

for those diagnosed with this life-threatening disease. We need to improve state-by-state tracking of trends, incidences and prevalence of chronic Hepatitis B.

I urge all my colleagues to come together to prioritize this public health issue and support H.R. 4550.

RECOGNIZING GRANDPARENT-
HEADED AND OTHER RELATIVE-
HEADED HOUSEHOLDS

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, there are more than six million grandparent-headed and other relative-headed households in the United States. In my home state of New York, 9 percent of the children live with non-parent relatives. These relatives have opened their hearts and homes to children who can no longer, for a variety of reasons, live with their parents. During this holiday season, I would like to recognize these relatives for providing safety, shelter, food, and love. Their kindness and generosity is acknowledge. I extend my most sincere appreciation for the selflessness these families demonstrate and note that their selflessness provides a benefit not only to the children under their care but also to the community at large.

HONORING CAREY HOBBS

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the outstanding achievements of Mr. Carey Hobbs. I have had the pleasure of knowing Carey Hobbs for more than 20 years. He is a man who loves his country and cares deeply about his community. He is selfless and unassuming. He is a dedicated family man and a devoted Christian, and I am very proud to call him my friend.

Following his graduation from high school in Abilene, Texas, Carey Hobbs began his life-long association with Texas Tech University as an undergraduate student. After earning his degree, Carey Hobbs joined the military in 1958 and received a commission in the United States Marine Corps. During his five years of active duty, he flew jet fighters and also served as a test pilot.

Over the course of his professional career, Carey Hobbs has become a successful small business owner and a leader in the textile industry. He is a true entrepreneur, who has helped drive innovation and job creation. Since 1972, he has been the President and CEO of Hobbs Bonded Fibers in Waco, Texas. He holds several patents and has served on board of directors for both the National Association of Nonwoven Fabrics Industry and the National Cotton Bating Institute. For eight years, he was a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce Industry Sector Advisory Committee for Trade Policy Matters for Textiles and Apparel. In 1988, Carey Hobbs

was named Small Business Person of the Year for the Dallas District.

Through the years, Carey Hobbs has remained a steadfast supporter of his alma mater, Texas Tech University, and higher education in Texas. He has served on the Texas Tech Board of regents and was President of the Texas Tech Alumni Association National Board of Directors. He has also dedicated his time to enriching higher education through his service on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and as a participant in Texas A&M University's Visiting Executive Program.

Carey Hobbs is an important and positive role for the youth of Texas. He is an active member of the Stonegate Community Church in Waco. He serves on the board of World Hunger Relief and the International Medical Education Foundation, which is working to build a hospital in the Ukraine. Carey Hobbs is also a devoted family man. He and his wife Brenda have five children: Larry, Terri, Angela, Andy and Cindy.

As the Congressman for the Fifth District of Texas and a longtime friend of Carey Hobbs, it is my honor to recognize him for his outstanding achievements in business and in life. Carey Hobbs has truly made his community and his country a better place.

TRIBUTE TO TEXAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of the Texas State University Football Team that made it all the way to the semi-finals of the Division 1-AA playoffs.

Mr. Speaker, Texas State University, which is located in San Marcos, Texas, represented their school with tremendous pride and ability. The Bobcats finished the season with an 11-3 record and a Southland Conference championship, their first conference championship since 1983.

In only his second year, Head Coach David Bailiff and staff have taken the Bobcats from a good record in 2004 to a great one in 2005. Coach Bailiff and his staff will attempt to bring the national championship to San Marcos next year, a title that would be a restoration of the powerful tradition of Division II national championships in prior years.

Texas State football players have made their school proud off the field as well. Several players have spent time in area San Marcos elementary schools mentoring the children in the community. The team was also honored to have six student-athletes named to the conference's All-Academic team, a testament to the dedication the coaches and players have to achieve in the classroom as well.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to celebrate Texas State's outstanding football season and I thank you for this time.

IN RECOGNITION OF BARBARA
CONACCHIO

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Barbara Conacchio, who will be honored by the Queens Board of Elections on January 26, 2006 for her 25 years of dedicated service.

Barbara's career with the Queens Board of Elections began in January of 1981, when she was hired as a temporary employee. Less than a week later, realizing what a great asset Barbara was, the Board of Elections offered her a permanent position. Seven years later, in 1988, the Board once again recognized her outstanding work and promoted Barbara to Administrative Assistant, where she performed masterfully. In June of 1991, she was appointed as Chief Clerk of the Queens Board of Elections. Over the past fourteen years, Barbara has held this post with remarkable poise, leadership and distinction.

Despite her hectic career, Barbara has voluntarily served our community through a number of organizations. She is a Past-President of the Knights of Columbus—General Father Sherman Shine Columbiettes, a member of the Queens Historical Society, and Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Mitchell Gardens Co-op.

While Barbara has had a distinguished and praiseworthy career at the Board of Elections, and is celebrated as a community leader, her family—her husband of 30 years, Ronald, along with her two daughters, Amanda and Lisa, and two granddaughters, Brianna and Tiffani—remains the source of her greatest pride and inspiration.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great satisfaction that I rise to commend Barbara Conacchio. The accolades bestowed upon her for the 25 years of outstanding service she has given to the Queens Board of Elections are entirely deserved. I know all my colleagues in the House will join me in honoring Barbara for her outstanding work and wishing her many more years of success.

TRIBUTE TO DORENA KNEPPER

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and my California colleague Howard "Buck" McKeon to honor a talented individual, Dorena Knepper, on the occasion of her retirement as director of Government Affairs at California State University, Northridge. Due in no small part to Dorena's hard work, guidance and support, CSUN has become one of the largest and most prominent universities in the California State University system.

Just last year we congratulated Dorena upon the celebration of her 40 years of public service at CSUN. During her impressive tenure, Dorena has made an exceptional contribution both to the university and to the greater community. Working with her on Federal appropriations and other legislative