HONORING THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL SCHOOLS (AADS)

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2000

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the tremendous work performed by a group of dedicated and tireless professionals: the members of the American Association of Dental Schools (AADS). Many members, including those from the 10th Congressional District of Georgia, are gathering at the AADS 77th Annual Meeting here in the nation's capital. I congratulate the AADS for its achievements. AADS is the one national organization that speaks exclusively for dental education.

Since 1923 the Association's institutional membership has trained the nation's oral health care providers. The Association has done exemplary work in leading the dental education community in addressing the issues influencing education, research, and the health of the public. Members of the Association including all of the dental schools in the United States, Puerto Rico, and Canada, allied dental education programs, corporations, faculty, and students. The nation owes a great debt to AADS for its unwavering commitment to excellence in dental education.

AADS works to promote the value and improve the quality of dental education, and to expand and strengthen the role of dentistry among other health professions in academia and society. There is currently more focus than ever on oral health and I hope the nation will understand that oral health is a part of total health.

AADS is dedicated to assisting its membership in providing service to patients of limited means and quality education of future practitioners. Dental schools and programs play a major role in access to oral health care, reaching many underserved low-income populations, including individuals covered by Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). AADS members play a critical role in meeting the oral health needs of the nation. It is with great pride that I honor my distinguished colleagues of the dental profession.

Mr. Speaker, I honor the American Association of Dental Schools for being the leader in dental education. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing AADS many more years of continued success.

THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF BALTIMORE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2000

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Baltimore Hebrew University, a valuable educational institution in my district, on their 80th anniversary.

Following World War I, in response to a community need for Jewish education and teacher training, Baltimore Hebrew University opened its doors as an institution of higher learning devoted solely to Jewish studies. Today, Baltimore Hebrew University has more graduate and credit students than any other Hebrew college in the nation. The University has the fourth largest Master of Arts program in Jewish Studies in the country with only Yeshiva University, Hebrew Union College and the Jewish Theological Seminary having larger programs.

In addition to teaching Jewish Studies on their Baltimore City campus, Baltimore Hebrew University professors provide Jewish Studies curriculum in other Maryland colleges, including Groucher College, Towson University, and University of Maryland Baltimore County. Next year, BHU professors will begin a new program at John Hopkins University. In addition, Baltimore Hebrew University has begun to offer in conjunction with The Baltimore Jewish Times courses ''on line'' to provide educational opportunities to students in communities lacking Jewish Studies programs.

Baltimore Hebrew University brings together Jews and non-Jews of all religious backgrounds, providing a diverse, open and community-responsive environment in which students gain an understanding of Jewish literary and historical tradition. Baltimore Hebrew University graduates making contributions in many of my colleagues' communities include: Stephen Hoffman, president of the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland: Brain Schreiber, Executive Director of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh; Lesley Weiss, Association Director of the Anti-Defamation League in Washington, D.C; Gail Naron Chalew, editor of the Journal of Jewish Community Service and Larry S. Moses, President of the Wexner Foundation, to name a few.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Robert O. Freedman, president of Baltimore Hebrew University, and the members of the Board of Trustees and the Baltimore Jewish community for their fortitude and foresight in establishing and maintaining Baltimore Hebrew University as a premier institution of higher education.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (House Concurrent Resolution 290) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2000, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2005:

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Chairman, I cannot support this resolution, for two reasons. It fails to do what should be done, for our country and for all Americans. And, it would insist on doing what should not be done for our economy and for future generations.

It does not extend the solvency of either Social Security or Medicare, which we need to do as the first step toward preparing those vital programs to meet the challenges of the years ahead when the ''baby boom'' generation retires in large numbers.

It does not properly provide for measures to make affordable prescription drugs available to Medicare beneficiaries and other senior citizens.

It doesn't adequately fund essential education programs including Head Start, Pell grants for college students, and special education—in fact, it cuts their purchasing power.

It does not protect programs that are vital for many working families—such as child care subsidies, emergency heating and cooling assistance, or affordable housing—or to improve their access to health insurance. It also does not adequately assist our communities to respond to the problems of growth and sprawl and fails to provide enough funds for saving open space. And it does not provide enough for veterans' programs.

And it does not give the proper priority to reducing the public debt.

But what it does do is to mortgage the future to pay for excessive, unfocused tax cuts that would wipe out almost all of the expected surplus outside of Social Security.

It does cut funding for energy research and conservation programs, even as increased prices for gasoline and heating oil are again showing the importance of reducing our dependence on petroleum, while allowing dangerous erosion of funding for many other important scientific research activities.

And it does lay down a blueprint for going back to budget deficits.

For all these reasons—and more—we should not make the mistake of passing this budget plan. We can do better, and we should.

That's why I voted for the alternative plan proposed by Representative JOHN SPRATT and other Democratic members of the Budget Committee.

The Democratic alternative would have extended the solvency of Social Security and Medicare, while making a downpayment on a plan to let the parents of children who are eligible for Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance program gain health-care coverage under these programs. It also would have provided for Medicare prescription drug coverage, beginning next year, while maintaining the funds needed to crack down on Medicare fraud, waste, and abuse. It also would have provided more funds for veterans programs, and would have assisted retirees and people who lose their jobs to keep health insurance.

The Democratic alternative would have increased funding for energy research and development, including energy conservation and the development of alternatives to petroleum. And it would have provided more for science, space, and technology programs.

It also would have provided fund to continue assisting local school districts to hire more teachers for overcrowded schools, would have provided nearly $5 billion more for special education funding, would have provided for tax