Our goal in the area of science and technology is to improve the level and quality of technical assistance provided to the Caribbean region, to support improvements in the access to and use of science and technology across all sectors, and to increase the access of disadvantaged communities in the Caribbean to information technology. Our current focus is on the support of Computer centers in disadvantaged centers in the Caribbean and the development of exchange and linkages programs to support science education in the Caribbean such as support for the establishment of children’s science centers.

Our goals in education and health include increasing the access to technology to the Caribbean region; ensuring Caribbean Americans equity in health care; and supporting the provision of increased educational opportunities to disadvantaged populations in the Caribbean. This includes assisting in the establishment of linkage programs between historically Black colleges and universities.

Our goal in sociology and culture include: assisting the Caribbean-American community to participate in U.S. democratic processes; promoting the conservation and development of Caribbean arts and culture; and promoting an understanding of Caribbean culture in the U.S. Our current focus is on the establishment of June as Caribbean Heritage Month in the Washington, DC metropolitan region and the production of the DC Caribbean Film Festival.

THE CONVICTION OF EDGAR RAY KILLEN ON JUNE 21, 2005, IN NESHOSA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

HON. JOHN LEWIS
OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2005
Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is so strange. It is so ironic. It is almost eerie that Edgar Ray Killen was convicted today exactly 41 years to the day that James Chaney, Mickey Schwerner, and Andy Goodman were found missing in Philadelphia, Mississippi. I knew these three young men, these brave and courageous young men who died in the struggle for civil rights in America that is littered by the battered and broken bodies of countless men and women who paid the ultimate price for a precarious right—the right to vote. We must not take that right for granted. We have a mandate from the men who gave everything for their lives for our freedom in the red clay of Mississippi. We must continue the struggle for justice in America and around the world.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDIKIDS HEALTH INSURANCE ACT OF 2005

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2005
Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I join my colleagues in the House today to introduce the MediKids Health Insurance Act of 2005. This bill is also being introduced in the Senate by my good friend, Jay Rockefeller.

Mr. Speaker, this year we are honoring the 40th anniversary of Medicare, our nation’s health insurance program for the elderly and people with disabilities. At the time we created Medicare, our nation’s seniors were more likely to be living in poverty than any other age group. Most were unable to afford needed medical services and unable to find health insurance in the market even if they could afford it. Today, as a result of Medicare’s success, seniors are much less likely to be shackled by the bonds of poverty.

Now it is our nation’s children who are most likely to be poor. Kids in America are nearly twice as vulnerable to poverty as adults. This travesty is not only morally reprehensible, it also denotes grave consequences for the future of our country. Poor children are often malnourished and have difficulty succeeding in school. Untreated illnesses only worsen the chance for success. The future of our country rests in our ability to provide our children with the basic conditions to thrive and become healthy, educated, and productive adults.

Guaranteeing continuous health coverage is a critical component of realizing this potential.

The MediKids Health Insurance Act of 2005 assures that every child in the United States has health insurance by 2012. Modeled after Medicare—well, of course, Medicare—MediKids is the ultimate safety net, with maximum simplicity, stability, and flexibility for families. Parents may choose to enroll their children in private plans or government programs such as Medicaid or SCHIP. However, if a lapse in other insurance coverage occurs, MediKids automatically kicks in.

MediKids is the ultimate safety net, with maximum simplicity, stability, and flexibility for families. Parents may choose to enroll their children in private plans or government programs such as Medicaid or SCHIP. However, if a lapse in other insurance coverage occurs, MediKids automatically kicks in. MediKids covers the child until the age of 23. At that age, the MediKids program ends. The MediKids program ends at age 23. At that age, the MediKids program ends. The MediKids program ends at age 23.

ENROLLMENT AND ELIGIBILITY