

worry that industry will thwart any attempt to set a real emissions cap. I also worry about the bureaucratic costs of effectively enforcing such a system. In contrast, a carbon tax is easy to administer and reduces CO₂ emissions by raising the price of fossil fuels, thereby reducing demand for those fuels. It's Economics 101, but unlike most school lectures, this econ lesson could save our planet.

Global climate change is too important for us to continue our inaction because of industry stakeholders or the worry over political consequences of raising taxes. A carbon tax is the best way to address the problem of global warming. I urge all my colleagues to do what's right for our country and the world by supporting the Save Our Climate Act.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE ANESTHESIOLOGY TEACHING FUNDING RESTORATION ACT OF 2007

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2007

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the bipartisan Medicare Anesthesiology Teaching Funding Restoration Act of 2007. This legislation is cosponsored by Representatives JIM RAMSTAD (R-MN), DARLENE HOOLEY (D-OR) and PETE SESSIONS (R-TX).

This bill would restore 100 percent payment of the Medicare physician fee schedule (PFS) for teaching anesthesiologists involved in training physician residents in two concurrent anesthesia cases. The American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) has endorsed this important legislation.

Paying teaching anesthesiologists 100 percent of the PFS for two concurrent anesthesia cases was the policy of Medicare until 1994. In that year, the Health Care Financing Agency (now called the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) issued a rule reducing the Medicare payment to teaching anesthesiologists involved in training physician residents in two concurrent anesthesia cases to 50 percent for the second case. This rule has reduced the financial viability of medical schools and hospitals which have teaching anesthesiology programs.

Since the 1994 rule change, 31 anesthesiology residency programs have closed. An ASA survey of anesthesiology residency programs found that the average program was losing \$400,000 per year partially as a result of the payment reduction. Some programs serving larger Medicare populations report losses in excess of \$1 million per year. The UCLA program reported annual losses in excess of \$600,000.

Many programs receive subsidies from their medical schools or universities to offset these losses. However, some programs are experiencing additional losses as local commercial health care providers, including United and Blue Cross/Blue Shield in selected areas, drop full payments for overlapping cases and adopt the Medicare 50 percent policy for their commercial beneficiaries.

By passing this legislation, Congress would increase the flow of Medicare funds into these important teaching programs while also pro-

viding the programs an opportunity to dispute pay reductions by health care commercial providers. By increasing access to well-trained anesthesiologists, the ultimate result will be healthier patients.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and ensure that Americans have access to the highest quality anesthesiology services.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT BRANDON GREENWAY AND COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR DOUGLAS GREENWAY

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2007

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two Americans who achieved greatness in April 2007 at Fort Benning, Georgia. SSG Brandon Greenway and his father, CSM Douglas Greenway, became the first father-son team to compete in the U.S. Army David E. Grange Best Ranger Competition.

The U.S. Army David E. Grange Best Ranger Competition started in 1981 to determine the best two-man Ranger team in the country. The strenuous 3-day competition is designed to test the teams' physical, mental, and technical abilities as Rangers with less than 50 percent of the teams completing the competition. Every year, the event brings a great spotlight to Fort Benning, as the best and brightest Rangers in the U.S. Army display their incredible capabilities.

This event is designed to challenge the most tactically skilled and athletically gifted members of the U.S. Army. This is why so many took note when CSM Douglas Greenway entered this year's competition with his 23 year old son, SSG Brandon Greenway. At 47 years old, Sergeant Major Greenway was also the oldest Soldier ever to enter the competition. This father-son team met the challenges of this grueling competition and finished in the top half of the field.

This competition is a great way to cap the career of CSM Douglas Greenway, who is retiring in May 2007 after a distinguished 28-year Army career. Fort Benning will miss Command Sergeant Major Greenway, and I commend him as well as his spouse and family for their service to the country. For this reason, and for becoming the first father-son team to compete in the U.S. Army Best Ranger Competition, I am pleased to honor the Greenways in the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING LENAPE MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lenape Middle School of Doylestown, Pennsylvania. This school has consistently stretched beyond its own expectations, and was recently distinguished as a Don Eichhorn School to Watch.

This honor is bestowed upon Lenape by a coalition comprised of the Pennsylvania Middle School Association, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Lehigh University, Gettysburg College, and Duquesne University. It is one of only three Pennsylvania schools credited with this achievement, and should serve as inspiration for other schools around the country. It is through the dedicated efforts of teachers, administrators and students that America will keep its place at the pinnacle of success in education.

Lenape Middle School is a prime example of the success for which we strive each and every day. Through hard work, Lenape reaches new heights every school year. It meets and exceeds expectations, and celebrates learning.

Beyond academics, however, Lenape creates a flexible learning environment conducive to the struggles and pressures of early adolescence. Students are provided with the best teachers and resources available, and have the opportunity to excel in the areas they most enjoy. The performance of Lenape Middle School has once again raised the bar throughout the country, and they are to be applauded for their accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, strong public education sets the United States apart from the rest of the world. Lenape has been recognized as a Don Eichhorn School to Watch because it is a leader in public education; it is blazing a new trail in middle school education that other schools will do well to follow.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRIESTHOOD OF BISHOP JOSEPH MADERA, M.S.P.S.

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2007

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the service and devotion Bishop Joseph J. Madera has bestowed to the community on the event of his 50th anniversary of priesthood.

Bishop Madera was born in San Francisco on November 27, 1927. He was raised in Mexico and received his priesthood at the Holy Spirit Missionaries House of Studies in Coyoacan, Mexico City, on June 15, 1957. Upon his ordination, Madera assisted in the minor seminary of the Holy Spirit Missionaries. After his work at the seminary, he was assigned to parish work in Mexico and soon after he was sent to the United States to serve in California.

His service in the Diocese of Fresno has made Bishop Madera a legacy in the community. On March 4, 1980, Bishop Hugh Donohue retired and Madera, who was serving as an appointed coadjutor bishop, was consecrated a bishop and was named Bishop of Fresno. During his tenure with the Diocese of Fresno, Bishop Madera founded the KNXT television station. He had his Sunday Mass in English, which was broadcast throughout the entire country and to Latin America.

Bishop Madera has an extensive résumé, having served in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, the Diocese of Fresno serving the communities of Fowler and Del Rey, Our Lady of