

protections he has. So they feel uncomfortable. But it's not too late; they can still change their position. They ought to think about—it's not a matter of name calling. Their budget office told him it would only cost \$2 a month premium. They've ignored their own budget people; they've now ignored everybody, and they basically signed up with the health insurance companies against all the doctors and all the nurses

and all the patients in America and denied other people what those of us in the Federal Government enjoy. I don't think it's right. But it's not too late to do right.

NOTE: The exchange began at approximately 3 p.m. at Amos Hiatt Middle School. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Statement on House Action on Proposed Legislation To Provide Assistance to African Nations

July 16, 1999

I welcome and applaud passage today by the House of Representatives of the African growth and opportunity act. This historic initiative will set the foundation for a stronger partnership between the United States and Africa. I urge the Senate to act quickly so that we can strengthen the ties between our Nation and a continent on the verge of a new era of democracy and prosperity.

This legislation offers the opportunity for increased trade and investment between the United States and Africa to the mutual benefit of both. By working with African nations to build their economies, strengthen democratic government, and increase opportunities for all the people of Africa, we will help build strong, capable partners with whom we can work to counter the growing threats of terrorism, crime, environmental degradation, and disease.

Statement on the Death of Congressman George E. Brown, Jr.

July 16, 1999

I was greatly saddened to learn of the death of Congressman George Brown. When he last visited the White House, I noted that he was affectionately known as Mr. Science. His legacy of service and lifetime of contributions helped sustain American leadership across the frontiers of scientific knowledge. George Brown's support for science was drawn from his deep belief that science and technology could help achieve a

peaceful world and a just society. For almost 40 years, from his earliest days fighting racial inequality, George Brown challenged us to build a better world. Our Nation has lost a good man and an irreplaceable voice for science and justice.

Hillary and I extend our deepest condolences to his wife, Marta, and to his family.