

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THERE SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED A NATIONAL COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER WEEK

SPEECH OF

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 21, 2003*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker I rise today in support of House Resolution 240, to establish National Community Health Centers Week. This resolution highlights the importance of health centers throughout the nation, and aids these organizations in promoting their valuable health services to the public.

Community health centers provide a wide range of essential health services, often to uninsured and underinsured individuals. Especially in this era when so many Americans remain uninsured, the role of community health centers in the health care system is critical. Among the important services provided are mental health care, senior care, HIV/AIDS services, substance abuse treatment, and immunizations. Filling a gap in providing care for low income individuals, including those without insurance, community health centers should be recognized for their dedication to the improvement of America's public health.

Thousands of these institutions operate nationwide, and in my own district in Illinois, the Melrose Park Family Health Center and the new Peterson Family Health Center are examples of the tremendous service they provide. More than 5,000 visits were made to the Melrose Park Family Health Center within three months after it opened in October 2002. Serving a wide variety of patients, many of whom have no insurance, the Center's most common services include immunizations, and treatment for respiratory infections and hypertension. As part of Chicago's Citywide Emergency Response Program, the Center also would treat victims in the case of a bio-terror attack.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Representative DAVIS and the Members of the Committee on Government Reform for introducing this legislation and bringing it to the floor today. It highlights the crucial efforts of community health centers across the nation that improve and even save the lives of numerous Americans on a daily basis.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO ROGER D. BRIDGES, PH.D., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE RUTHERFORD B. HAYES PRESIDENTIAL CENTER, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 23, 2003*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding gentleman from Ohio. A scholar, librarian, professor, and writer, Dr. Roger D. Bridges is a well-respected citizen of Fremont, Ohio. Executive Director of The Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, Dr. Bridges has earned credentials in a wide range of disciplines.

Born in Marshalltown, Iowa, Dr. Bridges received his B.A. from the University of Northern Iowa in 1959, and his M.A. in 1963. In 1970, Dr. Bridges earned his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana.

In 1970, after an early career as a teacher, librarian and assistant professor, Dr. Bridges was named an NHPRC Fellow in Documentary Editing. Assigned to the Papers of Ulysses S. Grant at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Dr. Bridges began his professional career in historical research.

In 1971, Dr. Bridges served as the Director of Research for the Illinois State Historical Library in Springfield. In 1976, he was promoted to Head Librarian. In 1987, Dr. Bridges became Assistant Illinois State Historian and Founding Editor of the prestigious Abraham Lincoln Legal Papers for the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency at Springfield and Illinois State University.

In 1988, the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, the nation's first presidential library and museum, asked Dr. Bridges to become the fourth director in the Center's tremendous history.

In addition to his prominent position, where Dr. Bridges has worked for the past 15 years as Director of the Hayes Presidential Center, he has received honorary doctorates from Lincoln College and Tiffin University. Furthermore, Dr. Bridges has been honored for his work in civil rights and state and local history. Dr. Bridges is also an active member of several professional organizations, including the Ohio Historical Society, served as Secretary-Treasurer for the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, and is a past member of the Ohio Academy of History Executive Council.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Dr. Roger D. Bridges. Our communities are served well by having such honorable and giving citizens, like Dr. Bridges, who is a wonderful asset to the state of Ohio. On the occasion of his retirement, we wish Dr. Bridges all the best as we pay tribute to one of Ohio's finest citizens.

RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF THE YEAR OF THE KOREAN WAR VETERAN

SPEECH OF

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 21, 2003*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 212, to proclaim 2003 as the Year of the Korean War Veteran. As we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Korean Armistice, it is entirely appropriate to pay tribute to the nearly 1.7 million troops who fought on the Korean peninsula by designating this year in their honor.

U.S. troops endured some of the most brutal conditions ever experienced in the history of American warfare. They fought in extreme heat as well as cold so severe that some troops literally froze to the floors of their foxholes. But sadly, their sacrifice and bravery are often overlooked. In response, this resolution ensures that the "Forgotten War" is always remembered in American history, and

that we will never forget the 37,000 troops who sacrificed their lives and the 104,000 Americans injured in Korea.

I am honored to represent 31,611 veterans who make their home in Illinois' Fifth Congressional District. One of them is a Korean War Veteran I am honored to call a good friend—Mr. Eugene Piltaver. For many years, Gene has devoted his time to ensuring that his fellow veterans are honored for their service to our country. A testament to his commitment is symbolized by the United States Military Armed Forces Veterans Memorial in his hometown in Franklin Park, Illinois. Gene not only conceived of the idea for the Memorial, but also rallied support and funding to build this impressive monument dedicated to the bravery and patriotism to Franklin Park's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Eugene Piltaver and all of the veterans who have served and sacrificed for our nation, I am proud to support the Year of the Korean War Veteran.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO FARMWORKER APPRECIATION DAY—FREMONT, OHIO

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 23, 2003*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding event taking place in my district in Northwest Ohio. Saturday, August 2, 2003, people from across Ohio's Fifth Congressional District will gather in Fremont to celebrate Farmworker Appreciation Day.

There is no question that farming is the backbone of our nation. From the earliest days of our nation's history, hardworking men and women have taken to the fields to plant and harvest crops and raise livestock in order to feed their families, their neighbors, and their fellow countrymen.

Mr. Speaker, farming is an honorable profession that takes a great deal of skill, patience, and hard work. Those hardworking men and women who work on our nation's farms deserve much credit for helping to make our lands productive and fruitful.

Through the arduous process of working and cultivating the soil, these farmworkers help prepare the ground, plant the crops, and harvest the food we need to live. The lifestyle of a farmworker is tough. Like the farmer, the farmworker must endure the ever-changing seasons from the harshest winters to sun drying, waterless droughts to rain-soaked days that lead to disastrous floods. farmworkers watch the fields as thunderous storms race across them damaging the crops from which they make their living. However, through it all, farmworkers continue to the fields to do their work.

Mr. Speaker, agriculture is vitally important to the Fifth District of Ohio as we are home to nineteen percent of Ohio's farmland. We know that the economy of our part of Ohio depends on farming. The prosperity of my district is dependent in large part upon the tireless efforts of the farmworkers who bring in the crops. I can think of no better way to celebrate the contributions of these individuals than to take part in farmworker Appreciation Day.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to farmworkers by