

A POINT-OF-LIGHT FOR ALL  
AMERICANS: NATALIE HELENE  
JACOBS CAVE

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, it is my great privilege and pleasure to take note of an eminent constituent and model American who should serve as a great "point-of-light" for all—Mrs. Natalie Helene Jacobs Cave. After over 50 years of exemplary Federal service to America's veterans, Mrs. Cave is retiring.

For 50 years, Mrs. Cave practices her profession as a certified social worker, beginning with a stint from 1945 to 1948 as a case worker at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Tuskegee, AL. It was here she met her future husband, Dr. Vernal G. Cave. In 1948, she transferred to what became the New York Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, where she continued as a case worker. A year later, she and Dr. Cave, a noted dermatologist, married and settled in Brooklyn, NY, where they still reside. In 1959, she was promoted to assistant chief of social work and was put in charge of the department's outpatient service. For the past 14 years she has been chief of social service work.

Mrs. Cave holds membership in a number of professional organizations, including the National Association of Social Workers, the National Association of Black Social Workers, the Society of Hospital Social Work Directors, and the National Social Welfare Forum.

In addition, Mrs. Cave has led an active extracurricular life. Among other positions in the auxiliary of the National Medical Association, she was its national president, 1975–76. Her community activities include membership on the advisory board of the Public Affairs Committee, the Brooklyn Chapter of Links, Inc., the YWCA, the NAACP, the Kings County Medical Society Auxiliary, the Provident Medical Society Auxiliary, the American Medical Association Auxiliary, and the Black Community Council of Crown Heights. She is an active archaousa of the Sigma Phi Pi fraternity, trustee of the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, board member of the United Nations Association of the USA, and an active and devoted member of various other social and civic organizations. She recalls her attendance at the 1963 march on Washington for civil rights as a pivotal event in her quest for social justice.

This daughter of a Baptist minister, Rev. Frank Jacobs, and a school teacher, Mrs. Natalie Taylor Jacobs, was born in Norfolk, VA. Her parents instilled in her a belief in education, a love for people and a philosophy of purposeful living to help others. Mrs. Cave devoted her life to these concepts.

She received her early education at the Alabama State Teachers College Laboratory School and in the public schools of Bridgeport, CT. In 1943, Helene graduated with honors from the preeminent Bennett College, commonly referred to as, "the Vasser of the South," located in Greensboro, NC. Interested in helping people, she continued her formal education and graduated in 1944 with a master's degree in social work from the Atlanta University School of Social Work and pursued additional advance education courses at the University of Michigan School of Social Work.

The family creed of devoting their lives to the enhancement of others is echoed by Mrs. Cave's two sisters and her brother. All three are former government administrators in people-oriented agencies. Mrs. Marie Jacobs Jones was employed by the Social Security Administration in Columbus, OH. Mr. Taylor Jacobs recently retired as manager of the Kalamazoo, MI Social Security office. Mrs. Frankie Jacobs Gillette served as division chief of the community service administration, region IX in San Francisco, CA.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to note that, along with her husband, Vernal, Helene Cave has always found time, despite her busy professional schedule, to contribute to the building of a stronger civic and empowerment infrastructure for the central Brooklyn community. The Caves have consistently supported elected officials who are advocates of greater citizen participation in decisionmaking. Leaders who refuse to compromise with oppression are always guaranteed the support of Vernal and Helene Cave.

In administering to needs of our Nation's veterans and those of society at large, this gracious and empathetic lady was contributed admirably to making this a better world. It is, therefore, my great honor to bring to your attention a life of great accomplishment. I celebrate the much-deserved retirement of Mrs. Natalie Helene J. Cave, a person who, without reservation, deserves to be honored as a "point-of-light" for all Americans.

#### MEDICARE PRESERVATION ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2425) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to preserve and reform the Medicare Program.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Chairman, now is the time to stand up for seniors by voting down this plan to raid Medicare to provide tax breaks for wealthy special interests. Instead of continued partisan bickering, we need a bipartisan effort to save Medicare by eliminating the waste and fraud that cost billions each year.

I come to this floor today as the Representative for Sonoma and Marin Counties in California. As I always say to my colleagues, I am so fortunate to represent such a concerned and caring constituency.

For the last several months, I have been speaking to the people in my Congressional District. I have been speaking with senior citizens, with hospital administrators, with physicians, and with working families. Seniors are scared to death because they will have to pay more for less at a time when so many are struggling to get by. And families are scared to death because they do not understand how they will support aging parents and send their kids to college at the same time. The people of Sonoma and Marin Counties have spoken loud and clear: they do not support \$270 billion in Medicare cuts in order to pay for \$245 billion in tax breaks.

The new majority is making the argument that these massive cuts in Medicare are need-

ed to save the system. I agree that Medicare and Medicaid can be improved, and that Congress should vigorously support efforts to make this system better. But I disagree with Speaker Gingrich that the way to keep Medicare solvent is to operate on it with an axe, instead of a scalpel.

Speaker Gingrich would like to convince the American public that Medicare is in a sudden crisis. However, concerns about the Medicare Trust Fund are not new. The Medicare Trustees have on eight previous occasions warned that the Trust Fund would be insolvent within 7 years. Each time, Congress responded immediately in a bipartisan way to make the changes necessary to keep Medicare solvent. However, the cuts proposed by Speaker Gingrich go far beyond what is needed to protect the Medicare Trust Fund. What is more, since the proposed premium increases do not even contribute to the Medicare Trust Fund, it is clear that the new majority is increasing premiums only to pay for a special interest tax giveaway, not to strengthen Medicare.

In other words, the Gingrich Medicare plan is a major cut. According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, the rate of growth in health care spending per person in the private sector over the next 7 years will be 7.9 percent. The Gingrich Medicare plan, however, brings the rate of growth of Medicare spending down to 4.9 percent per beneficiary. This means that the Gingrich plan will not keep up with the pace of inflation and the growing population of older and disabled Americans. As a result, there will be major increases in costs: by the year 2002, seniors will spend \$400 more in Medicare premiums. Moreover, seniors may lose their choice of doctor because they will be forced into a government-mandated managed care plan. In addition, hospitals and emergency rooms will be forced to reduce care and many will close. Some health care experts predict that up to 25 percent of all hospitals could close if Speaker GINGRICH's assault on Medicare becomes law.

But I do support making Medicare stronger. That is why I voted for the Democratic substitute to reform Medicare, and am a cosponsor of H.R. 2476, the Common Sense Medicare Reform Act.

The Democratic substitute saves \$90 billion over the next 7 years. It reduces seniors' premiums, while providing coverage for new benefits such as more frequent mammograms, colorectal screenings, Pap smears and diabetes screening. The Democratic substitute increases seniors' choices of health care coverage, but does not force them to give up their own doctors. Under the Democratic substitute, the Medicare program will be strong and solvent, and seniors will continue to receive high quality care from doctors they know and trust.

I also support the approach taken in the Common Sense Medicare Reform Act, which strengthens Medicare by eliminating real waste, fraud, and abuse in the Medicare system. It will also save the amount needed to keep Medicare solvent for years to come. This bill will give law enforcement more tools to fight Medicare fraud, a crime which harms Medicare and the American taxpayer. And this bill, unlike the new majority's plan, will require that any funds recovered through cuts or savings from waste, fraud, and abuse will be automatically returned to the Medicare Trust

Fund—not used to pay for a special interest tax giveaway.

In addition, I would also like to raise my objection to the way that Speaker GINGRICH has conducted the debate on his massive changes to Medicare. As someone who believes in the Democratic process, I am outraged that the new majority only allowed for one day of public hearings on this assault on Medicare. As a former Petaluma City Council member, I remember that we talked longer and harder about sidewalk repairs than the House of Representatives has about an issue which affects the health of millions of Americans. This is unfair and undemocratic!

So, I am here to speak out for the people who have been shut out of the Democratic process by this new majority. These people should not be silenced, and they should not see their concerns ignored by a Congress bent on pursuing a partisan agenda.

We would all do better if we listened carefully to those we represent. As one man in my district said,

I worked hard all my life, raised ten kids and fought in two wars to live my life in peace. Living on only \$801 a month, I need all the help I can get.

To my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I would like you to remember these words. Think about this man, and the millions of seniors just like him all over America who do not deserve second rate medical care and who do not deserve to have their pockets picked for a special interest tax giveaway. I call on my colleagues to reject this bill, take the tax giveaways off the table, and get on with the bipartisan job of restoring Medicare's solvency by eliminating rampant waste and fraud. Stand up for seniors by voting down this bill.

#### PURPA REPEAL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to join my friend and colleague from Florida, Mr. STEARNS, in the introduction of important and long-overdue legislation to begin to reform the way in which electric utilities in this country are regulated. This bill would repeal section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 or PURPA.

Section 210 of PURPA is unusual legislation. It requires utilities to buy power from certain privileged nonutility generators of electricity at a price that is set by the State, with guidance from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. This price is supposed to be no higher than a utility avoided cost, the cost which the utility would have paid to generate the electricity itself or to buy the power from other sources. Unfortunately, in most cases, this avoided-cost calculation has turned out to be higher than the market price for electricity and consumers are paying billions of dollars for high-cost power which is not needed. In New York alone, it has been estimated that PURPA has resulted in billions of excess power costs. This harms business, costs jobs, and penalizes residential users who must pay electric bills which are higher than they need be. While this measure will not affect existing above-market contracts, it will eliminate the

possibility that the problem will be made worse in the future.

The drafters of PURPA never anticipated the changes which are now sweeping through the electric industry. In large part, these changes were initiated by the passage of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, which opened up the Nation's transmission system and greatly expanded the firms who could compete to supply power. PURPA today stands pat as an outdated moment to a different era in our national energy policy. Simply put, PURPA's time has come and gone.

The restructuring of the electric industry is accelerating both at the State and Federal levels. Mr. Schaefer, chairman of the Energy and Power Subcommittee, has indicated that he intends to hold several hearings on this important issue and I applaud him for his foresight. Further change in the regulation of utilities, including the introduction of greater competition, is inevitable.

Repeal of section 210 of PURPA is an important step in this process of allowing competition to play a greater role in the electric industry. Repeal will also lower future electricity prices to our constituents.

I urge speedy consideration of this legislation.

#### A SALUTE TO PASTOR JASON COOPER

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Pastor Jason Jerome Cooper on the occasion of his retirement from the Berean Presbyterian Church U.S.A. and to congratulate him on his many years of service to the north Philadelphia community.

Pastor Cooper, educated at Lincoln University, Lincoln University Theological Seminary, New York Theological Seminary, Philadelphia School of Family Therapy, and Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, began his tenure with the Presbyterian Church over 32 years ago. He has proudly served on many committees within the church including the member of Stewardship, Promotion and Evangelism Committee and as a member of Presbytery's Coordination Committee. Pastor Cooper is an outstanding leader who should be commended for his numerous contributions to the spiritual health of the north Philadelphia community.

Pastor Cooper has also played a vital role in many programs in the Philadelphia community as the interfaith chaplain in the Philadelphia prisons, North Central "Seasoned Citizens" Program, and the Citizens' Model Cities Program. In addition, he served as a member of the board of directors at the Wharton Center, a community center established to promote intergroup harmony, guidance, and education in the artistic and cultural community. As an educator, Pastor Cooper served as president and vice president on the Temple Community Mental Health Administrative Cabinet which was designed to educate the community about comprehensive health programs.

I wish to join today with the Berean Presbyterian Church, Pastor Cooper's family and friends in recognizing him for his many years of service with the Presbyterian Church and

the north Philadelphia community. I wish him health, happiness, and prosperity in his retirement years. It is well deserved.

#### REMARKS ON H.R. 2491

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 1995

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, the House leadership recently removed from the budget reconciliation legislation a provision to auction the Southeastern Power Administration [SEPA]. I applaud this action as the measure would have increased SEPA customer power rates and established a poor precedent for other Federal power marketing administrations [PMA's].

SEPA ratepayers would be adversely affected by a sale as had been proposed in the original resources package. Simply put, that type of auction sale of SEPA would have almost certainly meant rate increases to consumers, and the larger the sale price, the larger the rate increase. If the facilities were sold to a private power company, the CBO estimates that consumer-owned electric utilities could pay as much as \$75 million more for PMA power; costs that would have been passed on to electric consumers.

Though I am not from the SEPA region, I am concerned about the precedent at PMA sale would create for other regions of the country. Millions of customers throughout the Nation are served by PMA's. As a Representative from Riverside, I am worried that the electric customers in southern California who receive their power from the Western Area Power Administration [WAPA] would see their electric payments increase if Western were sold. Costs for water delivered by the metropolitan water district would almost certainly go up, since power from Hoover Dam and Parker Dam is used to pump that water.

The reconciliation package does include language that will institute a study of SEPA, WAPA, and Southwestern Power Administration [SWPA] to evaluate possible sale structures and the effects of such sales. I support this language, and suspect it will bear out that WAPA is not a good candidate for auction and that any sale of WAPA should take into account a number of factors which would not be addressed in an auction sale.

While I do support the defederalization of PMA's, I believe there is a better solution than the one proposed by the Resources Committee—a solution that is fair to those entities that made substantial investments in the projects and facilities that comprise WAPA and the other regions' PMA's while at the same time, protects the customers who receive PMA power. I am in the process of reviewing a number of proposals that achieve these goals. I look forward to seeing that these views are fairly represented in the study called for in the reconciliation package.