

program for hospitalized veterans of the West Palm Beach facility with monthly Bingo games. The vision and followthrough of Ray and Bobby were also instrumental in the planning and constructing of the Governor Lawton Childs Veterans Memorial Park right in Delray Beach.

Under the leadership of this outstanding couple, their community flourished and the membership of Post 266 grew to be the largest post in the country. Undoubtedly, these two have worked immensely to further the program of the Jewish War Veterans both locally and nationally. Today, Ray and Bobby are still involved in the Post; after turning over the commander's role in January 2010, Ray now holds the position of quartermaster, and Bobby continues to assist the current commander of the Women's Auxiliary. Raymond and Roberta White deserve special plaudits for their commitment and dedication to their work, and our very best wishes for their continued service and happiness in good health together.

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HONORING ETHEL KENNEDY

**HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 2, 2010*

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ethel Kennedy, my aunt, upon the occasion of the 2010 Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award ceremony. This ceremony highlighted the abuses in Mexico and honored local hero Abel Barrera Hernandez, founder and director of the Tlachinollan Center, for his courageous defense of the rights of rural and indigenous people living in Guerrero State in southern Mexico. Aunt Ethel's work with the Human Rights Award is truly remarkable.

Aunt Ethel has been instrumental in advancing human rights. I wish her all the best as she continues this important work. She will continue to carry my own admiration, and that of all who have had the privilege to work with her.

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INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION  
HONORING THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH  
ON WOMEN'S HEALTH

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 2, 2010*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 20th anniversary of the Office of Research on Women's Health. As the leading agency for women's health research in the United States, the Office has transformed biomedical research and improved the lives of women nationally and internationally.

The Office of Research on Women's Health was founded in response to congressional and scientific concerns over the systematic exclusion of women from clinical research trials funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). One clinical trial, the Physicians' Health

Study, included 22,071 men—and no women. This clinical trial generated over 300 basic findings that are used today to guide all facets of medicine. Indeed, the common advice to take aspirin to prevent heart attacks is based largely on this clinical trial with no female participants. By excluding women from clinical trials, biomedical research failed women.

Scientists and government officials alike recognized the troubling implications of providing medical care based on research that excluded more than half of the world's population. The Society for Women's Health Research was founded to galvanize support and improve scientific research.

My colleagues and I in the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues challenged the exclusion of women from federally funded research.

In 1990 we introduced H.R. 5397, an omnibus Women's Health Equity Act, an unprecedented package of 22 separate bills designed to improve the status of women's health in the areas of research, services, and prevention. Among the provisions of this mammoth legislation were: the establishment and permanent authorization of the Office of Research on Women's Health; the statutory requirement that women and minorities must be included in NIH clinical studies, where appropriate; the establishment of research centers on osteoporosis, contraception, and infertility; and necessary funding increases for research into the diseases that claim unacceptable numbers of female lives, like breast, ovarian, and cervical cancers.

Our interest prompted federal action. The National Institutes of Health announced the creation of the Office of Research on Women's Health in 1990.

Many of the provisions of the Women's Health Equity Act were included in the National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act of 1993. Thankfully, President Clinton made the NIH bill, and especially its critical improvements of women's health research, one of his first legislative priorities. It was signed into law on June 10, 1993, in a White House ceremony befitting such historic legislation—establishing the Office of Research on Women's Health in statute.

Since its creation 20 years ago, the Office of Research on Women's Health has increased our understanding of sex differences, from single cells to biological systems. This new focus on sex differences has transformed epigenetics, endocrinology, immunology, and many other fields.

In 1999, the Office initiated the "Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health initiative" which supported the career development of approximately 400 early-stage research scientists. By helping these scientists to become independent researchers and obtain academic positions, the Office of Research on Women's Health built a sophisticated, active field of women's health research.

In 2002, the Office established the "Specialized Centers of Research on Sex and Gender Factors Affecting Women's Health" program to support interdisciplinary research in basic and clinical research. In 2009 alone, this program helped scientists to publish 116 journal articles, 176 abstracts, and 63 other publications.

Alongside of the ambitious research agenda of the Office of Research on Women's Health,

the Office also educates physicians, providers, and patients about gender-based differences in health care. This education program helps to translate the research accomplishments into tangible improvements in care for women and girls nationwide.

The Office of Research on Women's Health continues to press for improvements for women's health care.

This fall, the Office launched its "Vision for 2020 in Women's Health Research", a far-sighted research strategy for the next 10 years. Their vision—which I share—calls upon our Nation to increase its commitment to evaluate sex differences in both basic science and clinical research.

We also must ensure that sex differences are acknowledged in the design and application of new technologies and medications. Furthermore, we need to build a talented, diverse, and active women's health research workforce.

We cannot abandon our commitment to women's health research.

Indeed, recent withdrawals of medications by the Food and Drug Administration remind us of the importance of evaluating medicines by sex. In 2001, the then U.S. General Accounting Office published an evaluation showing that eight of the ten medications recently withdrawn "posed greater health risks for women than for men".

The importance of the mission and accomplishments of the Office of Research on Women's Health cannot be overstated. Women and girls deserve health care that has been tailored to their needs, and that requires high-quality research sensitive to gender-based differences.

I thank the Office of Research on Women's Health for their achievements over the past 20 years. I know that the Office will use the next 20 years to support excellent science that will benefit women and men alike.

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REMARKS ON ALAN GROSS

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 2, 2010*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, tomorrow marks the one-year anniversary of the imprisonment of Alan Gross in Cuba. Today, I come to the House floor not in my role as Chairman of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee nor as a Congressman interested in U.S. policy toward Cuba.

Instead, I come here as a father and a husband to urge the Cuban government to release Alan Gross on humanitarian grounds.

Alan's health continues to deteriorate. He has lost 90 pounds and has developed disc problems that have caused partial paralysis in his leg. This could become permanent if he does not have surgery. He also has developed severe pain in his hips.

Perhaps even more devastating than his own health is Alan's not being able to be with his daughter who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer. His daughter has had several surgeries and is now undergoing chemotherapy. As a father to a daughter around the