

In using streamlined acquisition procedures for ballistic missile defense, we need to remember that we already have the basic technology for deploying effective defenses against long range ballistic missiles. We do not need to be paralyzed by the goal of developing the best technology possible—we already have the technology we need.

We have already tested interceptors, kinetic energy weapons, and high energy lasers. While there is the need for practical field engineering, testing, and production of ballistic missile defense technologies, we have no need to continue basic research before reaching a decision to acquire a ballistic missile defense.

This is not to say, however, that we should not continue basic research. Rather, we can and should continue basic research without delaying other programs to acquire a ballistic missile defense based on research already done.

Accelerated funding and streamlined acquisition procedures are in order for Navy Upper Tier (Navy Theater Wide), and Space Based Interceptors such as Brilliant Pebbles (The Pentagon approved Brilliant Pebbles for acquisition in 1992). These are programs for which funding, not technology, is the primary constraint.

In addition, while the acquisition of Space Based Lasers for ballistic missiles defense will require substantial engineering and design work, we have already developed and tested the primary components for the Space Based Laser. We are ready to proceed with its development and acquisition.

We may expect accelerated funding and streamlined acquisition procedures to shorten timeframes for developing and deploying a ballistic missile defense. Timeframes for initial deployment may be as short as three to five years.

Accelerated funding for programs such as Navy Upper Tier, Space Based Interceptors like Brilliant Pebbles, and Space Based Lasers can bring us closer to quickly deploying a ballistic missile defense.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, we must consider Proposals for an "ABM Treaty Compliant" Ballistic Missile Defense.

Proposals for an "ABM Treaty Compliant" Ballistic Missile Defense constrain themselves to a defense using ground-based radar, and ground-based interceptors deployed at a single site with a maximum of 100 interceptors.

It is time we view proposals for deploying an "ABM Treaty Compliant" Ballistic Missile Defense from the context of providing the best defense possible for the American people.

Thus, we need to compare an "ABM Treaty Compliant" defense with the effectiveness and availability of other ballistic missile defense programs such as Navy Upper Tier (Navy Theater Wide) and Space Based Interceptors.

While an "ABM Treaty Compliant" defense may seem attractive from the viewpoint of being able to recycle Minuteman missiles by equipping them with a Kinetic Kill Vehicle rather than nuclear warheads, such proposals must be kept in their proper context.

First, the most effective defense possible against long range ballistic missiles will be a boost phase defense. A boost phase defense, whether using interceptors or high energy la-

sers, will intercept a ballistic missile when it presents itself as a large, visible target, and is susceptible to destruction.

In addition, a boost phase defense, will prevent a missile from releasing its warheads, decoys, or submunitions. Yet, an "ABM Treaty Compliant" defense will never be able to offer us a boost phase defense capability, in contrast to programs such as Navy Upper Tier (Navy Theater Wide), Space Based Interceptors, or Space Based Lasers.

Furthermore, an "ABM Treaty Compliant" defense, limited to a single site, will be unable to protect the entire United States. It will put at risk Alaska, Hawaii, and many of our Pacific Island Territories such as Guam.

Moreover, an "ABM Treaty Compliant" defense, by relying solely on ground-based interceptors, leaves itself open to its defeat through the use of decoys, multiple warheads or submunitions.

Our best defenses will be found in putting themselves as close to the point of attack—as close or at the boost phase—rather than waiting for the last moment. Intuitively, this gives the defense the most room for maneuver, and restricts the offense.

Our best defenses against long range ballistic missiles will thus be found in programs such as Navy Upper Tier, Space Based Interceptors, and Space Based Lasers, not in an "ABM Treaty Compliant" defense.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NED MALONE

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend Ned Malone who has dedicated his life to improving our community and who has had a distinguished career in public service as a member of the Maryland House of Delegates and as Baltimore County Sheriff.

Those who know Ned well, know one thing about him: that he is a fireman at heart. That is why I am so pleased that on Feb. 13 he will be honored for his 45 years of dedicated service to the Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department. During that time, Ned has served as the Fire Department's president, captain, and a member of the Board of Directors.

Ned also has had a distinguished career in Annapolis. From 1967–1978, he was a member of the House of Delegates, serving as Chairman of the Baltimore County delegation and as Vice Chairman of the powerful Economic Matters Committee.

In 1984, Ned was appointed Sheriff of Baltimore County by Gov. Harry Hughes. Serving as Sheriff from 1984–1990, Ned worked hard to ensure the safety and well-being of all Baltimore County residents. Ned is currently with the state's Mass Transit Administration.

Ned was born in Elkridge, MD, in 1927 and has spent much of his life in Arbutus, MD. He was Manager of Personnel Services for the Western Maryland Railway Co., and served with distinction in the U.S. Army from 1950–1952. Ned has been married to the lovely

Margaret June Malone for 43 years and together they raised four wonderful children.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ned Malone on his 45 years as a dedicated member of the Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department, and on his distinguished career in public service. Ned's passion for helping others and his dedication to improving our community is hard to match. I am honored to call him a friend.

THE MEDICARE SOCIAL WORK EQUITY ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I join with Representative LEACH (R-Iowa) and 22 of our colleagues to introduce the Medicare Social Work Equity Act of 1999 to ensure that clinical social workers can continue to receive reimbursement under Part B of Medicare.

Due to changes in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, clinical social workers can no longer bill Medicare under Part B for counseling and other professional mental health services. Under current law, clinical social workers must now seek reimbursement under the consolidated payment system. Unfortunately, the prospective payment system was not designed to cover ancillary services such as psychotherapy.

If Congress does not amend the laws to allow separate billing for psychotherapy service, clinical social workers will not be able to provide much-needed mental health services to long-term care facility residents. Doing so will needlessly harm seniors because clinical social workers have the professional training and expertise to work with seniors as do psychologists and psychiatrists.

If we fail to fix this problem, Medicare will pay more. The services of psychologists and psychiatrists cost more than the services of a clinical social worker. Currently, clinical social workers receive from Medicare only 75% of what would be paid to a psychologist or psychiatrist. In addition, many skilled nursing facilities operate in communities where psychologists and psychiatrists are not available to treat seniors in skilled nursing facilities.

Our legislation excludes clinical social workers from the prospective payment system. This small fix corrects what we believe to be a serious error created by the Balanced Budget Act. It is time to act quickly and decisively to preserve access to needed counseling services for residents in thousands of our Nation's long-term care facilities.

H.R.—

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Medicare Social Work Equity Act of 1999".

SEC. 2 EXCLUDING CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER SERVICES FROM COVERAGE UNDER THE MEDICARE SKILLED NURSING FACILITY PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT SYSTEM AND CONSOLIDATED PAYMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1888(e)(2)(A)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.

1395yy(e)(2)(A)(ii) is amended by inserting "clinical social worker services," after "qualified psychologist services."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 1861(hh)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(hh)(2)) is amended by striking "and other than services furnished to an inpatient of a skilled nursing facility which the facility is required to provide as a requirement for participation".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section apply as if included in the enactment of section 4432(a) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

THE RETIREMENT OF MARGE HOSKIN AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF QUINEBAUG-SHETUCKET HERITAGE CORRIDOR, INC.

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute of Marge Hoskin of Plainfield, Connecticut upon her retirement as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor, Inc. Marge is an extraordinary American who has worked for more than two decades to preserve and promote the historic, natural and cultural resources of eastern Connecticut.

I first began working with Marge in the late 1980s. She was one of the leaders of a grassroots group in eastern Connecticut exploring how communities could preserve and promote the history of the region. Marge and the other members of this group had vision of the future. A vision built on the region's rich heritage as a world-wide center for textile production and incredible network of rivers anchored by the Quinebaug in the east and the Shetucket in the west. By the time Marge and her colleagues began developing this vision, the mills which line the rivers from Thompson through Willimantic to Norwich, some of them the largest and most productive in the world in the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth centuries, were silent, ghostly shells deteriorating with each passing day. Many feared these magnificent structures—monuments to the industrial prowess of the United States and the ingenuity and hard work of generations of people from eastern Connecticut—would be lost forever, relegated to the history books and old snapshots.

Marge, and others in this small, but committed group, believed that the mills could be preserved, could be redeveloped and could be transformed into engines of economic growth once again. They envisioned linking communities and citizens across the region using a natural resource which had always brought them together—the rivers. They developed this vision with the knowledge that economic development, historic preservation and environmental protection can go hand-in-hand.

Between 1989 and 1994, Marge Hoskin devoted countless hours to making this vision, embodied in the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers National Heritage Corridor, a reality. She traveled from one corner of eastern Con-

necticut to the other explaining the concept and the goals it was designed to achieve. She came to Washington to testify in support of legislation I introduced to establish the Corridor. Marge also originated an event which has become synonymous with the Quinebaug and Shetucket Heritage Corridor—the Walking Weekend. Walking Weekend, held every year since 1990 during Columbus Day weekend, has educated tens of thousands of people from across eastern Connecticut and New England about the region through a series of walks highlighting our history, natural resources and culture. Marge celebrated with countless other residents of my district when President Clinton signed legislation formally establishing the Corridor in November 1994.

Following enactment of this law, Marge played an active role in creating a non-profit entity—Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor, Inc.—designed to coordinate efforts to achieve the goals of the act. Marge has served as Chairman, Vice Chairman and Director of the corporation. In these leadership positions, she has continuously demonstrated an ability to forge consensus from very diverse views. She has led by quiet example constantly striving to do what is best for the region. She has given of herself in so many ways and is unquestionably one of the reasons the Quinebaug and Shetucket National Heritage Corridor is a success today.

Marge has been widely recognized for her service to the community. She was named "Woman of the Year" in 1997 by the Northeastern Connecticut Professional and Business Women's Association. She received the "Civic Achievement Award" in January 1999 from the Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce. In addition, she has been honored with several awards from the Association of Northeast Connecticut Historical Societies. These awards are a testament to Marge's dedicated service, commitment to the region and penchant for delivering results.

Mr. Speaker, all of us involved with Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers National Heritage Corridor look forward to working with Marge for many years to come. We remain secure in the knowledge that she will continue to play an important role in an endeavor she has done so much to make successful. I know I speak for many people across eastern Connecticut when I say—thank you Marge.

IN HONOR OF MARY ANN KOSTER
CLEVELAND MUNICIPAL COURT

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Mary Ann Koster is the Director of Scheduling at Cleveland Municipal Court, whose Administrative Judge Larry Jones nominated her in recognition of 25 years' service. Under her supervision, the office schedules all civil and criminal cases on the personal dockets of the Court's judges and collates and reports case statistics for use by the Court internally and for reports by the Court to the Ohio Supreme Court.

Mary Ann takes pride in the title "Public Servant" and strives to do her best for the Court and its personnel, and, especially, for the public served by the Court.

Married to Don Koster for almost 20 years, Mary Ann lives in Columbia Station. She has raised and exhibited roses at all levels of competition. She looks forward to bringing the national fall convention of the American Rose Society to Cleveland in the year 2001 and will, in 1999, stand for examination for Consulting Rosarian and Judge.

IN MEMORY OF VICTOR M. GRAY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Victor M. Gray of California, Missouri.

Victor Gray was born July 15, 1912, in Hendrick, IL, a son of Homer F. and Anna Burrus Gray. He was a graduate of the University of Missouri, where he earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture in 1937.

Gray's career in public service and agriculture began immediately after his graduation from the University of Missouri. From 1937 to 1948 he worked for the Agricultural Extension Service. After his initial service to the state of Missouri, Gray worked in the private sector, owning and operating a farm machinery company for two years. Victor Gray was a livestock marketing specialist with the Producer's Livestock Marketing Association-National Stockyard, Illinois, and manager of the Farm Bureau Service Co. from 1953 to 1957. He served as director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture's Feed and Seed Division in 1957 and, in 1959, became the Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture's Feed and Seed Division in 1957 and, in 1959, became the Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture until 1963. He was the director of legislative programs for Missouri Farm Bureau from November 1963 until he retired in August 1977.

Victor Gray served as the executive secretary of the Missouri Association of Fairs and was a member of the Board of Governors of the American Royal Livestock Show in Kansas City, Mo. He was the past President of American Lung Association-Western Division; past chairman of the County Soil and Water Conservation Districts; former vice president of the County Farm Bureau; and former chairman of the Missouri Hazardous Waste Committee. He served as district representative of the Missouri Farm Bureau Rural Health and Safety Committee.

Victor Gray was an active member in the community. A member of the Gamma Sigma Delta agricultural fraternity, he received the Award of Merit from the society's Missouri chapter and the State Star Farmer Award from the Missouri FFA. He was a 50-year member of the California Lodge 183, A.F. & A.M., and the Royal Arch Masons Chapter in California. He was a member of the United Methodist Church of California.

Gray was preceded in death by his wife, Anna in 1991. He is survived by his niece,