

October 1, 1999

1% of all hospitals, train nearly 30% of all pediatricians and nearly half of all pediatric specialists. The passage of H.R. 1579 would allow for freestanding children's hospitals to receive an immediate source of financial assistance through a capped, time-limited appropriation that would provide GME payments to children's hospitals. The measure would authorize a \$280 million grant in FY2000 and \$285 million in FY2001. The passage of this bill would help sustain the vital role played by our Nation's freestanding children's teaching hospitals and would make payments to children's hospitals commensurate with those provided to other teaching facilities.

Without a consistent source of financial support, children's hospitals cannot fulfill their mission—providing clinical care for the sickest and poorest children, training the next generation of care givers for children, and investing in research to improve children's health care. If we really care about our children's future, we must ensure that they have access to the best medical care in the world. With this in mind, I urge each of my colleagues to give this amendment their strongest support.

UNCOMMON COURAGE FIGHTING
OUR FIGHT

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 1, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, eighteen months ago a courageous and fearless Colombian National Police (CNP) anti-narcotics operations Captain stayed overnight in the Colombian jungle to protect a downed excess-Vietnam-era, single engine Huey helicopter from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) narco-terrorists in that troubled nation. Taken captive and dragged through Colombian jungles for more than 18 months, this courageous police captain was fighting America's fight against illicit drugs upfront and personal.

CNP Captain Wilson Quintero broke loose from his FARC captors this month after killing several of them during his escape. He stayed on the run through the tough jungles of Colombia for more than 12 days, where he was killed fighting his narco-guerrillas captors after being shot 35 times. Two other CNP anti-drug officers, without weapons, were also found executed by the guerrillas near Quintero's body.

The Colombian National Police used every aerial asset in its aged and ill-equipped helicopter fleet to try to save its courageous comrade. Captain Quintero leaves a wife and son to whom we extend our deepest sympathies. May Captain Quintero and all those CNP officers who have died fighting illicit drugs rest in peace and remind us of their courageous service in their and our drug war.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

**NATIONAL REFLEX SYMPATHETIC
DYSTROPHY AWARENESS**

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 1, 1999

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the promise of medical research. With the advancements in medical research being announced every day, the possibilities for improving the length and quality of life for all Americans appear impressive and unprecedented. We can maintain hope, buoyed by good science, that improved treatments and cures can be found for cancer, diabetes, AIDS, arthritis, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and spinal cord injuries to name a few. However, to take full advantage of this possibility we must increase our funding for the National Institutes of Health and all federally funded medical research.

I could marvel you with the achievements in medical research that I have seen in the last year through my role as a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education. However, I would instead like to focus on those individuals that experience pain in their daily lives. The National Arthritis Foundation tells me that nearly one in six Americans will suffer from some form of arthritis and according to the American Chronic Pain Association, pain is part of the daily lives of one in three Americans.

I am blessed to know a wonderful lady in San Marcos, California, Alfie Burns. Alfie is President of the Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome Association of California, serves as an Appeals Board Member on the California Department of Rehabilitation, is involved in her community and still has time to raise a family.

It is for people like Alfie that I have recognized the month of October as Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Awareness Month in the 51st District of California. I encourage my colleagues to join me in promoting unity in the chronic pain community to provide sound public education, cohesive medical information and bring compassion for those who experience chronic pain. I wish for all Americans to live self-supporting and fulfilling lives free from the ravage of pain.

**IN HONOR OF NATIONAL REFLEX SYMPATHETIC
DYSTROPHY AWARENESS MONTH, OCTOBER 1999**

Whereas, Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD) is a complex and extremely painful neurogenic medical condition that afflicts millions of Americans annually. RSD is a multiple symptom condition which may simultaneously affect nerves, muscles, bones, skin, and the circulatory system; and

Whereas, Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD) was officially assigned an International Category of Diseases Code Number, ICD-9337.2, in October 1993, allowing accurate statistics on this condition to be collected. According to a recent survey by the National RSD Hope Group, 65% of RSD sufferers contract the disease in their thirties or forties and three out of every four RSD patients are women; and

Whereas, Alfie C. Burns founded the Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome Association of California in 1992. The mission of the not for profit organization is to promote edu-

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cation and awareness of this debilitating disorder. The RSDSA-CA is the longest standing organization of its kind in the state and it serves as an RSD information resource; and

Whereas, Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD) involves numerous medical procedures and a variety of medications if the disease becomes chronic and there is no single standard treatment for the condition. Additionally, medical costs for treatment of the disease can be prohibitive. One of my goals is to double funding for medical research so that new treatments may be found and costs may be curtailed for all Americans with health problems; Now therefore, be it

Resolved, that in recognition of the numerous accomplishments of the RSDSA-CA, the month of October 1999, is hereby proclaimed "Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Awareness Month" in the cities and communities of California's 51st Congressional District.

**PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING
FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND
FAMILIES INTO THE 21ST CENTURY
ACT**

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 202 and urge its adoption. The House Committee on Banking and Financial Services has incorporated three other worthy bills into H.R. 202. Together, this bipartisan legislation assures affordable housing and needed services for low-and-moderate income senior citizens. This bill will provide a continuum of care to our seniors by making certain that our seniors can afford to live independently in their own homes, and continue to preserve their dignity and self-sufficiency by obtaining services in an assisted living facility as an alternate to nursing home care.

Like other areas around our country, Suffolk County, NY is plagued with high property taxes and very expensive real estate prices. Even middle class senior citizens run out of money and the ability to afford to live on their own, in an assisted living facility, or in a nursing home. In some of our towns, such as Riverhead, Long Island, 25% of our citizens are senior citizens. Some senior citizens are only able to live in their apartments because of the assistance provided through Section 8 vouchers. Others need the supportive services provided by an assisted living facility, but these services are not always available. Although assisting living facilities are being constructed every day, more are needed.

Today, I would like to focus on some particularly important aspects of this bill that will help to address this problem in eastern Long Island and everywhere else in our country.

As contracts with the federal government expire in increasing numbers, landlords can "opt-out" of the Section 8 voucher program that makes housing more affordable for low-income residents, particularly elderly and disabled individuals. Through its "mark-up-to-market" initiative, HUD recently began to offer increased rents for below market projects