PLIGHT OF PUBLIC HOSPITAL SYSTEMS IN NATION

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this evening I would like to talk about the plight of the public hospital systems in this Nation, and use as an example my own public hospital system, the Harris County Hospital District.

First of all, let me applaud the district for being such a vital part of our community, both in times of need and in times of tragedy. In particular over the last two years of his life, it is the Harris County Hospital District that has stood up under the burden of Tropical Storm Allison. When any number of our private hospitals were closed, the Harris County Hospital District had its doors open. The trauma center, the Trauma, Emergency Center, was available for those who were in need. Now this hospital district is in need, and we need to rally around it to support it.

First of all, there is an enormous nursing shortage, as we well know, throughout this Nation. We must find ways to enhance and grow nurses, as well as provide opportunities for existing nurses who are immigrants to come in and provide assistance.

Furthermore, we must address the funding issue that plagues the Harris County Hospital District as it relates to the formula utilized for Medicaid dollars in this Congress. I hope that my colleagues and I will be able to address this issue. I will be approaching, along with Members of the United States Senate, can help us assist in obtaining additional funding, at least providing some minimal relief to the Harris County Hospital District, but addressing the need across the Nation for our public hospital systems. I applaud them and thank them for their service to the health needs of America.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JUSTICE STANLEY MOSK

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

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to speak on the memorial of Justice Stanley Mosk. Many of you will know that my law student in the 1980s when I studied his opinions as required reading at Harvard Law School, along with the opinions of Justices Tobrairn and Traynor. Traynor, Tobriner and Mosk were the giants of the California courts.

Sadly, Justice Mosk died on the day he was to submit his resignation to the Governor of California.

I first learned of Justice Mosk as a law student in the 1980s when I studied his opinions as required reading at Harvard Law School, along with the opinions of Justices Tobriner and Traynor. Traynor, Tobriner and Mosk were the giants of the California courts. They were the three gentlemen who made the California court, in many people's view, many scholars around the country, truly the highest court in the land. Justice Mosk served 37 years on that court, the longest of any justice, serving with prodigious productivity, authoring 1,688 rulings. Smart, eloquent and principled, he had a magnificent record of upholding and expanding the rights of individuals.

Born on September 4, 1912, in San Antonio, Texas, Stanley Mosk was educated in public schools in Rockford, Illinois, and attended the University of Chicago Law School, earning his J.D. from Southwestern University in Los Angeles.

He was elected to serve as California attorney general in 1959 after campaigning in which he overcame tactics making his religious faith as a Jew an issue, and won by more than a 1-million-vote margin over his opponent, the largest majority in any contest in America that year. He was overwhelmingly reelected in 1962.

As attorney general for nearly 6 years, he issued approximately 2,000 written opinions, appeared before the U.S. Supreme Court in the Arizona v. California water case, and other landmark matters. He served on numerous boards and commissions, handled anti-trust matters, constitutional rights, consumer fraud, investigative fraud, authoring some of California's most constructive legislative proposals in the field of crime and law enforcement.