

The "Ban Asbestos in America Act" also addresses other urgent needs related to harm from asbestos. It requires EPA, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and the Department of Labor to establish a national public education program about the dangers posed by products with asbestos. For example, many homes in the United States contain vermiculite insulation in their attics—but most homeowners don't know that this vermiculite is often contaminated with asbestos. Homeowners and workers need to be made aware of the risk. People must be informed that they should not disturb this insulation. Yesterday EPA issued a brochure, but we need to do more to get the word out on this and other risks.

This bill also establishes a national registry for mesothelioma, a usually fatal form of cancer caused by exposure to asbestos. The registry will help scientists to better track and treat this terrible illness. The bill also authorizes funding for mesothelioma research and treatment.

We have not yet finished our job of protecting Americans from exposure to asbestos. We need a ban and public education about the risks that will remain. I'm introducing this bill to get the job done and make this country a safer place for people to work and live.

A TRIBUTE TO LUANA LAMKIN, AN
ANGEL FOR CANCER PATIENTS
IN OHIO

HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Luana Lamkin from Hilliard, Ohio, a former member of the Oncology Nursing Society's Board of Directors, and to celebrate May as the ninth annual Oncology Nursing Month. Oncology Nursing Month recognizes oncology nurses, educates the public about oncology nursing, provides an opportunity for special educational events for oncology nurses, and celebrates the accomplishments of oncology nurses.

The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), the largest professional oncology group in the United States composed of more than 30,000 nurses and other health professionals, exists to promote excellence in oncology nursing and the provision of quality care to those individuals affected by cancer. As part of its mission, the Society honors and maintains nursing's historical and essential commitment to advocacy for the public good. ONS was founded in 1975, and held its first Annual Congress in 1976. Since the Society was established, 218 local chapters have been formed to provide a network for education and peer support at the community level.

In my State of Ohio there are more than 1,226 oncology nurses and health professionals that care for individuals with cancer and their families. In addition, Ohio has 9 local Oncology Nursing Society chapters located in the areas of Columbus, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Mansfield, Cuyahoga Falls, Lima, Zanesville, Whitehouse, and Dayton.

Luana Lamkin has been helping cancer patients and their families for the last thirty years. Luana is currently the Administrator of Cancer Services at the Grant/ Riverside Meth-

odist Hospitals in Columbus, Ohio. Luana has been active in the Oncology Nursing Society since 1976 and recently served as National Treasurer for the ONS' Board of Directors. She has received numerous awards for her work on behalf of individuals with cancer including the "Excellence in Nursing Administration" from the Oncology Nursing Society and the "Lane Adams Award" from the American Cancer Society for Outstanding Nursing Leadership.

Luana has also worked with the National Dialogue on Cancer on nursing workforce issues. A number of studies and articles that Luana has written on the impact of the nursing shortage on cancer care have been published in distinguished publications such as the Oncology Nursing Forum, Cancer Nursing: Practices and Principles, Seminars in Oncology Nursing, and the Journal of Nursing Research. Since 1982, Luana has presented thirty papers to national and international audiences on a host of cancer care issues such as staff support systems, role development, community resources, patient and caregiver perspectives, strategic planning, issues and trends in cancer nursing, epidemiology, screening, detection, negotiating professional rewards and nursing shortage issues.

Over the last ten years, the setting where treatment for cancer is provided has changed dramatically. An estimated 80 percent of all Americans receive cancer care in community settings including cancer centers, physicians' offices, and hospital outpatient departments. Treatment regimens are as complex, if not more so, than regimens given in the inpatient setting a few short years ago. Oncology nurses are on the front-lines of the provision of quality cancer care for individuals with cancer. Nurses are involved in the care of a cancer patient from the beginning through the end of treatment. Oncology nurses are the front-line providers of care by administering chemotherapy, managing patient therapies and side-effects, working with insurance companies to ensure that patients receive the appropriate treatment, provide counseling to patients and family members, in addition to many other daily acts on behalf of cancer patients.

With an increasing number of people with cancer needing high quality health care coupled with an inadequate nursing workforce, our nation could quickly face a cancer care crisis of serious proportion with limited access to quality cancer care, particularly in traditionally underserved areas. Without an adequate supply of nurses there will not be enough qualified oncology nurses to provide the quality cancer care to a growing population of people in need. I was proud to support the passage of the "Nurse Reinvestment Act" in the 107th Congress. This important piece of legislation, signed into law by President Bush, expanded and implemented programs at HRSA to address the multiple problems contributing to the nationwide nursing shortage, including the decline in nursing student enrollments, shortage of faculty, and dissatisfaction with nurse workplace environments.

I commend Luana Lamkin and the Oncology Nursing Society for all of their hard work to prevent and reduce suffering from cancer and to improve the lives of those 1.3 million Americans who will be diagnosed with cancer in 2003. I wish Luana and the Oncology Nursing Society the best of luck in all of their endeavors.

RECOGNITION OF DONALD BAKER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize, Donald Baker of Jefferson County, IL. Don was recently inducted into the Senior Saints Hall of Fame of Jefferson County.

Don received this honor for his lifelong service to others. He served his country for 4 years in the U.S. Navy on the USS *Remy* during the Korean war. Today he is a regular participant in the Sweet Corn & Watermelon Festival, the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, Jefferson County's Crime Watch program, Memorial Day services, the Mt. Vernon City Wide Cleanup, and the National Day of Prayer. He has also assisted with the Emergency 911 Telephone Testing process.

I want to congratulate and thank Don for all he has done and will continue to do for the people in his community. He is a saint to all who know him and is very deserving of this prestigious honor.

NEW SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE IN
HALLANDALE

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to the attention of my colleagues the grand opening of a new Social Security office within my Congressional District in Hallandale, FL.

The new office will serve a total of 16,400 Social Security beneficiaries and 1,678 Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries in the cities of Hallandale, Hollywood and Dania Beach, FL. These cities, renowned for their thriving senior citizen populations, have shared a Social Security office in Hallandale since 1973. However, because this population has grown significantly over the decades, a new, more modern facility was needed in order to better serve the community.

The new office, located at 1000 West Hallandale Beach Boulevard, will include many innovative improvements, such as front-end interviewing and interactive video training by satellite from Social Security national headquarters in Baltimore, Maryland, and other locations.

I work closely with the Social Security Administration in answering questions and solving problems brought to my attention by my constituents, and I look forward to working for many years to come with Lee Rojas, the manager of this new facility, his full-time staff of 12 and his four special employees.

I applaud the Social Security Administration for its decision to expand its services and improve its proximity to the more than 18,000 retirees who have earned Social Security benefits and rely on Social Security's services.