

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMPREHENSIVE FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME PREVENTION ACT

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 1995

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join Congressman BILL RICHARDSON, Congresswoman SUSAN MOLINARI, Congressman DOUG BEREUTER, and Congressman JOE KENNEDY in introducing legislation today promoting public awareness of fetal alcohol syndrome, one of this country's leading causes of irreversible physical and mental retardation.

Although the lower limit of safe alcohol consumption has not been documented, it is clearly evident that even small amounts of alcohol adversely affects the developing fetus. The unfortunate fact is that this condition is 100 percent preventable. Fetal alcohol syndrome and the varying effects of this alcohol-related condition is a national problem that can impact any woman and child, despite their socioeconomic or racial status. According to CDC statistics, it is a problem that has increased sixfold since 1979.

In 1981, because of the Surgeon General's concern for the dangers of drinking during pregnancy, alcoholic beverages were required to carry warning labels. Yet in a 1991 CDC survey of pregnant women, 13.4 percent were found to have had at least 30 alcoholic drinks in the previous month. Recent surveys have also shown that one out of every five mothers will continue to drink during their next pregnancy. Because of social stigma, many women deny engaging in risky behavior, to their physician, thereby increasing the difficulty for physicians to identify and provide appropriate counseling. With greater effectiveness in identification of FAS, it is estimated that a more accurate estimate of alcohol ingestion in pregnant women is 20 to 35 percent.

Each year more than 50,000 children are born with some degree of physical or mental deformity that can be directly related to maternal alcohol ingestion. Nearly 1 out of every 750 children are born with some degree of fetal alcohol effects each year. FAS experts believe that one-third to one-half of all children in existing special education programs today have been affected by alcohol in some way. The cost of institutionalization and health provisions for these children approximates nearly \$1.4 million over the lifetime of a single child.

Mr. Speaker, the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Research, Education, and Prevention Act that we are proposing provides for the evaluation of the existing research and prevention efforts, and the development of an educational curriculum for health professionals and the development of professional health standards with regard to FAS identification and treatment.

In addition, we are proposing a public-private collaborative effort to develop and implement an education awareness campaign on the effects of alcohol during pregnancy. The human and societal costs of this devastating

problem are enormous. Let us join together to increase the public's awareness of alcohol-related birth defects.

TRIBUTE TO FERNDALE ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 1995

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Ferndale Adult and Community Education Program on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. At its inception in 1944, the program offered night classes at Lincoln High School in Ferndale, MI. Today the program has grown to include morning, afternoon, and evening classes at five centers and numerous other community sites.

The classes range from high school completion programs to teen parent programs, vocational training programs to preschool, latchkey and senior citizen programs. This wide variety of classes clearly involves the entire community, leaving no one out of continuing education.

In 1993-94 alone, the Ferndale Consortium served over 6,900 students in academic and vocational programs and an additional 3,500 in enrichment and community programs. The 414 members of the staff deserve our highest recognition, for without them this effort would not be possible.

The importance of community and adult education cannot go unrecognized. Without this cross-generational programming, our community would not be as strong as it is today.

My thanks and congratulations to the students, the staff, and the community of this milestone, with best wishes for continued success for the Ferndale Adult and Community Education programs.

HONORING TEMPLE BETH-EL OF CO-OP CITY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 1995

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, this year, one of the leading religious institutions in my district, Temple Beth-El of Co-Op City is celebrating its silver anniversary.

Temple Beth-El is one of the original religious institutions opened when Co-Op City was established over a quarter of a century ago. But, this temple takes its mission a step further. Its officers and members work not only on the religious needs of the community, but are active participants in the social and civic fabric of Co-Op City.

They are to be commended for their work. I join with all the residents of Co-Op City in

wishing Temple Beth-El a very happy 25th birthday.

SALUTE TO INSPECTOR JOSEPH DUNNE

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 1995

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend and congratulate Inspector Joseph Dunne. Joseph Dunne is a former inspector of the 75th Precinct, who recently was transferred to the Internal Affairs Division, because of the exemplary work that he demonstrated in his short time at the helm.

In his short tenure, Joseph Dunne has gained the confidence of the residents of the East New York community residents who once lost faith in those that were supposed to protect and defend them. Since his arrival at the 75th Precinct, Joseph Dunne has led the charge for better police and community relations. For 2 consecutive years, East New York led the entire New York City in homicide rates, but in his short time at the 75th, Joseph Dunne has successfully advocated for more police presence, which has contributed to the vast decline in the murder rates in East New York. This is great news, and while I am mentioning the decline of homicide in the East New York community let me add that all other crimes have also declined during Joseph Dunne's tenure.

Joseph Dunne has demonstrated his devotion and commitment to East New York and its residents. I congratulate him and wish him well in his endeavors. Joseph Dunne's accomplishments, though they have not made their way into the news media, have made their way into the hearts of my constituents.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I come to the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives to speak of Joseph Dunne and his work for a better East New York.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 1995

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, May 12, I was granted a leave of absence to return to Arizona to attend the graduation of my daughter from Arizona State University. Consequently, I was absent for three rollcall votes on H.R. 961. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: "Nay" on rollcall vote No. 327; "Aye" on rollcall vote No. 328; "Nay" on rollcall vote No. 329.

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