

REINTRODUCTION OF SAMPLING  
LEGISLATION

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2005*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce legislation that will ensure that future censuses truly reflect the demographic make-up of this Nation. This bill would clarify Section 195 of Title 13 U.S.C. to allow the most accurate numbers to be used for apportionment and all other purposes.

CONGRATULATING THE 2004 FLORIDA  
HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION CLASS 5A STATE  
FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

**HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2005*

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the 2004 Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSA) Class 5A State Football Champion Lakeland Senior High School Dreadnaughts from the 12th Congressional District of Florida.

The championship game victory capped an undefeated season for the Lakeland High Dreadnaughts as they finished 15–0 for the third time in the past nine seasons and won their fourth state championship under Coach Bill Castle.

I commend the champion Lakeland High School football team for a wonderful and magical run this year. The people of Florida and all of Polk County are proud of you. You have all demonstrated that hard work, perseverance and unity are the foundation of success.

I applaud Lakeland Head Coach Bill Castle for being awarded this year's Dairy Farmers Award as coach of the year of the Florida Athletic Coaches Association, but most importantly for his commitment to his players and stressing the important values of preparation, hard work, dedication, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

I pay tribute to Lakeland High School students, teachers, coaches and the entire football team on their outstanding achievement.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE SERVICE OF  
TED STRICKLAND

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2005*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a significant leader in the Denver, Colorado metropolitan area. Mr. Ted Strickland, outgoing Commissioner for Adams County, will be leaving his post after eight years of diligent service.

Commissioner Strickland was born and raised in Austin, Texas. After serving in the military he came to Colorado and began a successful career in the oil and gas industry, becoming Vice President with the Petroleum Information company.

Drawn towards public service, Ted ran for election to the Colorado House of Representatives. He served two years in the House before being elected to the Colorado State Senate. His 24 years in the Senate, 12 of which he served as President of the Senate, were a notable accomplishment.

During that time, he and his wife, Luann, settled in Strasburg, Colorado, on the southern edge of Adams County. Ted's continued desire for public service then led him to seek and win election as an Adams County Commissioner in 1996. As a county commissioner, he continued his hard work for those he represented. He served on the E-470 Public Highway Authority Board, the Front Range Airport Authority Board, the Adams County Economic Development Board, the Adams County Water Quality Association, and on the Denver Regional Council of Governments. With such a wide scope of reach, Commissioner Strickland has left a mark as a valuable public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Ted Strickland and in wishing him success in all his future endeavors. Wherever his motivations should take him, I am sure success will follow.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN PATRICK  
MAHER UPON HIS ACHIEVEMENT OF EAGLE SCOUT COURT  
OF HONOR

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2005*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituent John Patrick Maher of Eagle Scout troop No. 204 in Lafayette, California, as he receives the distinguished honor of the Eagle Scout rank.

The honor of Eagle Scout is given only to those young men who have demonstrated that they have fulfilled its rigorous requirements, including living by the Scout Oath and Law, rising through the Boy Scout ranks, earning 21 merit badges, serving as a leader, and planning and leading a service project for their community. This is not an honor given out lightly: this young man is becoming an Eagle Scout because he is intelligent, dedicated, and principled.

I am proud to call John Patrick Maher my constituent, for he is a shining example of the promise of the next generation. Indeed, he represents the best of the young people in our country. I extend my sincere congratulations to him and his family, on this momentous occasion.

THE POEM, YOUR SON

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2005*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, we are all deeply saddened by the loss of life of our brave men and women serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. While we all understand the need to spread freedom and democracy throughout the world, words can barely express the emo-

tions and sorrow felt by the families of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice.

A constituent of mine recently brought to my attention a poem that was written in memory of Sgt. Byron Norwood, USMC, by Gene E. Blanton. While this poem is in memory of Sgt. Norwood, I believe that this poem is a fitting tribute to all servicemen and women who have fallen in combat. I would like to share this poem with my fellow colleagues:

YOUR SON

(By Gene E. Blanton)

To the Mothers and the Fathers  
Of United States Marines  
Who have fought and bled and died  
So that freedom's bell still rings  
From the Halls of Montezuma  
To the shores of Tripoli  
From the alleys of Fallujah  
To the frozen Yudam-ni  
From the sands of Iwo Jima  
To the hills around Khe Sanh  
From the smoky hell of Belleau Woods  
Your Son fought and won  
Your Son battled dictatorships  
Communism and tyranny  
God's Son died to make men holy  
Your Son died to make men free  
There is a debt we owe Your Son  
That we can never repay  
We owe Your Son more than platitudes  
Heard on Veterans or Memorial Day  
Your Son is a son of America  
One of the Proud and the Few  
Your Son volunteered to do the things  
Other men would not or could not do  
Your Son was Semper Fidelis  
Always Faithful to the end was he  
Your Son was a shining example  
Of what a man is supposed to be  
Now Your Son's been reassigned  
To stand guard on Heaven's streets  
And when my tour of duty is over  
I know that we will meet  
I'll thank Your Son for my freedom  
For keeping terror on a distant shore  
I'll thank Your Son for our way of life  
And sacrifice he bore  
So tonight when you cry out to God  
While praying on your knees  
Know that He's a loving God  
Who will listen to your pleas  
To lose Your Son for freedom's cause  
God truly understands  
God sent His Son to die for us  
So you can see Your Son again

May God continue to bless our soldiers who are currently in harm's way.

FREEDOM FOR ARTURO PÉREZ DE  
ALEJO RODRÍGUEZ

**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2005*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Arturo Pérez de Alejo Rodríguez, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Pérez de Alejo is the president of the Escambray Human Rights Front. Before he became a pro-freedom advocate in a country oppressed by a totalitarian tyrant, he work as a farmer. However, after he realized the true nature of Castro's despotic regime, he joined the pro-democracy movement and began to advocate for a free and democratic Cuba.

According to Amnesty International, Mr. Pérez de Alejo was detained in 2003 for handing out copies of the U.N. Declaration of Human Rights. Despite being detained, and knowing full well the brutal consequences that await those brave men and women that speak the truth under the nightmare that is the Castro regime, he continued to advocate for human rights for the people of Cuba.

Unfortunately, Mr. Pérez de Alejo was arrested on March 18, 2003, as part of Castro's heinous island wide crackdown on peaceful, pro-democracy activists. In a sham trial, he was sentenced to 20 years in the totalitarian gulag.

While confined in the inhuman squalor of the gulag, Amnesty International reports that Mr. Pérez de Alejo has not been able either to receive or to send correspondence in the same way as other prisoners. It has also been reported that he is suffering from several debilitating diseases in the totalitarian gulag. Let us be very clear, he is languishing in a hellish dungeon, unable to communicate with the outside world, because he peacefully advocates for liberty.

Mr. Speaker, it is unconscionable that, in the 21st century, brave men and women are chained to filth because of their belief in the inalienable nature of freedom, and the sanctity of human rights for every person. My colleagues, tonight the democratically elected leader of the United States of America will deliver the State of the Union address to a joint session of our freely elected Congress. As we listen to President Bush address our free Nation, let us also remember those who are suffering to secure their own liberties, in their own countries. We must demand the immediate release of Arturo Pérez de Alejo Rodríguez and every political prisoner locked in the dungeons of tyrants.

#### RIGHT TO LIFE ACT

### HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2005*

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation that, if passed, will once and for all protect our unborn children from harm. Over 1.3 million abortions are performed in the United States each year and over 38 million have been performed since abortion was legalized in 1973. This is a national tragedy. It is the duty of all Americans to protect our children—born and unborn. This bill, the Right to Life Act, would provide blanket protection to all unborn children from the moment of conception.

In 1973, the United States Supreme Court, in the landmark case of *Roe v. Wade*, refused to determine when human life begins and therefore found nothing to indicate that the unborn are persons protected by the Fourteenth Amendment. In the decision, however, the Court did concede that, "If the suggestion of personhood is established, the appellants" case, of course, collapses, for the fetus' right to life would be guaranteed specifically by the Amendment." Considering Congress has the constitutional authority to uphold the Fourteenth Amendment, coupled by the fact that the Court admitted that if personhood were to be established, the unborn would be pro-

ted, it can be concluded that we have the authority to determine when life begins.

The Right to Life Act does what the Supreme Court refused to do in *Roe v. Wade* and recognizes the personhood of the unborn for the purpose of enforcing four important provisions in the Constitution: (1) Sec. 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment prohibiting states from depriving any person of life; (2) Sec. 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment providing Congress the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provision of this amendment; (3) the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment, which concurrently prohibits the Federal Government from depriving any person of life; and (4) Article I, Section 8, giving Congress the power to make laws necessary and proper to enforce all powers in the Constitution.

This legislation will protect millions of future children by prohibiting any State or Federal law that denies the personhood of the unborn, thereby effectively overturning *Roe v. Wade*. I firmly believe that life begins at conception and that the preborn child deserves all the rights and protections afforded an American citizen. This measure will recognize the unborn child as a human being and protect the fetus from harm. The Right to Life Act will finally put our unborn children on the same legal footing as all other persons. I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this important effort.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY ACT

### HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2005*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Prescription Drug Affordability Act. This legislation ensures that millions of Americans, including seniors, have access to affordable pharmaceutical products. My bill makes pharmaceuticals more affordable to seniors by reducing their taxes. It also removes needless government barriers to importing pharmaceuticals and it protects Internet pharmacies, which are making affordable prescription drugs available to millions of Americans, from being strangled by Federal regulation.

The first provision of my legislation provides seniors a tax credit equal to 80 percent of their prescription drug costs. While Congress did add a prescription drug benefit to Medicare in the last Congress, many seniors still have difficulty affording the prescription drugs they need in order to maintain an active and healthy lifestyle. One reason is because the new program creates a "doughnut hole," where seniors lose coverage once their prescription expenses reach a certain amount and must pay for their prescriptions above a certain amount out of their own pockets until their expenses reach a level where Medicare coverage resumes. This tax credit will help seniors cover the expenses provided by the doughnut hole. This bill will also help seniors obtain prescription medicines that may not be covered by the new Medicare prescription drug program.

In addition to making prescription medications more affordable for seniors, my bill lowers the price for prescription medicines by reducing barriers to the importation of FDA-ap-

proved pharmaceuticals. Under my bill, anyone wishing to import a drug simply submits an application to the FDA, which then must approve the drug unless the FDA finds the drug is either not approved for use in the United States or is adulterated or misbranded. This process will make safe and affordable imported medicines affordable to millions of Americans. Mr. Speaker, letting the free market work is the best means of lowering the cost of prescription drugs.

I need not remind my colleagues that many senior citizens and other Americans impacted by the high costs of prescription medicine have demanded Congress reduce the barriers which prevent American consumers from purchasing imported pharmaceuticals. Congress has responded to these demands by repeatedly passing legislation liberalizing the rules governing the importation of pharmaceuticals. However, implementation of this provision has been blocked by the Federal bureaucracy. It is time Congress stood up for the American consumer and removed all unnecessary regulations on importing pharmaceuticals.

The Prescription Drug Affordability Act also protects consumers' access to affordable medicine by forbidding the Federal Government from regulating any Internet sales of FDA-approved pharmaceuticals by State-licensed pharmacists.

As I am sure my colleagues are aware, the Internet makes pharmaceuticals and other products more affordable and accessible for millions of Americans. However, the Federal Government has threatened to destroy this option by imposing unnecessary and unconstitutional regulations on web sites that sell pharmaceuticals. Any Federal regulations would inevitably drive up prices of pharmaceuticals, thus depriving many consumers of access to affordable prescription medications.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to make pharmaceuticals more affordable and accessible by lowering taxes on senior citizens, removing barriers to the importation of pharmaceuticals and protecting legitimate Internet pharmacies from needless regulation by cosponsoring the Prescription Drug Affordability Act.

#### RECOGNIZING THE FAIRFAX COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ADULT DAY HEALTH CARE PROGRAM UPON ITS 25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

### HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 2, 2005*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Fairfax County Health Department Adult Day Health Care Program as it prepares to celebrate its 25th anniversary.

The Fairfax County Adult Day Health Care centers provide a safe, fun and therapeutic environment for the frail, the elderly and adults who need supervision during the day due to cognitive and/or physical impairments. Each center has a registered nurse who monitors the health status of each participant; a therapeutic recreation specialist who designs daily activities to enhance cognitive and physical function and to offer opportunities for socialization; and several program assistants who