

RECOGNIZING DR. J.R. TURNER,
TROUP COUNTY, GEORGIA

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, a half-century of being on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, is about to come to a close for Dr. J.R. Turner, of Troup County, Georgia. Dr. Turner's resume could boast of 2,500 baby deliveries, never losing a mother, never being sued, and countless house calls.

Raised in Gay, a small community in Meriwether County, Georgia, Dr. Turner grew up on a farm and was destined to go into agriculture, until a discussion with a medical student encouraged him to shift gears and go into medicine, "because he could borrow money for school." Not only were the finances appealing, but he felt being a doctor he could be his own boss, which is something he always wanted to do.

During his junior year in college he enrolled in a Navy program that paid for his tuition, in return for two years of service after completing medical school. Dr. Turner graduated from the Medical College of Georgia in 1944, and interned at Egleston Children's Hospital in Atlanta.

The end of medical school saw Dr. Turner serving his time for the Navy, stationed in Guam, and working in a leper colony. He started his private practice in July 1947 in Greenville. During that time he met and married Dorothy Allen; they had 11 children and were married for over 50 years, until her death.

The year 1950 saw the opening of Dr. Turner's LaGrange office, and soon afterwards his purchase of an EKG machine. He took time away from his practice to attend Harvard Medical School for EKG training, and in 1953 studied internal medicine at Grady Hospital in Atlanta.

Dr. Turner served as Chief of Staff at West Georgia Medical Center twice, and has also served on its board of directors. He represented Troup County as a delegate to the Medical Association of Georgia.

His free time from now on will be spent hunting, fishing, and just plain doing nothing. Thank you, Dr. Turner for the countless years of service you have given to the folks of Troup County and surrounding area, and for the thousands of lives you have brought into the world.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO REQUIRE FEDERAL AGENCIES
TO IDENTIFY AND RECOVER ER-
RONEOUS PAYMENTS MADE TO
CONTRACTORS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2001

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Erroneous Payments Recovery Act of 2001." This bill would require

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Federal departments and agencies to use a process called recovery auditing to identify and recover overpayments made to government contractors.

Overpayments occur for a variety of reasons, including duplicate payments, pricing errors, missed discounts, and fraud. They are payments that should not have been made or that were made for incorrect amounts. They are a serious problem. They waste tax dollars and detract from the efficiency and effectiveness of Federal operations by diverting resources from their intended uses.

Since most agencies do not identify, estimate and report their improper payments, the full extent of the Federal government's overpayment problem is unknown. However, the General Accounting Office has reported that each year the Department of Defense alone overpays its contractors by hundreds of millions of dollars.

My bill would require Federal agencies procuring more than \$500,000,000 in goods and services each year to carry out recovery auditing programs. Agencies could either conduct recovery audits in-house, or they could use private contractors, whichever is most efficient. Part of the money recovered would be used to pay for the recovery audits and to credit appropriations accounts from which the erroneous payments were made. Amounts recovered would also be used by agencies to improve management practices and would be refunded to the General Treasury.

In the last Congress, the Congressional Budget Office estimated that the "Erroneous Payments Recovery Act" would save taxpayers \$100 million per year by giving agencies the tools and the incentive to implement recovery auditing programs to detect mistaken payments. The bill passed the House in March of 2000, but it stalled in the Senate and didn't make it to the President's desk for his signature before Congress adjourned.

Recovery auditing is an established private sector business practice with demonstrated financial returns. It has also been successfully used in a few Federal programs. Also, President Bush has identified reducing payment errors as one of a series of management reforms to be pursued by the Office of Management and Budget.

The "Erroneous Payments Recovery Act of 2001" would expand the Federal government's use of recovery auditing to ensure that the hundreds of millions of dollars overpaid each year, that would otherwise remain undetected, are identified and recovered.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation.

IN MEMORY OF BOB PRIDDLE

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2001

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with you and my colleagues a very special remembrance of a dear personal friend of mine, Robert B. Priddle, who passed away on April 13, 2001. I had known Bob Priddle for nearly 30 years; his wife, Elvi Hirvela Priddle,

was my district secretary in Buffalo for nearly 20 years. It is my hope that anyone in this Chamber who has been blessed with the gift of a loyal and devoted friend will appreciate the sentiments expressed in the following eulogy given at the memorial service for Bob by my long-time district aide and close friend of Bob and Elvi Priddle, Becky Muscoreil.

IN MEMORY OF BOB

We are gathered here this morning not to mourn, but to celebrate the life of our friend, husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin, nephew, Robert Bruce Priddle. We are here to share wonderful memories with each other that will help sustain us in the days ahead and to hold onto him, each in our own way. I know I can't hold a candle to Bob's oratorical ability to tell great stories, the way he could keep you spellbound and believing every word until, with a perfectly straight face, he would lay it on you and you would realize you'd been totally taken in, bamboozled. But I will try my best to draw a picture of this fine man who we all loved so much because he gave so much of himself to us. Thank you, Elvi, for giving me this honor today.

Bob was born on September, 23, 1931 on Crowley Avenue at his parents', Robert (a salesman) and Genevieve's home. They moved to Grant Street in Lockport, where Bob's Dad passed away in 1935, shortly after Donnalee was born. Then his mother moved Bob and Donnalee to North Buffalo and about 5 years later married Orvard Seeburg when Bob was 9. Bob attended Kensington High School (this is where he met the love of his life, Elvi Hirvela in geometry class) but dropped out to join the Navy in his senior year. He served as an electrician on the communications ship, USS *Mount Olympus* and traveled to the Mediterranean region and Cuba at the time of the Korean War. Once when the ship was in dry dock, Bob was assigned to peeling potatoes and as he was putting the peeled potatoes into a huge pot with water in it, he became terribly seasick watching the water go up one side of the pot and down the other as the ship rocked back and forth in dock. Needless to say, he was quickly reassigned and we may never know about those poor sailors who enjoyed their mashed potatoes that night.

After the Navy, Bob returned home and courted Elvi and they were married at Elvi's mother's home on April 17, 1954. Bob was 22 and Elvi claims she was 12 or so. Karen was born in 1955 and Sue and Sandy in 1958. Bob went back to night school to complete his high school education and began working at Schuele & Co. in their warehouse, but his talents were soon recognized and he was promoted to sales where he remained for about 7 years until he moved on to work for Cook & Dunn and after that as an assistant sales manager at MacDougal & Butler. Later, he joined up with his uncle and became manager of McCorney's Decorating Center in Lockport. Prior to his retirement in 1991, he worked for Ellicott Paint and Wallpaper.

I think we will always remember Bob's captivating charm and when you added that to his uncanny sales ability, he would have made a great politician. But instead, he became involved in politics when he met his match, John LaFalce, through the Jaycees. Bob was a Democrat of the Roosevelt/Truman/Kennedy legacy and he devoted himself to John's campaigns, giving all the time he could to ensuring John's first election to state office and on through the early Congressional campaigns. He drove John to the ends of the district and eventually learned