

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to explain my absence from votes cast on January 22, 2008. I was in Houston meeting with constituents at a town-hall meeting our office scheduled prior to knowing votes would take place last night.

On rollcall vote No. 19, to approve H.R. 4211, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall vote No. 20, to approve H. Res. 866, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

"ONE LESS ANGEL WILL CRY"

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I was recently visited in my office by one of my constituents from the second district of Tennessee, Julie Rich. Julie is one of six winners in a nationwide contest for the March for Life Education and Defense Fund of 2008. I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD her winning poem.

ONE LESS ANGEL WILL CRY

A guardian angel looks up from Earth
And prays each day to the Lord in the hope
That one particular baby will survive until
birth
The mother does not want it; she is scared
She has by now reached the end of her rope
O Lord! Please let the child be spared!
She throws up her hands and yells, "I'm
through!
I don't want to be in this position
I will abort. It's something I must do!"
The angel wept
What a horrid decision!
Up to heaven the angel and the baby's soul
leapt
The gates were wide open and the soul was
ushered in
And why not
For one whose lifespan was tremendously
thin?
The devastating thought of abortion should
be left far behind
It is like a blot
On all of mankind
"Build Unity on the Life Principles through-
out America.
No Exception! No Compromise!"
We must be strong with these words, Amer-
ica
Because millions upon millions have died
this way
Abortion has claimed too many lives
Babies perish like this every single day
What if it had been you? One of the ones
killed?
You would not know
Your body would have been chilled
Mothers please do not tell your infants good-
bye
Let the babies live, let them grow!
And one less angel will cry

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, because I was attending to important constituent matters in my congressional district involving the historic Nevada Presidential Caucus, I was unable to vote on rollcall Nos. 1 through 18. Had I been present, I would have voted "present" on rollcall No. 1; "yes" on rollcall Nos. 2-7, 11-12, and 17-18; and "no" on rollcall Nos. 8-10 and 13-16.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, on January 22, 2008, I failed to vote on rollcall Nos. 19 and 20 because my flight was unexpectedly delayed. Had I voted, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 19 and "yea" on rollcall No. 20.

RECOGNIZING TIBOTEC THERAPEUTICS FOR THEIR INNOVATION AND CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY IN DEVELOPING NEW TREATMENTS FOR AMERICANS WITH HIV/AIDS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Tibotec Therapeutics for their innovation and corporate responsibility in developing new, effective treatments for people living with HIV/AIDS. On Friday, January 18, 2008, the Food and Drug Administration approved Tibotec's second HIV drug, INTELENCE™, for the treatment of HIV infection.

We are all aware of the success HIV therapies have had on prolonging and enhancing the quality of life for those infected with HIV/AIDS. As the infected population lives longer and becomes increasingly resistant to current treatment regimens, there is a growing need to focus on access to newer therapies for treatment experienced. HIV drug manufacturers are being challenged to meet the treatment needs of this changing population.

Tibotec Therapeutics, an operating company of Johnson & Johnson, has a strong history of advancing the science of HIV treatment, and INTELENCE™ is another shining example of this cutting-edge research and development.

INTELENCE™, also known as TMC125, is the first new drug in the NNRTI class to be approved in a decade. It brings new hope to HIV patients whose HIV virus has become resistant to other HIV therapies, including drugs in the same NNRTI class.

I would also like to recognize Tibotec Therapeutics for their outstanding work with the HIV

patient and physician communities during the development and approval of both PREZITSA™ and INTELENCE™. Tibotec Therapeutics worked closely with leaders in the HIV community on the development of the pivotal clinical trials that led to FDA approval of this product. Notably, the FDA approved INTELENCE™ through an accelerated approval procedure—a process that is reserved for the early approval of drugs that show a meaningful therapeutic advantage over existing treatments for serious or life-threatening diseases.

In addition, Tibotec Therapeutics acted responsibly in pricing INTELENCE™, a fact recognized by many leaders in the HIV community. In fact, one leading HIV patient advocate stated, "With the introduction of INTELENCE, Tibotec Therapeutics has demonstrated exceptional leadership in working with the HIV community in an effort to address pricing and access issues. Tibotec has repeatedly recognized the necessity of responsibly pricing HIV products and should be commended for its leadership in this regard."

Once again, I commend Tibotec Therapeutics for its innovation and corporate responsibility. I applaud the fact that Americans living with HIV/AIDS will now have access to a new and important treatment option, affording them the possibility of living healthier and productive lives.

HONORING THE UNITED STATES
COAST GUARD

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 866, a resolution commending the dedicated men and women of the Coast Guard on their remarkable drug interdiction efforts, which have resulted in the record seizure of 355,755 pounds of cocaine, valued at more than \$4.7 billion.

Embodying its motto of Semper Paratus or "Always Ready", the Coast Guard has used improved information-sharing and intelligence to anticipate and combat smuggling, piracy and other threats before they reach America's shores. For example, in September, the Coast Guard stopped a vessel loaded with 3,600 gallons of cocaine dissolved in diesel fuel. This liquid cocaine could have been converted into 15,800 pounds of pure cocaine. Earlier last year, the Coast Guard made its largest maritime cocaine seizure when it intercepted a Panamanian vessel carrying approximately 20 tons of the drug.

Since the tragic events of 9/11, the Coast Guard's mission has taken on increased significance, as they have added critical homeland security responsibilities to their traditional missions. As chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security, I am well acquainted with the extraordinary job the Coast Guard does in fulfilling these missions on behalf of our Nation. H. Res. 866 affirms our appreciation for the valiant members of the United States Coast Guard, who risk their lives every day to rescue and protect the American people and preserve the Nation's security. I encourage my