

### MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISCOUNT CARD

(Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, this week nearly 15.4 million seniors across the Nation are eligible to apply for a Medicare-approved prescription drug discount card. This is good news for older Americans, especially for those in my home State of New Jersey.

With the new discount card, over 300,000 more seniors in my State alone will be able to receive immediate medicine assistance. Most of the beneficiaries will save an average of between 10 and 25 percent off the retail price of their prescription drugs while low-income seniors will receive an additional \$600 of Federal credit towards the purchase of their medicines.

With the passage of this new Medicare law last November, we ensured that New Jersey and other States were not penalized, especially for having a preexisting drug assistance program that, quite frankly, is one of the most comprehensive and generous in the country. As a result of our efforts, not only will seniors save on their prescription medicines as promised, but our State of New Jersey will save an estimated \$4 billion over the next 10 years.

### CONGRESS FAILS TO AGGRESSIVELY TAKE SERIOUS OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, recent revelations about the abuses in Iraq illustrate problems not just with United States policy but with how Congress deals with its responsibilities.

Yes, there are problems with the Department of Defense, starting with Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld who is either out of the loop, who either does not know or places a low priority on these problems, things known for months and issues lingering for over a year.

Yes, there are problems with contracting out to private companies functions, fundamental core government activities, at great cost without accountability. But we should be concerned that Congress fails to aggressively take seriously our oversight responsibilities instead waiting for a pending article in *The New Yorker* to cut loose an avalanche of other news accounts.

There are at least a half dozen committees in this House that could be taking action. The American public, the Iraqi people, and our men and women in uniform deserve better.

### TREATMENT OF IRAQI PRISONERS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, as a military veteran, I was saddened and outraged to hear the stories this past week of physical and psychological abuse of Iraqi prisoners at the hands of U.S. soldiers.

This outrageous behavior goes against everything America stands for. It is a serious breach of military discipline. It is a disgusting and a shameful violation of human rights. It is un-American, and it jeopardizes the future freedom in Iraq and the Middle East, and it is sad that the 99.9 percent of the U.S. military which has conducted themselves honorably will now be defamed because of the actions of a few.

In a war for hearts and minds, these actions do not help, and those responsible should be held accountable; but let us remember the terrorists we are fighting.

In Saudi Arabia this weekend, terrorist extremists murdered five Western oil workers, tied one body to a car and drove around with it like a hood ornament. One terrorist murdered a pregnant woman and her four daughters, and then put a bullet in her stomach to make sure the job was complete. We remember the scenes from Iraq of the bodies of aid workers drug through the streets recently.

I have no doubt the U.S. will exact justice on our soldiers. If we could only get the terrorist extremists and their leaders to do the same.

### HONORING ENRIQUE, JESUS, AND JULIO ZAPATA

(Mr. GRIJALVA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Enrique, Jesus and Julio Zapata, and in particular, their honorable service in the Vietnam War. I am proud to say these three brothers, who gave so much to our country, were born and raised in my district in the city of Nogales, Arizona.

During the Vietnam era, Enrique, Jesus and Julio made the courageous decision to enlist in the United States military.

Jesus Zapata served his tour of duty in Vietnam from June 4, 1965, to July 4, 1966. Enrique Zapata served two 6-month tours of duty in Vietnam with the United States Navy, enlisting July 20, 1964. Julio Zapata served in Vietnam from April 30, 1967, to April 30, 1968.

Our country owes a debt of gratitude to these fine citizens and the countless Vietnam veterans who have not been accorded the full respect and appreciation they deserve from our country. As I speak today, they sit in the gallery of the House of Representatives. I hope those of my colleagues who meet them will thank them and extend their appreciation from all of us for the service they gave this country.

On Cinco de Mayo, when we celebrate and acknowledge our diversity, let us

also acknowledge the shared sacrifice that all Americans have made for this country.

### LIMITING FLOW OF LEGAL IMMIGRATION

(Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, while I believe that illegal immigration must be stopped, there is nothing wrong with allowing a moderate level of legal immigration. Immigrants have contributed greatly over the years to our Nation and our economy, and society should accommodate several hundred thousand new legal immigrants annually.

However, we can never realistically accept but a tiny fraction of the tens of millions who would love to migrate here each year, and we can no longer allow a million new legal immigrants to come and work here.

For starters, I believe that we need to reduce legal admission numbers by ending the visa lottery and the so-called extended family categories that fuel foreign worker inflow by chain immigration. A positive first step at reforming our outdated immigration laws would be to pass H.R. 775, the Goodlatte bill that repeals the visa lottery.

As a cosponsor of that bill, I urge the House of Representatives leadership and Committee on the Judiciary to act to bring the bill before the full House for action and to advance other legislation to cut down legal foreign worker inflows to more moderate levels.

### MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISCOUNT CARDS

(Ms. BERKLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, when Congress passed the Medicare prescription drug bill, seniors expected real prescription drug coverage. Instead, seniors are receiving a sham discount card that guarantees no savings and will not lower drug costs.

Many seniors already use a drug discount card available at their pharmacies which provides savings up to 25 percent. Seniors are able to use as many cards as they need.

The Medicare discount card will limit the options available to our seniors. Seniors will be allowed only one card, and drug prices can vary week to week. In fact, drug companies are already starting to increase drug prices so they will not lose any money.

Democrats are committed to not only fighting for a prescription drug benefit for our seniors but for lower drug prices and giving seniors real choices.

The administration's drug benefit will mask inflated prices and give huge