

involvement in the community. Free flu shots and participation at county fairs and festivals are just a couple of the many ways that Clearfield EMS has taken the lead in community education and involvement.

I congratulate Clearfield EMS on their exceptional accomplishments and their determination to improve their already stellar service. Clearfield EMS should serve as an example in excellence for other ambulance services nationwide.

□ 1100

TREATING HIV-AIDS AS A THREAT TO GLOBAL SECURITY

(Ms. WATSON of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WATSON of California. Mr. Speaker, in honor of World AIDS Day, we must remember that it is estimated that by 2010, one-quarter of South Africa's population will be infected by HIV-AIDS. Other African nations are suffering similar rates of infection.

In late August, I traveled to South Africa to examine the HIV-AIDS pandemic firsthand. While there, I visited KwaZulu-Natal, a region with the highest HIV infection in the world. In that region, an estimated 1 in 3 adults tests positive for HIV. The time has come for the United States to treat HIV as the threat to global security that it is.

Let us not forget that Osama bin Laden has exploited the misery of another state where civil society has collapsed, Afghanistan, to serve as a base for his terror network. The United States must act to prevent HIV from destroying an entire generation, not only of Africans, but those in Afghanistan.

I urge my colleagues to remember this day on the 1st of December and ask for a renewed effort to fight against HIV-AIDS in Africa.

TERRORISM RISK PROTECTION ACT

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 297 ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 297

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3210) to ensure the continued financial capacity of insurers to provide coverage for risks from terrorism. The bill shall be considered as read for amendment. In lieu of the amendments recommended by the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 3357 shall be considered as

adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate on the bill, as amended, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services; (2) the further amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, if offered by Representative LaFalce of New York or his designee, which shall be in order without intervention of any point of order, shall be considered as read, and shall be separately debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent; and (3) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us today is a fair, modified rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 3210, the Terrorism Risk Protection Act. The rule provides that in lieu of the amendments recommended by the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Ways and Means, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 3357 shall be considered as adopted.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill, as amended, and provides for 1 hour of debate in the House, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. It also provides for consideration of the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the Committee on Rules report accompanying the resolution, if offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) or his designee.

The bill shall be considered as read and shall be separately debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and opponent. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the amendment printed in the reported. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, on September 11, the collective memory of Americans was altered forever. The terrorist attacks resulted in an incalculable loss, both in terms of life and the destruction of buildings, property and businesses. In the 2½ months since the attacks, America has begun the painful process of recovery and healing.

Today we are here to consider H.R. 3210, the Terrorism Risk Protection Act. Exposure to terrorism is not only a threat to our national security, but is also a threat to the United States and

global economies. The full extent of insured losses from September 11 is not yet known, but current estimates span from the range of \$30 billion to \$70 billion.

There is no doubt that these terrorist attacks have resulted in the most catastrophic loss in the history of property and casualty insurance. While the insurance industry has indicated that it will be able to cover total losses, and should be commended for its resiliency, we are faced with a new situation that requires an innovative and creative solution.

As our President, President Bush, declared, this Nation is now faced with fighting a different kind of war against a new enemy. Just as our military leaders have had to employ new strategies and tactics to fight the war abroad, we have had to make adjustments in our own homeland.

Prior to September 11, terrorism insurance coverage was generally included in most commercial and personal contracts. However, the prospect of future attacks has set off a dangerous chain reaction.

The reinsurance industry, which insures insurance companies, has indicated its inability to provide terrorism coverage without a short-term Federal backstop. Without reinsurance for the risk of terrorism, insurance companies are forced to specifically exclude it from future policies. Without this terrorism coverage, lenders are unlikely to underwrite loans for major projects. This sequence of events could result in dangerous disruptions to the marketplace and further hurt our economy.

While a few fully understood intricacies of risk assessment and premium pricing are apparent, the effects on our marketplace are already being felt. I would like to highlight just a few of these real live examples.

There is a small construction contractor in Maryland that recently found out that his insurance premium might triple to \$150,000 a year.

New York's JFK International Airport terminal cannot secure the \$1 billion in insurance coverage it needs, which has led the developer to reconsider shutting the terminal down.

The city of Chicago has received a bill to renew its war on terrorism insurance for next year at a 5,000 percent increase over its 2001 rates.

These snapshots from around the country form a composite picture of a dire circumstance that requires action from Congress.

Since September 11, Congress has moved in a timely fashion to address the needs that have arisen from the bipartisan supplemental appropriations funding, provided just a few days after the attacks, to legislation that addresses the need for increased airline security, to an economic stimulus package. This House has responded to its calling.