

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING PAMELA BONNETT

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2008*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pamela Bonnett, who immigrated from British Guiana, South America to the United States in 1969 when there was an urgent need for Registered Professional Nurses. She graduated from St. Joseph's College with a bachelor of science in health administration and a masters degree in public health education from Hunter College, City University of New York.

Currently a patient service manager at the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, Inc., she is responsible for a team of registered professional nurses providing care to the chronically ill and the geriatric community. Prior to holding this position, Ms. Bonnett was an administrator/associate administrator with Nurse Referrals Inc., responsible for their license program, professional development, utilization and standards of care, to ensure agency compliance with the New York State Department of Health Regulations. She chaired the Quality Assurance Committee of Certified Home Health Care Agencies and other professional staff. Moreover she evaluated contract compliance and made recommendations to the NYC Health and Hospital Corporation and acted as a liaison and marketing agent between the Nurse Referrals Inc., and NYC Health and Hospital Certified Home Care Agencies.

Among other positions held were assistant director of nursing/director of in service education at the Woodland Rehabilitation Center, New Rochelle; executive director, Bushwick Stuyvesant Heights Home Attendant Agency; community health nurse, Beth Israel Hospital and; clinical manager of the Community Geriatric Clinic at the Brookdale Hospital Medical Center.

Pamela Bonnett is currently a member of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Member of the Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc., past member of the board of directors for the Boys and Girls of America, Hempstead Boys and Girls Club, and a past member of the community board of St. John's Episcopal Hospital in Brooklyn.

Madam Speaker, Pamela Bonnett epitomizes what is good about public health service and we should recognize her for being a role model to young boys and girls in the community. She is a person who is making a difference in people's lives.

HONORING KYLE E. BOWMAN

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle E. Bowman, a very

special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Kyle started his journey with the Boy Scouts seven years ago earning 28 merit badges. Over the years Kyle has been involved in scouting, he has held many leadership positions such as historian, librarian, patrol and assistant patrol leader. Kyle is an Ordeal in the Order of the Arrow and is a Foxman in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Kyle has attended H. Roe Bartle Reservation for three years and has also camped at Camp Nash on four separate occasions. For his Eagle Scout project, Kyle designed and constructed two horse mounting platforms for Heartland Presbyterian Center.

Madam Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not mention the strong family foundation Kyle has supporting him. His proud parents Mark and Britt Bowman, as well as his sister, Amanda.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle E. Bowman for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING DR. MARK KUSHNER

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 12, 2008*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Mark Kushner, a distinguished professor and Dean of the College of Engineering at Iowa State University on winning the Semiconductor Industry Association annual award for outstanding work and exemplary leadership by university researchers.

Dr. Kushner received his BA in Astronomy and BS in Engineering from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1976 and earned his MS and PhD in Applied Physics from the California Institute of Technology in 1977 and 1979. From 1986 to 2005, Dr. Kushner was the Founder Professor of Engineering in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In 2005, Dr. Kushner became the Dean of Engineering and the James Melsa Professor at Iowa State University with appointments in the departments of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering, and Chemical Engineering.

For 18 years, Dr. Kushner has worked with the Semiconductor Research Corporation, and his work is widely recognized as the "Gold Standard" for the semiconductor industry. He has published more than 210 journal articles and delivered more than 170 invited symposia presentations on topics related to plasma and thermal materials processing, gas and solid state lasers, pulse power plasmas, chemical

lasers, and laser spectroscopy. Dr. Kushner has also trained dozens of Ph.D.s who continue to drive innovation and progress in microelectronics.

Dr. Kushner's efforts in research and training play a crucial role in expanding horizons in semiconductors and the field of engineering for the benefit of society. I consider it an honor to represent Dr. Kushner in Congress, and I wish him continued success in his groundbreaking efforts in the semiconductor industry and his academic work in the field of engineering.

PAUL WELLSTONE MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION EQUITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 5, 2008*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I would ask that the following letters of support for H.R. 1424, the Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act of 2008, be submitted for the record on the floor debate on this bill.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM DIRECTORS,  
*Alexandria, VA, February 29, 2008.*

Hon. PATRICK J. KENNEDY,

Hon. JIM RAMSTAD,  
*House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES KENNEDY AND RAMSTAD: On behalf of the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD). I am writing to offer our strong support for H.R. 1424, the Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act of 2007. NASMHPD represents state and territorial mental health commissioners/directors and their agencies that provide public mental health services to over 6 million people annually. Our members manage community-based systems of care as well as inpatient care in state psychiatric hospitals for individuals with serious mental illness.

It has been over ten years since the Congress passed the Mental Health Parity Act, which prohibited annual and lifetime dollar limits for mental health care. This small but symbolically important first step left much work to be done; it is now the time to fill remaining gaps by prohibiting treatment limitations and eliminating inequitable financial requirements. An ever-growing body of research, advanced especially during and since the 1990-2000 Decade of the Brain, demonstrates that mental and behavioral disorders are brain disorders and benefit in the same way as other physical disorders from advances in science. Scientific knowledge of mental illness has removed all justification for the wide-spread difference in insurance coverage for mental health benefits.

An October 2006 NASMHPD study describes an alarming finding that people with mental illness experience twenty-five years of lost life. This is an unconscionable situation that demands immediate action, for all adults and children with mental illness who now

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