

hope all my colleagues will stand up for shrimpers by cosponsoring the Shrimp Importation Financing Fairness Act.

HOUSES OF WORSHIP POLITICAL
SPEECH PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD L. SCHROCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. SCHROCK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my support for H.R. 2357, The Houses of Worship Political Speech Protection Act, which was defeated in the House last week. It is my belief that political speech is a form of speech that is protected by the first amendment. Churches must be given the same rights and protections as individuals.

I was in my home district participating in the Change of Command for the U.S. Joint Forces Command when the House voted on this legislation. The Joint Forces Command is responsible for joint service training of all U.S. military forces as well as helping transform the services for challenges they face in the 21st century. Navy Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr. relieved retiring Army General William F. Kernan yesterday and takes over the command. Kernan retires after a 35 year Army career and two years as commander of Joint Forces Command and as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, responsible for NATO operations in the North Atlantic. Giambastiani spent the past 18 months as Defense Secretary Rumsfeld's military adviser. I wish General Kernan the best in retirement and I look forward to working with Admiral Giambastiani.

Had I been able to vote for H.R. 2357, I would have cast my vote in favor of this legislation.

I was also away from Washington on Thursday, October 3, 2002, accompanying the Secretary of the Navy to the Naval Institute Warfare Exposition in Norfolk. On this day the House voted on H.J. Res. 112, Making Continuing Appropriations for FY 2003. I had hoped to be here to vote for this important resolution to keep the government funded and operational, and had I been here I would have voted in favor of this resolution.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
BENJAMIN GILMAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am saddened by the action that we take here this week, honoring one of the House's greatest Members, BENJAMIN GILMAN, upon his retirement after 15 terms in Congress.

BEN has been a friend and supporter of many of us on the other side of the aisle. His compassion for serving others is legendary. Whether it was fighting for the creation of the Select Committee on hunger or freeing political prisoners in Cuba, BEN was a stalwart in protecting the rights of others. He brought that same concern for others to his role as the

Ranking Member of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee from 1989 to 1993 which had oversight over civil service and postal employees. BEN has continued to be a voice of reason on the successor to this committee, the House Government Reform Committee. Having traveled with him on several anti-drug codels, I know how committed he has been not only in fighting drug trafficking but also in working for the resources necessary to assist those affected by drug abuse.

For his entire congressional career, BEN was known as someone from "upstate New York". Within the New York delegation, that simply means that BEN is not from New York city. While he may not hail from "the Big Apple", he is one of "New York's finest" and it has been an honor and a pleasure for me to serve with him and to call him my friend. BEN, please know that you will be sorely missed even by those of us who are not from your side of the aisle or from upstate New York. I can only wish you well and to thank for your years of service to the people of New York and this Nation.

MEDICAL DEVICE USER FEE AND
MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 7, 2002

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 3580, the Medical Device Amendments.

This bill represents the kind of good public policy that can be developed when the parties work together in a bipartisan fashion.

H.R. 3580 makes a number of important changes to the processes at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to ensure that life-saving medical devices are sped to the market, while at the same time ensuring that patient safety is protected. By instituting a system of user fees, this legislation will direct an additional \$25 to \$30 million to the FDA so that they can streamline their device approval process.

The legislation also makes sure that Congress upholds its end of the bargain by requiring an additional \$15 million to be added to FDA's baseline through the appropriations process. As a result, FDA will have \$40-50 million more over the next five years.

Additionally, by providing the FDA some flexibility in allowing third parties to perform biennial FDA quality systems regulations inspections, the agency will be able to clear the backlog, in inspections, and ensure that the facilities where these devices are made meet the same FDA standard that has been the benchmark.

This legislation contains important provisions which help clarify whether a product designed for single-use has been reprocessed, and improves labeling so that individuals and health care providers know when a product has been reprocessed.

However, I am most pleased that this legislation contains provisions that would improve our understanding of the long term health implications of breast implants. Current data regarding the health implications of breast im-

plants fails to answer many questions, especially about the longterm health effects of breast implants, their effect on the auto-immune system, on neurological function, and on the children of women who have them. There is also a gaping void in our understanding of how implants affect breast cancer survivors.

We have also heard from many women that they were not adequately informed of the risks associated with implants before their surgeries. We have worked very closely with the committee to get some of these concerns addressed, and I am pleased that they agreed to include our proposal to have the NIH do a study on the long-term health consequences of breast implants.

This study would require NIH to delve into areas that have not been previously studied, so that we can have a full understanding of how breast implants affect women.

We were also able to agree on a GAO report, which will study the FDA's current informed consent procedures, to evaluate whether women are receiving the information they need to make an informed decision, whether that information is up-to-date, comprehensive, fair and balanced, and understandable. This GAO study will give us the hard data we need to determine whether changes to the FDA's process are necessary and appropriate.

I would like to thank Congressman ROY BLUNT for his hard work on this issue. ROY and I have been working together on this issue for several years because we both have constituents who have experienced problems with breast implants. We have both heard first hand of the deficiencies in our current knowledge base on the effects of implants, as well as concerns about the ability of women to receive comprehensive, fair and balanced information about the risks of implants.

I would like to thank Chairman TAUZIN and his staff for working so closely with us on this issue. A lot of effort went into this entire bill—including these provisions—and it would not have occurred without his leadership.

I would also like to thank Dr. GANSKE. I know that, as a plastic surgeon, he had some concerns about what we were trying to do, but I think we were able to work out a reasonable compromise on these issues, and that the women he treats will be better served as a result. I think that is something we can all be proud of.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I voice my support for this legislation and urge its passage.

TRUTH IN FINANCING ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to give taxpayers the power to prevent their tax dollars from subsidizing illegal activity by introducing the Truth in Financing Act. Hard as my colleagues may find it to believe, groups which violate federal and state laws, or make misrepresentations when filing for federal grants, continue to receive federal tax dollars.

For example, according to information obtained by my office, federal bureaucrats are giving taxpayer funds to groups which routinely flaunt laws requiring that cases of statutory rape and child molestation be reported to the relevant authorities.

In order to insure that taxpayers are not subsidizing this type of unconscionable and illegal behavior, the Truth in Financing Act forbids federal funds from going to anyone who violates a federal law, regulation, or state or local law punishable by 6 months imprisonment or a fine of at least \$5,000. The prohibition would also apply to those who aid or abet serious criminal activity, or who lie on an application for federal funds.

Most importantly, the Truth in Financing Act allows any U.S. citizen to use the courts to force federal officials to cut off funds from those who violate the law. No longer will taxpayers have to sit silently by while federal bureaucrats shovel money to those who flaunt the laws of this country.

Providing federal funds to those who engage in illegal behavior undermines the rule of law and forces taxpayers to fund illegal behavior. If federal bureaucrats will not act to prevent taxpayer funds from going to organizations that violate the laws, then Congress has no choice but to give taxpayers the power to stop this outrage. I hope my colleagues will stand up for the rule of law and the American taxpayer by cosponsoring the Truth in Financing Act.

CHILD ABDUCTION PREVENTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 7, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 5422, the Child Abduction Prevention Act. I am greatly troubled by this vote.

I support the Amber Alert program as a vital means to prevent child abductions. I support improving the National Coordination of Amber Alert Communications to better track down perpetrators of these horrific crimes.

If this bill had simply been about this important effort to protect the safety of our children, I would have supported it. But, House Republicans added provisions I cannot in good conscience support and will ultimately doom this bill when it comes before the Senate.

I object to giving law enforcement unrestricted access to abuse fundamental privacy rights as this bill does. The Republicans added provisions giving the FBI unprecedented wiretap authority to engage in secret surveillance of our homes, even sexual acts between consenting adults.

The Republicans added provisions imposing new mandatory minimum sentencing requirements despite these having been shown to be ineffective in deterring crime.

Finally, Republicans added provisions expanding the number of crimes punishable under the death penalty. This is done despite evidence that many Americans have been wrongly sentenced to death.

By including these controversial provisions, House Republicans blew the chance to help protect our children from predators. It is inexcusable that they knew that these provisions would make passage of this bill impossible in the Senate. Yet, they added them anyway in hopes of making this a political issue.

Ultimately, the Republicans' aim was not to protect children. Their aim was to turn voters

against Democrats in the Senate who support the Amber Alert program, but won't vote for a bill that compromises our constitutional rights.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against this legislation. Let's send a message to the House Republicans that the safety of our children and the protection of our Constitutional rights are more important than partisan politics.

DR. CLEON A. FLOWERS, SR.,
NOTED AFRICAN-AMERICAN PHYSICIAN AND COMMUNITY LEADER

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a highly regarded Arkansan, Dr. Cleon A. Flowers, Sr. Dr. Flowers passed away in Pine Bluff, Arkansas on his 89th birthday after spending more than six decades caring for the health needs of Pine Bluff and Southeastern Arkansas. With Dr. Flowers' passing, Arkansas and the state's medical community lost an icon in medicine.

Dr. Flowers, described as the Godfather of Arkansas Medicine, was born in Stamps, Arkansas, a small rural town in the Southwest region of the state. After earning his undergraduate degree from Arkansas AM&N College, now the University of Arkansas Pine Bluff, Dr. Flowers received his medical degree from Meharry Medical College, a historically black academic health center and preeminent medical school. Upon returning to Pine Bluff with a medical degree and after service in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a major, Dr. Flowers began practicing medicine with an emphasis on putting the patient's needs first. He would often accept chickens, pigs, or homegrown vegetables as payment and open his office after hours to accommodate the odd hours his patients worked. Living in the segregated South Dr. Flowers realized the challenges that African Americans faced and wanted to ensure African Americans received quality health care, regardless of income and "normal" business hours. During his private practice, Dr. Flowers owned and operated the United Links Hospital, a medical facility for Blacks. The hospital has since been renamed the Flowers Professional Building.

In addition to his professional milestones, Dr. Flowers was a community leader, becoming one of the first Black doctors on staff at what is now Jefferson Regional Medical Center in Pine Bluff, serving on the board of trustees of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, and being a member of the National Medical Association and the National Association for Advancement of Colored People. Dr. Cleon A. Flowers, Sr. was an excellent physician and community leader. His presence in Pine Bluff and Arkansas will be missed.

In addition to my CONGRESSIONAL RECORD statement, I have also submitted an article from Jet magazine's September 16, 2002 issue, which discusses Dr. Flowers' life.

DR. CLEON A. FLOWERS SR., 89, NOTED PINE BLUFF, AR, PHYSICIAN, SUCCUMBS

Praised as an old-fashioned physician more interested in serving his patients than filling his pockets, Dr. Cleon A. Flowers Sr. re-

cently was remembered by family and friends during services at New St. Hurricane Baptist Church in Pine Bluff, AR.

Flowers, born in Stamps, AR died at his home in Pine Bluff on his 89th birthday, ending a nearly 60-year career that began in 1943 after he graduated from Meharry Medical College.

"It did not matter to him if a person had money to pay for his service or not. He only wanted to be sure the needs of his patients were met," his son, Clifford Flowers, told the Pine Bluff Commercial newspaper, which interviewed Dr. Flowers in 1999.

During that interview the popular physician fondly recalled his early days as a doctor, citing his fees: Two dollars for an office visit, \$3 for a house call and \$35 for a home baby delivery. "I even got paid with pigs, chickens, homegrown vegetables and wild game. Those were the good old days," he said.

Dr. Flowers made national news in 1954 when he delivered the first Siamese twins born at home. But he did not rest on his laurels.

Retired Jefferson County Coroner Havis Hester told the newspaper: "I remember him opening his office until 3 a.m. in the morning just to accommodate his patients who had to work and could not get there during normal office hours. I never knew any other doctor to do that..."

The second son of three born to Alonzo and Beulah Flowers, Flowers, borne in 1913, graduated from Arkansas AM&N College (now University of Arkansas Pine Bluff) in 1939. He completed studies at Meharry Medical School in 1943. During his internship at Meharry he was drafted by the U.S. Army Air Corps and later was commissioned as a major.

Dr. Flowers opened his private practice in Pine Bluff in 1945 and in 1946 he bought the building occupied by the United Links Hospital, a medical facility for Blacks, which he continued to operate until 1950. Today it is the site of the Flowers Professional Building.

In 1950, Dr. Flowers became one of the first Black doctors on the staff of what is now the Jefferson Regional Medical Center in Pine Bluff.

His numerous medical and civic affiliations included service on the Arkansas Agricultural, Mechanical and Normal College/University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Board of Trustees, the Arkansas Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Assn., where he served as president, and memberships in the National Medical Assn., Prince Hall Masons and NAACP.

"Most doctors retire after 20 or 30 years, after they think they've gotten rich. I've seen fellows quit and then they go home and shut down. They just wasted away. I'm going to keep chugging along," he told the Commercial. Dr. Flowers did just that. He worked well into the his 80s.

In addition to his wife, Martha, he is survived by six children: sons Dr. Cleon A. Flowers Jr., Dr. John A. Flowers, Clifford Flowers Sr., Clyde Flowers, and Randall Flowers, and daughter Dr. Martha Flowers.

REAFFIRMING REFERENCE TO ONE NATION UNDER GOD IN PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SPEECH OF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 7, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this legislation prohibiting the words