

and to protect the user's privacy; measures to prevent unauthorized sale or release of names or other identifying information; options for the renewal or extension of benefits; provisions to make benefits accessible to persons with disabilities, such as appropriate modifications or accessories; measures to permit the donation of used equipment to schools or community-based organizations; and measures to terminate, when the employee leaves the government, access to Government databases, sites, and other functions not extended to non-employees.

OPM shall establish guidelines and specifications for the program. OPM shall also: provide technical assistance to GSA or any other agency, on Internet-based training for employees, communication of information to and from employees, procedures for election of benefits, and general oversight and coordination functions to ensure the efficient delivery of the program.

Under this section, OPM shall establish provisions for any employee abroad to whom it may be impracticable to provide this benefit; and in the case of an employee who has previously received or declines benefits, how that employee will be eligible for benefits based on subsequent employment.

The GSA and OPM shall consult with each other to execute their duties and responsibilities under this section. Each employing agency shall keep records and furnish information to GSA and OPM to carry out their duties and responsibilities.

Such sums as may be necessary will be appropriated annually to each agency, including OPM and GSA, both as employing and administering agencies, to carry out this Act. The costs associated with furnishing this benefit will be payable by the employee's employing agency to GSA as specified by applicable requirements.

The amounts paid by the agency shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the Employees' Digital Access Fund. The fund is available for all payments to persons providing goods and services under this section, and to pay the respective administrative expenses of GSA and OPM within the annual limitations specified by Congress.

Section 3 amends chapter 79 of title 5 to state that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) shall submit to the President and Congress a report on the operation of the program based on the first 3 years of its operation. The report shall address the following aspects of this program: any cost savings, efficiencies, improved individual or collective organizational performance; increased productivity; greater work flexibilities; enhancement of Government recruitment and retention efforts; reduced printing and mailing costs, improved communications with respect to individuals in rural or remote locations; new Internet-based training opportunities; best practices of particular agencies; the extent that family members utilize the computer; and the extent to which it helps to bridge the digital divide. Each agency shall submit to OMB such information as the Office requires to prepare for the report.

Section 4 provides that any contract under this Act shall be subject to such amounts provided for in advance in appropriations Acts.

Section 5 provides that the benefits provided under this Act will be furnished to those employees who made elections during the 48 month period beginning 1 year after the legislation is in enacted.

H.R. 1070, THE BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER TREATMENT ACT

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I am in support of H.R. 1070, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Act. This legislation will give States the ability to provide a reliable method of treatment for uninsured and underinsured women battling breast or cervical cancer.

The program currently provides screening for cancer, but it provides no treatment options for these women. So if they are diagnosed with cancer, they have no option to be cured, which is a harsh reality. Giving States the option of providing Medicaid coverage for women will help save thousands of lives.

I urge the Speaker to bring this critically important legislation to the House floor for a vote by Mother's Day, May 14. The bill has 289 bipartisan cosponsors, well over the required number to pass a bill on the Suspension Calendar. In addition, the funding for this bill was also included in the House passed budget resolution.

Mr. Speaker, let's bring H.R. 1070 to the House floor before Mother's Day, in time to give our mothers, our sisters, our daughters the most important gift of all, the gift of life.

HONORING LT. DENNIS HOLMES, MILPITAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lt. Dennis Holmes upon his retirement from the Milpitas Police Department after nearly 33 years of exemplary service to law enforcement.

Lt. Holmes joined the police force in Milpitas in 1967. He was promoted to sergeant in March 1974 and rose to the rank of lieutenant in September 1980.

During his early years as a police officer, Lt. Holmes was the first officer to be selected to serve as a field-training officer. As a supervisor, he helped develop structured localized field-training programs that he managed for nearly 15 years. He sat on the advisory board of the regional police academy and was a strong advocate for specialty and professional training for all departmental employees.

Lt. Holmes served in almost all of the available sections of the Milpitas Police Department. He started in Patrol, and then transferred into Traffic Enforcement and Investigation. He was later selected to head up the Traffic Section. As a sergeant he supervised in Patrol, was transferred into Generalist Investigations, and was then selected to supervise a proactive enforcement.

As supervisor of the proactive team, drug related arrests more than doubled and the residential burglary rate plummeted. He also introduced an objective employee performance appraisal system that was later adopted city-

wide. This system has been in place with few modifications for over 20 years.

As investigative lieutenant, he implemented and formalized case management procedures, which brought accountability to the investigation function. In addition, he implemented an automated case tracking system and instituted a subjective case-screening model.

Lt. Holmes served as president of the Milpitas Police Officer's Association for 4 years. He was lead negotiator for two employee relations contracts, and served on two additional negotiation teams. He was instrumental in obtaining the first fully confidential police psychological counseling benefit for Milpitas police employees.

I have highlighted some of Lt. Holmes' many accomplishments and I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this outstanding public servant. He has been an innovator and a change agent in law enforcement. His unselfish dedication to the Milpitas community is appreciated and will be long remembered.

THE FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTHERN ILLINOIS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 15th anniversary of the Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation.

In the early 1980's, a group of community residents became concerned about the lack of healthcare services in southern Illinois. At that time, there were very few physicians in the area. Residents of the region suffered from a lack of adequate healthcare services. Infant mortality rates and rates of other health related concerns were on the rise. Most physicians in the region expressed their reluctance to participate in federal programs to assist the poor. Several communities in the area were also federally designated as under served and a health care professional shortage was also recognized.

In 1983, this concerned group of citizens formed an not-for-profit organization to promote health care concerns. The original charter members of the corporation included Harvey Jones Jr., Francis Touchette, Bob Bergman, Callie Mobley, Don Sminchak, Virginia "Betty" Knuckles, Kathleen Touchette, Dr. Mays Maxwell and Rev. Father Jerry Wirth. I was also proud to also be part of that original committee. The Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation opened it's first center in one side of the public health department building at 6000 Bond Avenue in Centreville, Illinois on January 7, 1985.

With assistance of an initial Federal grant, the center began it's operations in the Centreville facility, providing health care services to the surrounding communities in the area. The foundation's services expanded in the 90's with facilities opening in East St. Louis, Washington Park and Brooklyn, Illinois. In 1913, the foundation partnered with Touchette Regional

Hospital in Centreville and with the East Side Health District to expand its reach further into the area. I was happy to assist the center procure various grants to improve services to reduce infant mortality rates in the area and in 1997 the foundation opened a facility in Alton, Illinois. School based clinics also operate in East St. Louis and Cahokia, Illinois.

In recognition for its work to reduce the amount of low-birth weight babies, the Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation and Touchette Regional Hospital was one of the first winners of the "Models that Work" program, as sponsored by the National Committee For Quality Healthcare. Other awards and recognition for the system include the American Hospital Association and the Baxter Allegiance Foundation. The Baxter Award recognized the system's work with the various foundation communities. The foundation was also a finalist in the Premier Cares Award sponsored by Premier Healthcare.

Just last year, the foundation further expanded its services by opening a second site in Madison County in Bethalto, Illinois. Private grants have also been awarded to the Southern Illinois Foundation from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to allow them to address Medicaid Managed Care issues and provide funds for planning and study for healthcare issues.

Locally, the foundation has also been presented the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award from the Kimmel Leadership Center. Dr. Bob Klutts is the chief executive officer and has been the executive with the foundation since 1988.

Operations in all of the Foundation Health center sites are now well established. The foundation system has grown from an initial 8,678 patient visits in 1988 to currently over 85,000 patient visits. In addition to the clinic sites they operate in several communities, they also operate three Quick Care sites with one site devoted to the needs of mother and child care and also a site directed to the needs of adults. It is one of the strongest Healthcare networks operating in Illinois today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the anniversary and service of the Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 11, 2000*

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, last evening I was unavoidably detained and was not present for rollcall votes 111-114.

Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 111, "yes" on rollcall vote 112, "yes" on rollcall vote 113 and "no" on rollcall vote 114.

#### EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

##### RECOGNIZING THE NORTH FORK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 11, 2000*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the North Fork Chamber of Commerce for its outstanding contributions to the community.

During the last year, the North Fork Chamber of Commerce has accomplished a great deal. They have increased their membership to 64 members. The Chamber began quarterly town hall meetings with Supervisor Gary Gilbert and Sheriff John Anderson, holding three meetings in 1999. The Chamber has also joined SUPERCHEX (Superior California Chamber Exec's) to network with neighboring Chambers of Commerce. In collaboration with neighboring Chambers, the North Fork Chamber began advance planning, one year in advance, of chamber projects.

The North Fork Chamber started a weekly "North Fork Chamber Chat" column in the Sierra Star, a local newspaper. The Chamber also resumed monthly newsletters and monthly mixers for its members.

The North Fork Chamber secured \$52,500 in grants and matching funds to add new sidewalks, mini-parks, and tourist signs on Northfork's Main Street.

The Chamber began a part-time paid staff, courtesy of the USFS SCSEP program, which also provided mileage and classes on Microsoft programs and project management. Along with their many achievements, the Chamber also acquired a new office, courtesy of CDC, at the Mill Site Office Building, furnished and staffed by Jim Flanagan.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize the North Fork Chamber of Commerce for its service to the community. I urge colleagues to join me in wishing the North Fork Chamber of Commerce many more years of continued success.

##### A TRIBUTE TO THE WATCHFUL SHEPHERD AND JOSEPH FEMIANI

### HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 11, 2000*

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, today, during National Child Abuse Prevention Month I praise the organizations which work tirelessly to end our children's suffering. I am proud to say that one such organization and its originator in my district are part of the crusade to make all children safe from harm. I am speaking of The Watchful Shepherd and Joseph Femiani.

Every day, 78 babies die, 2162 babies are born into poverty and 3,453 babies are born to unwed parents. Added to the likelihood that one in two children will live in a single parent family at some point in childhood, one in eight is born to a teenage mother and one in 60 sees their parents divorce in any year, it is no wonder that our children live in peril.

While Congress works to reverse these trends, The Watchful Shepherd protects chil-

dren already suffering at the hands of relatives and family friends. Piloted in Southwestern Pennsylvania hospitals in 1993 and 1996, The Watchful Shepherd program unites the resources of Children and Youth Services agencies, police departments health care professionals and community residents in a unique effort to improve the protection of children at risk for abuse.

Since its successful adoption by Washington County Children and Youth Services, other communities such as Tom's River, New Jersey; Dover, Delaware; and Chesapeake, Virginia have employed the program with great success for families currently enrolled in Watchful Shepherd. Surprisingly, most families voluntarily agree to the program, which consists of a panic button worn on the child and a telephone unit which are monitored by hospital, police or trained volunteer personnel. Many law enforcement agencies take Watchful Shepherd calls so seriously that they have classified the alarms as a level one priority. To date, there have been no false alarms and the system is constantly improving to serve children and their families together.

All great ideas have a creator. The chief champion of The Watchful Shepherd program is Joseph Femiani, whose idea has become a noble crusade. Borne out of personal experience, The Watchful Shepherd has no greater promoter. Mr. Femiani, a successful Washington County business owner, husband and father, could have savored the good life he had created for himself after a painful childhood, but he chose to make life safer for children everywhere.

Joe Femiani's tireless promotion of child abuse prevention and The Watchful Shepherd program has led to a feature in Time, an interview with National Public Radio and a segment on NBC's Dateline in addition to numerous grassroots campaigns to get the message out about his lifesaving program. All of this effort is not in vain. Mr. Femiani continues to receive national and international interest in The Watchful Shepherd program and works endlessly to organize financial support for those communities seeking to adopt the program.

Many marvel at Joe's stamina and commitment to his cause, as was the case in an interview with the Pittsburgh Catholic. "Whenever Joseph Femiani questions whether his efforts makes a difference, he reaches for a card he carries in his wallet which bears the names of children who have been murdered." That—it seems—has made all the difference.

##### IN HONOR OF THE WESTINGHOUSE HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 11, 2000*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and commend the Westinghouse High School, and in particular the men's senior basketball team. Westinghouse High School located in the 7th Congressional District of Illinois, in the heart of the Westside, has a long tradition of academic and athletic excellence. The school has graduated several