

Fiscal Year 2010 budget submission to see whether this effort will receive the kind of funding it needs to be successful.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill and I encourage my colleagues to do likewise.

HEALTH INSURANCE RESTRICTIONS AND LIMITATIONS CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2009

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, this legislation does one simple thing, Mr. Speaker—it requires health insurance companies to be upfront and honest with their policy holders when they place limitations and restrictions on benefits prior to selling them an insurance policy.

Currently, the way insurance regulations are set, many Americans are unaware that their health insurance may not cover injuries resulting from certain recreational activities because their policy is unclear or very broad.

This lack of clarity has created a confusing situation for individuals that may ride motorcycles, horses, snowmobiles, or participate in other recreational activities.

While millions of Americans enjoy these activities safely every year, when an individual is injured, they often find that their insurance will not cover their medical expenses.

H.R. 1253 would require that any limitations and restrictions on insurance benefits be explicit and clear. Insurance companies would be required to make available to participants and beneficiaries in an easily understandable manner a description of the limitations and restrictions included in the policy.

By passing this straightforward legislation, we will protect our constituents that ride motorcycles, horses, snowmobiles, or participate in other recreational activities from being caught by surprise when they thought that their policy covered any possible injuries from their accident.

I encourage all of my colleagues to vote in support of this legislation.

I want to thank Congressman BURGESS for his work on this legislation as well as Chairman WAXMAN, DINGELL and BARTON.

RECOGNIZING 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF EGYPT-ISRAEL PEACE TREATY

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2009

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in reluctant opposition to this resolution. I do so not because I oppose our recognizing peace as preferable to, and more productive than, war. On the contrary, too seldom do we celebrate and encourage the end of violence and warfare on this Floor so I welcome any such endorsement of peace in international relations. However, I cannot agree with the final "resolved" clause of this resolution, which states that:

... the House of Representatives calls for recognition of the peace treaty between

Egypt and Israel as a model mechanism upon which partner nations may build to overcome longstanding barriers to peace and effective mutual cooperation.

What the resolution fails to mention, and the reason we should not endorse the treaty as a model, is that at the time the peace was being negotiated at Camp David the United States committed itself to an enormous financial aid package to both Egypt and Israel in exchange for their accession to the treaty. Over the past thirty years, the United States taxpayer has transferred to—some might say "bribed"—Israel and Egypt more well over \$100 billion as a payoff for their leaders' signature on the treaty. Particularly in this time of economic hardship, where so many Americans are out of work and facing great financial challenges, I hardly believe we should be celebrating that which increases the strain on taxpayers. I believe we should cease all foreign aid to all countries, as it is a counterproductive and unconstitutional transfer of wealth from U.S. taxpayers to governments overseas.

I do believe we should, where possible and without meddling, encourage nations and regions at war or in conflict to work toward peace. But I also believe we should lead by example: that we should demonstrate by our actions the benefits of friendly relations and trade with all nations which seek the same. I strongly oppose the idea that we should bribe the rest of the world to do what we demand. Therefore, while I celebrate the achievement of peace between Egypt and Israel, I do not believe this "model" to be productive or in the best interests of the United States. I urge my colleagues to reject this resolution.

HONORING PAUL HARVEY

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2009

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor a man whose iconic voice forever changed broadcast radio and to whom our Nation will be forever indebted.

As a high school student, Paul Harvey began his storied career in his hometown of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Spending time to help clean the studios of KVOO, Paul was eventually given the opportunity to fill-in on the air. It quickly became clear that Paul Harvey was a gifted broadcaster as he was soon promoted to become the station's program director.

After spending time covering World War II and serving in the United States Army Air Corps, Paul Harvey moved to Chicago where he began broadcasting for ABC. He quickly became a fixture on Chicago's airwaves and on April 1, 1951, 'Paul Harvey News and Comment' debuted. Eventually gathering an audience that spanned 1,200 stations and well over 25 million people, Paul Harvey was often the "largest one-man network in the world."

Madam Speaker, the list of awards and honors to the credit of Paul Harvey is long and distinguished. His election to the National Association of Broadcasters Radio Hall of Fame reflects a career that spanned more than 70 years. In October 2005, Paul Harvey was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, our nation's most prestigious civilian decoration.

Illustrating the extent to which Paul Harvey captured the American voice, his broadcasts and newspaper columns have been reprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD more than those of any other commentator.

Because of my time in radio, I am especially thankful for the life and character of Paul Harvey. There is no doubt that every broadcaster has taken inspiration from the unique style and unparalleled legacy of Paul Harvey. Epitomizing the values and ideals of everyday Americans, Paul Harvey was a master of his craft and a pioneer in the format of broadcast radio that many Americans continue to rely on.

Paul Harvey, Good Day.

OMNIBUS PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to vote "yes" on the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009. This bill will designate more than 2 million acres of wilderness in nine states, including 127,000 acres on Mt. Hood and in the Columbia River Gorge. It also includes wilderness protection for other Oregon treasures in the Cascade Siskiyou, Oregon Badlands, Spring Basin, and Copper Salmon areas.

It is worth noting that in addition to wilderness on Mt. Hood, the legislation contains nearly 80 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers, including stretches of Fish Creek, which contains crucial habitat for endangered fish, the East Fork of the Hood River, where wildlife habitat and low impact recreation opportunities abound, and Fifteen Mile Creek, another critical area for fish and wildlife, recreation, and scenic beauty. The bill designates 34,000 acres of new National Recreation Areas in the Mt. Hood National Forest and creates a long term transportation plan to address the challenges of getting to and from the mountain. It also directs the Forest Service to participate in three land conveyances. These exchanges will provide additional protection for the North side of Mt. Hood, the Pacific Crest Trail, and a parcel of land that is critical to the community in Clackamas County.

In 2003, I worked with other members of the Oregon delegation to hold a Mt. Hood Summit at Timberline Lodge, inviting local stakeholders to share their vision for the challenges and opportunities facing the Mt. Hood National Forest. Over the past six years a committed group of citizens, organizations, Native Americans, local, state and federal jurisdictions, and private interests have spent countless hours negotiating a long term stewardship and protection plan for Mt. Hood's forests and rivers.

Oregonians have worked tirelessly and waited years to have these treasured natural areas protected. I am extremely pleased that the hard work of so many committed local stakeholders is coming to fruition, and I hope that we pass this bill today and send it swiftly to President Obama for his signature.