

II. In this case, the person will still be entitled to only 6 months of presumptive disability benefits. In most States, while receiving SSI benefits, a person is eligible for Medicaid. Under this proposal, claimants who would have been eligible for SSI benefits, were it not for their receipt of DI presumptive disability benefits, would be deemed eligible for SSI, making them eligible for Medicaid in those States where SSI eligibility triggers Medicaid eligibility. When the final determination for DI benefits is made, the claimant loses the Medicaid eligibility. Medicare will be provided to disabled workers and their dependents after they have been receiving disability benefits for 24 months, including the time they were receiving presumptive disability payments.

INTRODUCTION OF DIABETES RESEARCH ACT

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday May 17, 1995

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, diabetes research is at a crossroads. Earlier this year, leading scientists and researchers from across America gathered in Washington, DC, at the Capitol Summit on Diabetes Research to release the white paper. The white paper demonstrated that diabetes research has reached a critical point, and that immediately increasing our focus could yield substantial and dramatic breakthroughs. Recent evidence indicates that a cure, or improvements in other disease management techniques, are within our reach to improve the quality of life for 14 million Americans who are affected by diabetes.

Today, along with Mr. NETHERCUTT, I am proud to introduce the Diabetes Research Act. This legislation would substantially increase the funds available for diabetes research at the National Institutes of Health. In light of the scientific revelations brought forth by leading researchers and endocrinologists, we must adopt a long-term strategy to deal with the problem of diabetes in America. As a nation, diabetes and its tragic complications cost our Nation over \$100 billion every year. Everyday, thousands of people go blind, have extremity amputations, or develop heart disease as a result of diabetes. We can make a difference if we only heed the call of the people who are on the front lines fighting this dreadful disease. The Diabetes Research Act answers that call.

I believe this bill could also be called the Priorities Act of 1995. In order to balance the budget and still invest in our Nation's future, we must have an open and honest discussion with the American people about our priorities. Tomorrow I am going to introduce three bills to create budgetary savings of \$1.5 billion, a portion of which could be used to pay for increased diabetes research funds. In sum, I believe diabetes research should be a priority and encourage my colleagues to follow my lead and make recommendations on how to pay for it.

My own daughter has diabetes. She is one of millions of Americans who live with this disease everyday, and I am so proud of her. I am also grateful to all the national diabetes organizations to gave their insight into the development of this legislation. I urge all my col-

leagues here in the House to cosponsor the Diabetes Research Act, cosponsor a bill to pay for it, and then let the thousands of people with diabetes in your community know you are working for their future.

TRIBUTE TO CREW MEMBERS OF THE SUGAR ISLAND FERRY BY THE HONORABLE BART STUPAK OF MICHIGAN

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 1995

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere congratulations to the crew members of the Sugar Island ferry in Sugar Island, MI for their outstanding service to the community.

Each year, civic groups on Sugar Island choose an individual to recognize his or her contributions to the community. This year, however, the entire crew of the Sugar Island ferry was chosen to be honored for their enormous efforts for the betterment of the Sugar Island community.

The first regularly scheduled ferry to bring cars to Sugar Island was the *Service*, which began operation on July 1, 1928. On that day, 30 automobiles were transported from the island to the mainland of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. It cost 45 cents for cars and 15 cents for foot passengers to be carried across St. Mary's River. In addition to cars and trucks, the ferry also carried horse-drawn wagons during this period.

The *Service*, was in use until 1932, when it was replaced by the *Beaver*. The *Beaver* ran until 1937, when a second ferry, *Scow No. 1*, was placed into service. Later rebuilt and named *Chippewa*, that ferry was in use until a larger, steel ferry with a 12 car capacity was constructed. That ferry, the *Sugar Islander*, built in 1947, is still in use today. The Sugar Island ferry was privately-owned by the Eastern Upper Peninsula Transportation Authority in 1979.

In 1994, 252,339 vehicles were transported by the *Sugar Islander*. The ferry provides a vital link from Sugar Island to the city of Sault Ste. Marie in the Upper Peninsula. In addition to its regular service, the ferry goes out of its way to promptly transport emergency vehicles and ambulance, fire and police personnel for the benefit of Sugar Island residents.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, the ferry is known for its outstanding service. It operates every half hour in good weather and bad, 365 days a year. The highly dedicated crew works 11-hour shifts, and I commend the crew members of the *Sugar Islander*, for their unfailingly courteous and reliable service. Specifically, I would like to congratulate the current members of the Sugar Island ferry, including: Tom Stevens, Brian Dynes, Dan Cairns, Paul McCoy, Derek Myerscough, Doug Bisdorf, Mike Patten, Tim Switzer, Don Soper, Jim Gort, Jr., and Rick Brown.

I know my colleagues join me in honoring those crew members who enrich the lives of Sugar Island residents, as well as visitors to that Northern Michigan community.

YOUTH CANCER AWARENESS

HON. CHARLIE ROSE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 1995

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of this body youth cancer awareness.

More than 5 million living Americans have a history of cancer. It is estimated that among the 1 million people diagnosed with cancer this year, half will die from this disease. In my State of North Carolina alone, over 3,200 people will be diagnosed with cancer this year.

Even more alarming is the growth in reported cases of cancer in young people. Cancer is the No. 2 killer among our youth.

In my home State of North Carolina, the month of April is "Cancer Awareness Month." North Carolina has planned a number of events to emphasize the importance of cancer awareness. I would have like to have made April "National Cancer Awareness Month." However procedural changes will not permit the offering of such a resolution.

Nonetheless, I would still like to increase the public's awareness of the degree to which cancer affects young people. The key to finding a cure for cancer is in awareness of the symptoms, the causes, and the best means to address the problems raised by cancer. Increased volunteer participation and the promotion of education and research have had a profound positive impact on discovering a cure. We need to do more in this regard.

With the help of dedicated people like Miss Leslie Cobb, a Jacksonville, NC, teen cancer activist, who fight this terrible disease everyday, we will eventually find a cure. I urge everyone to do all they can to inform our youth about the risks of cancer.

LORETTA PONTICELLO HONORED FOR LIFETIME OF SERVICE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to stand before my distinguished colleagues today to honor Ms. Loretta Ponticello.

It has been my observation that we are so consumed with the problems and negativism that plague our Nation that we sometimes forget about those who are working to solve these problems. We ignore the heroes who are right in our midst, choosing instead to talk about the bad news that dominates the news.

This situation needs to be corrected. That's why I take this opportunity to honor one of these heroes. She may not be featured in a movie or on television, but there can be little doubt that Loretta Ponticello is a hero to all who know her.

First, let me talk a little bit about Loretta's remarkable business career. By combining her great aptitude for business with a high standard of integrity and diligence, Ms. Ponticello has brought success wherever she has gone. After graduating from the New Jersey College for Woman—now Douglas College—she

worked for Chemical Bank in the foreign department. Eventually, Loretta left the bank and went on to become secretary to the president of Cooke International, and import/export firm in New York. Upon leaving Cooke International, Loretta began working for Rosenthal & Rosenthal, Inc. where she will be retiring after 26 years.

She began her career at Rosenthal as manager of the International Operations Office in their Foreign Department. Later she joined the Rosenthal Group's Law Department as an administrative manager and legal assistant and after years of service with Rosenthal & Rosenthal was appointed an officer in the company. She is one of the best liked and well respected members of the company, and her fellow workers will be sorry to see her go.

Loretta's outstanding achievement in the business world may only be overshadowed by her exemplary work in her community. For over 41 years, Loretta has been an active resident of City & Suburban's York Avenue Estate Landmark.

When eviction notices were sent to all tenants of her building, it looked as if Loretta and her neighbors would be forced to leave their homes forever. Her interest in the preservation of historic buildings in New York City persuaded her to lead the fight to make the building a New York City landmark.

Loretta helped organize fundraisers, spoke at hearings and met with legislators in New York City and Washington, DC. Her persistence was rewarded when City & Suburban was made an official New York City landmark. Ms. Betty Cooper Wallerstein, chairperson of Coalition to Save the City and Suburban, and Marie Beirne, Tenants Landmark chairperson, both agree that the landmarking of City & Suburban's York Avenue Estate could not have been accomplished without Loretta.

Now the Loretta is retiring after 26 years with Rosenthal & Rosenthal she will be able to devote even more time to her community service. She plans to be the keeper of the massive City & Suburban archives and intends to do volunteer work in the field of historic preservation. Ms. Ponticello will also continue her work with the East 79th Street Neighborhood Association, caring and working with the community that she loves.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the heroics of Loretta Ponticello today. I hope that my colleagues will join me in thanking Ms. Ponticello for her ongoing generosity, and wish her a long and happy retirement.

ONE OF NEW YORK'S BEST—EL
OLE

HON. NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 1995

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of one of New York's best and most vibrant dining establishments. I am referring to El Olé. It is New York's very own bit of Spain, and it celebrates 25 years of exemplary service this Monday, May 22.

The owners of this fabulous restaurant, Pepe and Tony Lagares arrived in the United States back in 1949. They came here from La Coruña, Spain, with their father, Don José. They spent their first years in this country

working at their grandfather's restaurant, Greenwich Village's El Tropezon. In 1970, they opened El Olé, and for years worked at a grovelling pace. El Olé's reputation spread by word of mouth, and it soon built up a strong clientele. In fact, when El Olé opened its doors for the first time, it could only accommodate 28 patrons. Today, it serves many well known guests on a regular basis, and its exquisite dining room accommodates 110.

Among the many distinguished patrons of El Olé are: Sylvester Stallone, Elizabeth Taylor, Al Pacino, Emilio Estevez, Robert DeNiro, Martin Lawrence, Jon Secada, Jane Evans, Pedro Morales, Jose Chegui Torres, Roberto Ledesma, and former Governor Cuomo and his family. This impressive list comes as no surprise. El Olé has an atmosphere that lends itself to fine dining and pure enjoyment. But it is much more than a restaurant, it is a refuge for people of all cultures, and its walls have witnessed countless conversations on everything from politics to the arts.

From the romantic sounds of Spanish guitars to the fast swing-pace of salsa, cumbia, and merenge, El Olé's superb service and vibrant setting serve as perfect complement to this establishment's world class menu.

I applaud the Lagares brothers for their efforts, and thank them for bringing us so much. To El Olé, a happy celebration, may its tables always bear las Delicias de la madre España, and may its door always rest open for those who share a passion for culinary pleasure and a thirst for the joy of life. Olé!

FINDING SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES; INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE INCENTIVES FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OUTREACH

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the Supplemental Security Income [SSI] Program was begun to provide a safety net for our country's elderly, blind, and disabled persons with limited income and resources.

Over the years I have followed the outreach efforts of the Social Security Administration to inform potential eligible people about the SSI Program. In 1989 a Health and Human Services study indicated that that 35 percent of potentially eligible recipients were not participating in the SSI Program. Congress mandated funds to the SSA in fiscal year 1990 and 1991 for outreach projects in an effort to enroll these potential recipients.

Many outreach programs designed and carried out by local government and nonprofit organizations have been funded by these appropriated funds. Outreach programs inform the SSA staff of the most effective means of reaching potentially eligible recipients of the SSI Program and assist recipients through the complicated application process.

Alameda County in California has been very effective in reaching Southeast Asian potential recipients through an outreach program that reaches into the community through mutual assistance groups.

In Arizona third parties using a variety of outreach techniques, including language

groups, successfully funded eligible recipients and streamlined their application process by completing the many necessary forms for them.

These examples point to what maybe the most effective way of contacting these hard to reach people. The use of existing private nonprofit community groups. I suppose that one of the quickest and most economical ways of finding and signing up eligible people for the SSI Program would be to use the staffs of nonprofit organizations who already work with the poor. Many of these people are very knowledgeable about the program and have the trust of potential recipients. Help in filing out the forms and collection of the necessary documentation would greatly assist the overworked SSA staff.

In return the nonprofit organizations would receive a fixed amount of money for each person they "sign up" that was actually eligible for the SSI Program.

This idea is the basis for the legislation I am introducing today. My bill creates two demonstration projects, one in a poor urban area and one in a poor rural area, to test this idea of providing an award for successful outreach.

THE SERB STRANGLEHOLD ON
SARAJEVO

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 1995

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn the latest Serbian onslaught directed against innocent civilians in Sarajevo, an UN-designated safe-haven. The events of the past 24 hours underscore the fact that the besieged city of Sarajevo remains in a virtual stranglehold by well-armed Serb militants. UN sources confirmed that at least 1,000 shells were fired on Sarajevo. The heavy shelling of the Bosnian capital, the worst in over a year, resulted in a score of injuries and deaths. Sporadic shelling continues today.

Some have had the audacity to argue that both sides are equally to blame for the attack, a pretext later used to deny the Bosnian Government's urgent request for protection of Sarajevo. Attempts to equate the forces of the sovereign Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina with the marauding bandits led by Radovan Karadzic, a mastermind of genocidal aggression in Bosnia, are an affront which must be resoundingly rejected. Karadzic, along with Bosnian Serb military commander Ratko Mladic and former police chief Mico Stanisic, are under active investigation by the War Crimes Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, for their respective roles in the war launched by the Serbs in 1992.

For 3 years now, international negotiators have traveled a well-worn path to Pale, the Bosnian Serb headquarters. Nearly a year has passed since the Contact Group presented its peace plan on a take-it-or-leave-it-basis. The Bosnian Government accepted the proposal within the 2 week deadline. The plan has been repeatedly rejected by the Bosnian Serbs with relative impunity despite threats by the Contract Group that rejection would carry severe consequences. Further negotiations at this time can only be expected to bring further concessions to meet Karadzic's demands.