

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, my home State of Florida ranks third in people reporting full-blown AIDS and, in my district of Miami, fourth in the top 10 cities. The lifetime medical cost of one AIDS case is estimated at \$69,000, which means that uninsured or underinsured patients would have little or no recourse for affording treatment if it were not for the Ryan White Care Act.

These programs have been a critical source of care and services for people living and dealing with HIV/AIDS. The Ryan White Care Act provides funding to support a range of HIV care and services, from HIV testing and counseling to prescription drugs and home hospice care. It is founded on a strong partnership between the Federal Government, States and local communities, and it emphasizes less costly outpatient and primary care to prevent expensive emergency room visits and hospitalizations.

The Ryan White Care Act serves approximately 500,000 individuals with HIV and AIDS every year. The reauthorization of this act last October was a great victory for the AIDS community. It was a victory for America's 400,000 plus families who will lose a loved one this year to AIDS. On their behalf, we ask our colleagues to support crucial funding for the Ryan White Care Act this year.

#### COMPLETED COUNTING REAFFIRMS BUSH VICTORY

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, even before Vice President Gore conceded the Presidential election, the Democrats talked about counting all of the ballots to see who really won. Well, that task has been accomplished.

The Miami Herald, Knight Ridder and USA Today conducted a comprehensive review of more than 64,000 ballots in all 67 Florida counties. What did this review find? Bush's margin of 537 votes would have increased to 1,665 if all the ballots were counted. This number was reached using the standard of counting every dimple, pinprick or hanging chad as a valid vote.

Under different scenarios, counting chads with two corners detached, or counting dimples for the Presidential election, the verdict was the same: Governor Bush still would have won.

This election was decided conclusively last year. For those who could not accept this fact, there was this fantasy, "What if all the votes had been counted?" The answer remains the same: President George W. Bush.

#### HANDS ARE NOT FOR HURTING

(Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, hands are not for hurting. It is a simple phrase and a simple concept, but one that too many never learn.

I rise today to spread the word about the Hands Are Not For Hurting Project started by Ann Kelley, a woman in Salem, Oregon, who is dedicating her life to violence prevention. Ann got the idea that if all children took a pledge that they would not use their hands for hurting and signed that pledge on a purple paper cut-out of their hand, then that simple idea may penetrate. She reasoned that because violence is a learned response, it could be unlearned, and we could teach more peaceful and constructive methods of showing anger or resolving disputes.

Hands Are Not for Hurting is now being used by schools, churches, civic groups and government agencies in more than 20 States. Thousands of young people and adults across this country have taken the pledge to refrain from violence.

Today marks one of the saddest anniversaries in America's recent history. To commemorate the life and goals of Martin Luther King, Jr., I would like to urge all of my colleagues to spread the word. Hands are instruments that can paint a masterpiece, sculpt a classic, or wipe a tear from a child's face, but hands are not for hurting.

#### APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, and, unfortunately, child abuse is a very real problem in the United States.

In 1999, 825,000 children were victims of abuse or neglect, a sad and preventable statistic, Mr. Speaker, 825,000 children we cannot afford to turn our backs on. Violence toward one child affects everyone.

Keeping our children safe is a community responsibility because ultimately all of us pay the price for those who grow up in abusive homes by way of increased law enforcement, medical and drug treatment, remedial education, foster care and public assistance.

Child abuse is preventable, and everyone must be involved: neighborhoods, schools, churches, the local government, and the media. Each of us can start by participating in the blue ribbon campaign. It is a tangible way to demonstrate one's concern about child abuse and neglect. So let us wear a ribbon and when someone asks, as I do, what is that ribbon for, instead of just saying that it signifies Child Abuse Prevention Month, let us say, this rep-

resents the children who were abused in my community last year. Would you wear one, too, so we will not forget?

Let us remember that children are only 20 percent of our population today, but 100 percent of our future.

#### RETIREMENT SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

(Mr. NEAL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to expand and improve pension coverage for low- and moderate-income workers.

My legislation will provide an incentive for these workers to participate in the current pension system and to hopefully stay in the system once the benefits of compounded interest can be clearly seen. For those who believe that we must really do something to encourage savings, this is an ideal piece of legislation.

This bill will allow individuals to receive up to a 50 percent tax credit on voluntary contributions to an individual retirement account or an employer-sponsored pension plan. The maximum credit would be \$1,000 on a \$2,000 contribution and would be refundable so that this incentive to save would be attractive to some who otherwise might not be in a pension system due to low incomes.

The bill also allows small businesses to receive two tax credits, one for start-up administrative costs associated with a new pension plan and another for contributions made to a pension plan for non-highly-compensated employees covered under the plan.

Mr. Speaker, I believe this bill would make significant progress in encouraging employees to participate in a pension system and, most importantly, to keep them participating. I hope this year we will move this legislation and attach it to any piece of major pension legislation that moves or sails through this Congress.

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#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO DAN KROLL

(Mr. ROGERS of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with this body an uncommon act of my constituents, Dan and Lisa Kroll of Marion Township, Michigan.

Kelly, Ray and Collin Shuler are neighbors of Dan Kroll. Collin, the Shuler's 2-year-old son, suffers from a serious brain injury which causes him to have partial blindness and stunted development. The Shulers have traveled throughout this Nation and to Canada in order to learn physical therapy procedures that they can perform