

May 3, 2001

Current statistics indicate that one-fifth of today's 35-year-olds who reach retirement can expect to live into their 90s—evidence that many Americans will outlive their retirement savings. Therefore, it is absolutely critical that Congress ensure that Americans have the resources necessary to achieve a financially secure retirement.

I would urge my colleagues to support this landmark legislation that would expand access to private pensions and increase flexibility for families to save for retirement.

COMPREHENSIVE RETIREMENT SECURITY AND PENSION REFORM ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 2, 2001

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that H.R. 10, The Comprehensive Retirement Security and Pension Reform Act, is before the House today.

I applaud Congressmen PORTMAN and CARDIN for creating this package that will allow Americans to set more aside in IRA or 401(k)-type plans, modernize pension laws, and provide regulatory relief to encourage more small businesses to offer retirement plans.

This fair, bipartisan plan will help millions of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I am also pleased the Ways and Means Committee included an amendment offered by my colleague PHIL ENGLISH that will improve the retirement options available to the Amish.

This amendment corrects a line in the tax code that excludes Amish from deducting contributions to Keogh, SEP, or Simple IRA retirement plans.

In 1989, Congress passed a law permitting self-employed members of certain religious faiths, like the Amish, to treat their self-employed earnings as eligible income, even though they are exempt from self-employment tax. This was done to allow these individuals to deduct contributions to IRAs from their taxes.

However, Congress didn't change the sections of the code which apply to SEP, Keogh, and Simple IRA plans.

As a result, Amish members have been able to deduct contributions to IRAs, but cannot deduct contributions to Keogh and SEP, and Simple IRA plans.

Mr. Speaker, this was clearly an oversight made in 1989.

With the inclusion of Mr. ENGLISH's amendment, Amish will now be able to deduct their contributions to all of these plans.

On behalf of the Amish, I wish to thank Chairman THOMAS, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. ENGLISH for working hard to include this technical yet important, provision for the Amish.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2001

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure for me to recognize the efforts of the National Ground Water Association, which is headquartered in my district in Westerville, Ohio. NGWA is sponsoring National Ground Water Awareness Week, which begins May 6.

Each spring, NGWA sponsors Ground Water Awareness Week to educate the public about this precious national resource. Ground water is not only the source for much of our drinking water, but is also utilized in agriculture, commercial and industrial production and thermoelectric energy generation. It is also the single biggest source of water for irrigation in our country.

The National Ground Water Association is a not-for-profit professional society and trade organization representing all segments of the groundwater industry. Its over 16,000 members include the world's leading ground water scientists and engineers, drilling contractors, manufacturers and suppliers.

Association members will be using Ground Water Awareness Week to participate in a variety of activities and events. I want to thank them for their efforts to preserve, protect and safely utilize this most valuable resource.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF RICHARDSON PREYER, FORMER MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2001

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, it is with sadness that I note the death of a former colleague and a great North Carolinian, Mr. Lunsford Richardson Preyer, who died of cancer on April 3 at the age of 82.

Born in Greensboro, North Carolina, Rich attended college at Princeton University and law school at Harvard. He served honorably in World War II, earning a Bronze Star from the Navy for his courage at Okinawa. It was this courage and his absolute respect for the law and for people that caught the eye of President John F. Kennedy, who named him to a U.S. District Court judgeship in 1961.

In 1968, Rich successfully ran for Congress, where he served until 1980. Although my time with him in the House was brief, I know that Rich served the people of North Carolina's 6th District with distinction. He lived during a tumultuous time in our nation's history when racial discrimination was widespread. African Americans were frequently subjected to legal, social and economic oppression. However, Rich emerged through all that by displaying a remarkable moral integrity, tolerance, and support for racial diversity and human rights.

As a member of Congress, Rich won the respect of both Republicans and Democrats for

his dignity, intelligence, and integrity. He chaired the House Select Committee on Ethics, crafting the Congressional code of ethics. He also served on the House Select Committee on Assassinations, helping to investigate the deaths of President Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr.

Two years after my election to Congress, Rich left the House. He and his wife Emily—who passed away in 1999—returned to Greensboro where they both continued to touch the lives of their many friends and neighbors in the community.

Our nation lost a caring and visionary legislator with the death of Rich, and it is fitting that we pay tribute to his life and legacy today. My wife Cheryl and I would like to express our condolences to Rich's surviving family in this time of sorrow and sadness, and they will be in our prayers.

IN HONOR OF CLAIR DUCKHAM AND THE DAYTON CYCLING CLUB

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2001

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, April 28 marked the 95th birthday of Dayton Cycling Club co-founder Clair Duckham of Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Duckham still rides his bike 44 miles every Sunday from his Dayton home to Troy, where he dines with his friends, the "Gray Wolves."

2001 marks the 40th anniversary year of the Dayton Cycling Club, founded in 1961 by Mr. Duckham and Horace Huffman. Today, the Dayton Cycling Club has over 700 members, and schedules rides for almost every day of the year.

I would like to salute Mr. Duckham on his birthday. His energy and vitality serve as an inspiration to all.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDIKIDS HEALTH INSURANCE ACT OF 2001

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues Representatives Charlie Rangel, George Miller, Jim McDermott, John Conyers, Barney Frank, Sherrod Brown, John Tierney, Sheila Jackson-Lee, Dennis Kucinich, William Coyne, Karen Thurman, and John LaFalce today to introduce the MediKids Health Insurance Act of 2001, which would provide universal health for our nation's children through a new Medicare-like national program with benefits tailored toward children. Senator Rockefeller is introducing a companion bill in the Senate.

Children are the least expensive segment of our population to insure, and maintaining their health is integral to the future of our society. We can not allow children to go without basic health care because they are uninsured. They will be more likely to require both avoidable

7157