EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

55-62 year olds who are eligible for unemployment insurance (and their uninsured spouses) may buy into Medicare through a premium.

The full range of Medicare benefits may be bought by an individual between 55-62 who: (1) has earned enough quarters of coverage to be eligible for Medicare at age 65; (2) is eligible for unemployment insurance; (3) before lay-off had a year-plus of employment-based health insurance; and (4) because of the unemployment no longer has such coverage or eligibility for COBRA coverage.

A worker's spouse who meets the above conditions (except for UI eligibility) and is younger than 62 may also buy-in (even if younger than 55).

The worker and spouse must terminate buy-in if they become eligible for other types of insurance, but if the conditions listed above remain, they are eligible to buy-in again. At age 62 they must terminate and can covert to the Title I program. Non-payment of premiums is also cause for termination.

There is a single monthly premium roughly equal to $460 that will be adjusted for inflation. It must be paid during the time of buy-in; there is no Deferred Premium. This premium is set to recover base costs plus some of the cost created by the likely enrollment of sicker than average people.

TITLe II: HELP fOR WORKERS 55+ Whose REtIREmENt BENEFITS ARE TERMINATED

Workers age 55+ whose retirement health insurance is terminated by their employer may buy into their employer's health insurance for active workers at 125% of the group rate (this is an extension of COBRA health continuation coverage—not a Medicare program)

This Title is an expansion of the COBRA health continuation benefits program. If a worker and dependents have relied on a company retiree health benefit plan, and that protection is terminated or substantially slashed during his or her retirement, but the company continues a health plan for its active workers, then the retiree may buy into the company's group health plan at 125% of cost. They can remain in that plan, paying 125% of the premium, until they are eligible for Medicare at age 65.

TITLe IV: TAX CREDITS

Creates a new, federal tax credit equal to 50% of the amount paid by an individual for any of the three new programs described above. The actual cost of participation will be half of the dollar amounts described above. This tax credit assures much greater participation levels because it dramatically lowers the monthly premium.

TITLe V: hONORING MODesto ChrISTIAN SCHOOL’S BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. GARY A. CONDIT
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mostede Christian High School boys basketball team. On March 17, Modesto Christian High School played against Mater Dei of Santa Ana for the CIF Division I State Basketball Championship.

Though the Crusaders were narrowly defeated, 57–54 their efforts under the leadership of Coach Gary Porter cannot go unnoticed. This team has inspired people throughout our district. The Crusaders posted an impressive 34–4 record in its first season of Division I—the highest level of high school basketball in California. Coach Porter has developed an outstanding program that has set an example throughout the state and nation. His encouraging his players to be their best is a staple at Modesto Christian High School.

The championship game was senior Chuck Hayes’ final game for the Crusaders where he had a game high 18 points and 20 rebounds. Hayes has been called the greatest high school player to come from this area. According to the Modesto Bee, “Hayes’ ability to take this game to another level against the best the state had to offer is what separated him from the rest.” Hayes is not only an example on the court but off as well. His reputation is impeccable.

Mr. Speaker, sometimes winning in life is more important than the points a team scores in a particular game. The Crusaders have proven that teamwork, dedication and integrity are key components to success not only in basketball, but also in life. It is an honor for me to recognize the winners at Modesto Christian for an outstanding season. These young men represent the Central Valley’s best to the state.

I ask my colleagues to rise and join me in honoring the Mostede Christian Crusaders: Jon Crenshaw; Chuck Hayes; Miles Scott; Brian Donham; James Noel; Richard Midgley; Marc Pratt; Jeff Porter; Josh Bouch; Kevin Bonner; Beau Brummell; Bobby Cole, Jr.; Marshall Meyers; William Patterson; and Davis Paris.

IN HONOR OF JUStICE ALICE ROBIE RESNICK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alice Robie Resnick, Justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio, who is being honored by the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party at their annual dinner this year.

Justice Resnick is a graduate of Siena Heights College, and the University of Detroit Law School. Serving as Assistant Prosecutor for Lucas County, she tried more than one hundred serious felony cases including ten death penalty cases. In 1982, she became the first woman elected to the Sixth District Court of Appeals. Justice Resnick became the second woman in history to be elected to the Ohio Supreme Court in 1988.

Justice Resnick has performed graduate work at the University of Arizona and served as an Assistant to the Chief of Archeology at Mesa Verde. From there he worked as a Seasonal Park Naturalist for four summers at the Grand Canyon; Tremanstate National Monument, Arizona; and Carlsbad Caverns National Park in New Mexico. He then served as an Assistant to the Chief of Archeology here in Washington and as a Regional Museum Curator in the Southwest Regional Office in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Mr. Smith also served as the Superintendent of Fort Davis National Historic Site in Ft. Davis, Texas and, finally, as the Superintendent of Chalimaz National Memorial until 1990. He was awarded the Department of Interior Distinction Service Award for 40 years of service.

IN HONOR OF FRANKLIN G. SMITH, THE FIRST SUPERINTENDENT OF THE CHAMIZAL NATIONAL MEMORIAL

HON. SILVESTRE REYES
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great American. Mr. Franklin G. Smith passed away Wednesday, March 14, 2001 in El Paso, Texas. He has been a resident of El Paso since 1971. Mr. Smith was born in Pueblo, Colorado. He earned his Bachelor’s Degree from the University of Arizona, and performed graduate work at the University of Arizona. He served with honor in the United States Army from 1944–1946. I would like to express my heartfelt sorrow to his lovely wife, Pauline Smith of El Paso, and his daughter Alison Diane Olson and grand daughter Amber Marie Olson.

Mr. Smith was a 42-year veteran of the National Park Service and was the first superintendent of the Chamizal National Memorial in my district. He had a distinguished career which began in 1948 as a Seasonal Park Archeologist at Mesa Verde. From there he worked as a Seasonal Park Naturalist for four summers at the Grand Canyon; Tumacacori National Monument, Arizona; and Carlsbad Caverns National Park in New Mexico. He then served as an Assistant to the Chief of Archeology here in Washington and as a Regional Museum Curator in the Southwest Regional Office in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Mr. Smith also served as the Superintendent of Fort Davis National Historic Site in Ft. Davis, Texas and, finally, as the Superintendent of Chamizal National Memorial until 1990. He was awarded the Department of Interior Distin-