into positions at magnet hospitals will both lower the nursing shortage and help the profession remain competitive with other health care fields.

Although last year's legislation is a good start, more needs to be done to find ways to recruit more young people to the nursing profession. That is why earlier this year, I introduced H.R. 934, the Teacher's and Nurses Support Act of 2003. This bill provides loan forgiveness for teachers and nurses around the country. I want to encourage every student that nursing, in my view, is the best profession in the world. This legislation would help eliminate financial barriers to pursuing a nursing career.

In closing, I urge my fellow nurses to tell friends, children and neighbors about all the positive aspects of being a nurse. We need to excite our students in high school and junior high about our career choice and how nurses are always there to help the sick get better and to make sure the healthy stay that way.

HONORING THE SELECTION OF MS. ERIN BEAULIEU FOR THE PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2003*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Ms. Erin Beaulieu upon her selection as one of two recipients of the Virginia 2003 Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

Erin, a Red Cross member and eighth-grader at Whitman Middle School in Alexandria, Virginia, started a Red Cross student chapter at her school and encouraged her fellow students to become involved! The chapter now boasts more than 30 members dedicated to helping the American Red Cross respond. For her efforts, she was selected from more than 24,000 nominees to receive a Spirit of Community Award.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, created by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, constitute America's largest youth recognition program based exclusively on volunteer service. The award was created with the intent to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example.

Erin should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud Erin for her initiative in seeking to make her community a better place to live, and for the positive impact she has had on the lives of others. She has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. Her actions show that

young Americans can—and do—play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding Erin for all that she has done.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
JESSE BROWN

**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2003*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join my colleague, the gentleman from Chicago, DANNY DAVIS in recognizing a true American hero, the Honorable Jesse Brown. The late Jesse Brown served as the Secretary "for" Veterans Affairs from 1993–1997. Jesse insisted that people refer to him as the Secretary "for" Veterans Affairs in order to emphasize his role as a champion of veterans. It is for this role that he will always be remembered.

Jesse spent his teens and early adulthood in Chicago where his mother, Mrs. Lucille Brown, continues to reside today. It is fitting that we re-name the West Side division of VA Chicago in his name.

Jesse was a personal friend of mine, but thousands of veterans in this Nation also recognized him as a friend. He oversaw a period of growth and improvement in the VA health care system that changed many Americans' view of the health care system by modernizing and greatly improving the quality of its services and allowing new access to millions.

Jesse never took "no" for an answer. When it came to demanding the best for our veterans, he would even take on the President. I remember the legendary stories of his trips to the White House to challenge the President's budgets for veterans. He always wanted more and he almost always won. Even at his memorial service, which I, along with former-President Clinton, attended this past summer, long-time friends and associates spoke of a man to whom it was impossible to say no.

Jesse's path was probably laid for him when he was wounded in combat while on patrol in Danang. The injury would leave him partially paralyzed for the rest of his life. After a long period of recuperation, Secretary Brown began a career in veterans' advocacy that spanned the remainder of his life. The Secretary worked his way up the Disabled American Veterans structure culminating his 25-year career by serving as executive director from 1989–1993.

As Secretary "for" Veterans Affairs, Jesse fought to make good on his promise of "putting veterans first." He made it his priority to meet veterans whose needs had long gone unrecognized—he made homelessness "the fifth mission" of the VA. He added counseling for women who experienced sexual trauma during military service. He worked tirelessly to expand benefits for veterans who were former prisoners-of-war and for those exposed to Agent Orange, radiation and mustard gas. He began an aggressive research agenda into the causes and effective treatments for veterans of the first Persian Gulf War.

Even toward the end of his life, Secretary Brown continued his advocacy for veterans as

the first executive director of the Disabled Veterans Life Memorial Foundation. Sadly, Jesse left us all too soon after a struggle with Lou Gehrig's disease this past summer. He is survived by his wife Sylvia, along with two children Carmen Stewart and Scott Brown and many other relatives and friends.

As a fellow Marine, Jesse truly knew the meaning of "leave no man behind." He lived his life according to that creed. He has earned the honor we are bestowing upon him today.

IMPROVING EDUCATION RESULTS  
FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES  
ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 30, 2003*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, last week the House considered H.R. 1350, Improving Education Results for Children With Disabilities Act of 2003. I would like to add the following list of organizations opposed to H.R. 1350 for inclusion in the RECORD:

National PTA, Children's Defense Fund, National Association of Education of Young Children, American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Association on Mental Retardation, American Association of University Affiliated Programs, American Council of the Blind, American Counseling Association, American Music Therapy Association, American Occupational Therapy Association, American Physical Therapy Association, American Society for Deaf Children.

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, The Arc of the United States, Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs, Association of University Centers on Disabilities, Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Council for Exceptional Children, Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates, Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund, Disability Service Providers of America, Easter Seals, Epilepsy Foundation, Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health.

Higher Education Consortium for Special Education, Learning Disabilities Association of America, National Alliance of Pupil Service Organizations, National Association of Developmental Disabilities Councils, National Association of Mental Illness, National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems, National Association of School Psychologists, National Association of Social Workers, National Center for Learning Disabilities, National Coalition on Deaf-Blindness, National Coalition of Parent Centers, National Committee of Parents Organized to Protect IDEA.

National Consortium for Physical Education and Recreation for Individuals with Disabilities, National Down Syndrome Congress, National Down Syndrome Society, National Mental Health Association, Research Institute for Independent Living, School Social Work Association of America, TASH, Teacher Education Division/Council for Exceptional Children, The International Dyslexia Association, Tourette Syndrome Association, UCP.