

Burnette Show" and "Saturday Night Live." There he honed his comedic talents with other giants of laughter, like the legendary Mel Brooks, and began the writing for which he gained his unique reputation. After the show left the air in 1954, Reiner went to work writing TV pilots. Seven years later, CBS bought the "Dick Van Dyke Show," one of televisions first and best sitcoms. Reiner went on to win 11 Emmy awards for the show.

Throughout the sixties, Reiner wrote semi-autobiographical comic novels, as well as short stories; his current collection is titled, "How Paul Robeson Saved My Life." He has produced comic television shows and movies, and most recently, he created the hysterical comedy album, "The Two-Thousand-Year-Old Man," with Mel Brooks.

Despite Carl Reiner's unmistakable gift for comedy, he remains a man of family, and a "normal" one, at that. He is married to Estelle Reiner, and is a loving father of three. Carl Reiner's universal appeal can, at least in part, be attributed to his straight sense of humor, unmarred by the vulgar and raunchy comedy too often presented just to make a buck. Of course, Reiner has said, "If it's funnier than it is dirty, then let's have it."

Let us recognize and honor the man who has shaped so much of our shared American culture since the early fifties. A television and comic pioneer, Carl Reiner has become a legend in his own time. I congratulate his distinct genius and commend him on receiving the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4942,
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, today I will vote against the fiscal year 2001 Commerce, Justice, State appropriations bill because language has been included in the conference report which, instead of solving the problem of the sale of Social Security numbers over the Internet, actually shields those who sell Social Security numbers. As the original sponsor of H.R. 4311, The Identity Theft Prevention Act, I well know the opportunity that the sale of Social Security Numbers gives to identity theft criminals.

The move to outlaw the sale of Social Security Numbers gained momentum when a New Hampshire woman, Amy Boyer, was stalked and killed by a man who purchased her Social Security number over the Internet. But, instead of incorporating language into the conference report that would outlaw the purchase or sale of Social Security Numbers, the leadership has done just the opposite.

In the provision that I voted against today, for the first time ever in law, banks, hospitals, and credit bureaus are explicitly allowed to sell our Social Security numbers.

The bill does nothing to restrict the purchase of Social Security numbers or restrict the use of it by people who obtain it over the

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Internet. Members of Amy Boyer's family are angry at what has happened to their original proposal, and have asked that Amy's name not be associated with it.

The proposal is opposed by numerous consumer, civil liberties and privacy organizations, including Consumer Action, the Consumer Federation of America, the Consumers Union, the ACLU, Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum, the Electronic Privacy Information Center, the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse, and the U.S. Public Interest Research Group.

For this reason, I was unable to support the 2001 Commerce, Justice, and State Appropriations bill.

CURRENT SHORTAGE OF
INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise because of the current shortage of influenza vaccinations available to the general public for the upcoming flu season. I am very concerned about not only the availability of vaccinations, but about possible price manipulations regarding their availability.

Health care officials state that vaccinations are most effective, if received in early October, yet because of shortages many people must now wait until the end of November. I am extremely concerned for our nation's at-risk populations, in particular the elderly and chronically ill who rely on these immunizations. These individuals will be receiving their flu shots almost two months later than the recommended time frame. This is unacceptable.

While most states have a limited supply of vaccines for state and local health care agencies, some private health care providers—assuming they are capable of paying a premium price—seem to be experiencing no trouble receiving supplies. This has been raising questions among my constituents, many of whom rely on discounted flu shots offered by public health providers.

I have requested that Federal Trade Commission Chairman Robert Pitofsky investigate cases where companies may be selling to the highest bidder. One such example is the contrast between California and Maine. California contracted in February with a company called General Injectable Vaccines for \$17.99 per vial—and has received only one-third of their shipment. Maine contracted in June and July with the same company at \$39.00 per vial and received both shipments within two months.

In addition I have called on Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, to provide answers as to when this vaccine shortage was first realized by the government, why we were not better prepared, and what steps are being taken to ensure this shortage is never repeated.

We must do all we can to ensure on time delivery of vaccines for all in need, not just the privileged few. We cannot allow the availability and distribution problems we are experiencing this year to be repeated on an annual basis. Congress should take an active role in ensur-

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ing timely and affordable delivery of these vital vaccinations. The health and well being of our country depends on it.

TRIBUTE TO DON HARE, MICHIGAN
DIRECTOR FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS
RETIREMENT

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to both a public program and a state administrator of that program, a man who has put a warm, human face on a grant process that has been of vast importance to my northern Michigan congressional district.

Donald Hare, Michigan Director for Rural Development, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, was appointed to his post by President Clinton in 1993. Working out of Lansing, Don could well have focused his attention on Detroit and the other major metropolitan areas of the state. He understood from the outset, however, that the first word of the name of his agency, "rural," meant that his focus should be on the many, many small communities that dot both the upper and lower peninsulas of Michigan.

Don Hare will be retiring at year's end. After almost a decade of working so closely with this dedicated public servant, I wanted to take a few minutes to tell you and our House colleagues about his work on behalf of the people of Michigan.

Let me give you a picture of my district, Mr. Speaker. Sprawling over roughly 24,000 square miles, it has many cities, towns and villages that organized and built their community infrastructure more than 100 years ago. Many of these communities built and still use water systems utilizing wooden piping! After 100 years, they must be re-built. These communities need financial assistance to renew these basic services, which maintain a community's quality of life and enable it to flourish and grow.

Prior to his Rural Development appointment, Don had served 18 years as chief of staff to Congressman Bob Traxler. He brought to the Rural Development job a clear understanding of the role of government in assisting people in basic yet profound ways. There is little glamour in providing grants to build a new sewer system, yet there is little future for a community that is unable to meet current standards in providing this service. Don understood this and has been of the greatest service to Michigan residents in meeting such challenges.

Don has always gone the extra mile to assist my constituents. In a figurative sense, he has always made himself available to me, my staff and community leaders to answer questions and resolve problems on grant issues. In a very literal sense, however, Don has often traveled many hours to come up to my northern Michigan district to take part in closing ceremonies and to make clear to grant recipients that the agency he has represented was more than a faceless bureaucracy.