

Care for Our Wounded Warriors Act of 2007. This important legislation will address the significant mental health care issues faced by our brave service men and women.

According to recent reports from the Government Accountability Office, 22 percent of returning OEF/OIF service members were referred for further mental health evaluations for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and an estimated one in six service members will receive a diagnosis of PTSD.

As a member of the Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee, I have been working hard to understand how mental health issues, especially PTSD, are affecting our service men and women. We know that PTSD and TBI are the signature injuries of this war.

Unfortunately, the DoD has neither the facilities nor the personnel to meet the needs of returning service members with mental health care diagnoses. We have no research clearinghouse to study and facilitate mental health services and develop effective mental health care policies.

The Mental Health for Our Wounded Warriors Act, a companion to legislation introduced by Senator LIEBERMAN, will establish Centers of Excellence within the DoD to research strategies to prevent, identify and treat combat related mental health injuries.

Equally as important, each center will seek to develop strategies to counter the stigma that surrounds PTSD and mental health in general in the military.

The bill will also include language on treating mental health professionals who are exposed to combat related stress, as well as study the unique needs of female service members serving in combat situations.

The military needs help dealing with this very complex issue. We cannot expect our service members to go out and do the job they do without providing adequate mental health services we know they will need.

The battle against combat-related mental health injuries will be an ongoing issue. It is our obligation to provide the resources necessary to address the absence of a designated center to study the mental health care needs of service members and to provide a solution to the shortage of DoD mental health professionals.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM KLING, SR.

**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2007*

Mr. CRAMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and celebrate the life of Huntsville businessman, Mr. William Kling, Sr.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Kling and his wife Margaret Anne "Peggy" Rothschild moved to Huntsville in 1950 and formed the Valley Pride Packing Company. Prior to his retirement in 1966, Mr. Kling served as president of the Alabama Meat Packers Association and as a member of the board of directors for the Alabama Cattlemen's Association and the American Meat Institute.

In addition to his leadership in state and local business communities, Mr. Kling shared his kindness and vision to help nurture the cultural development of our region. After his retirement, Mr. Kling became the first individual

to serve 3 consecutive years as president of the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors. Under his leadership, the Von Braun Center, a world-class concert hall and entertainment center, was constructed. For more than 25 years, the Von Braun Center has hosted numerous internationally acclaimed musical performances and events.

Mr. Kling also served as a member of the first Huntsville-Madison County Airport Authority. During his time with the authority, he played an influential role in the establishment of the Huntsville International Airport. This airport has since become an economic engine for north Alabama and it continues to support our region's remarkable growth.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Kling passed away in November 2006. He was a successful businessman, humanitarian, and civic leader. His willingness to help others and dedication to his community is an inspiration for all in north Alabama and across the country to follow. I rise today to celebrate his life and honor his achievements, which continue to have a profound impact on north Alabama today.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2007*

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, on May 17 through May 22 I missed votes due to my being out of the country to conduct oversight of our operations in Iraq.

Had I been present for rollcall 378, the Bachus Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 379, the Hensarling Amendment No. 29 to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 380, the McHenry Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 381, the Kanjorski Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 382, the Roskam Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 383, the Garrett Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 384, H.R. 698, the Industrial Bank Holding Company Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 385, H.R. 1425, the Staff Sergeant Marvin Rex Young Post Office Building, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 386, the Feeny Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 387, the Price (GA) Amendment No. 8 to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 388, the Sessions Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal

Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 389, the Brady Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 390, the Price (GA) Amendment No. 9 to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 391, the Doolittle Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 392, the Hensarling Amendment No. 30 to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 393, the Neugebauer Amendment to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 394, the Neugebauer Amendment No. 4 to H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 395, on the Motion to Recommit H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 396, on final passage of H.R. 1427, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 397, S. 214, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 398, H.R. 2264, the No Oil Producing and Exporting Cartels Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 399, S. 1104, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 400, H.R. 2399, the Alien Smuggling and Terrorism Prevention Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 401, H.R. 1722, the Leonard W. Herman Post Office, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 402, a motion to table H. Res. 428, I would have voted "no."

IN HONOR OF BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2007*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the 25th anniversary of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County, founded in 1982. Big Brothers Big Sisters is the oldest and largest youth mentoring organization in the United States, and its Santa Cruz County chapter has served over 3,000 children in the last 25 years.

For more than a quarter century this organization has created and nurtured one-on-one mentoring relationships between children and carefully screened adult mentors. The shared experiences between a Big Brother or Big Sister and his or her Little Brother or Sister have a documented positive outcome in the child's life.

Research and anecdotal evidence show that Little Brothers and Sisters are less likely to do drugs, drink alcohol, skip school, or engage in