

basis for reauthorizing those important programs before the Congress adjourns for the year.

TRIBUTE TO LEROY PATTERSON

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to a good friend of mine, Leroy Patterson, who recently succumbed to cancer. After being on Houston radio for more than 21 years, Leroy was aptly introduced for his show as one of the world's most respected news people. He brought a broad range of programming to Houston's airways with his shows "Community Hot-line," "On the Front-line," "Wake-up Call Black America," and "Sports Time-out." He is not out of the talk-show host mold of today's hate radio. His daily shows reflected his own self-respect and competence. Careful preparation, thoughtfulness and totally objective demeanor on-air were the hallmarks of his work. Constructive community spirit is the lasting imprint that his work left on the entire city of Houston.

His roots grew strongly from his humble beginnings in Marshall, TX, where his parents instilled his positive attitude, wholesome character, and his desire to succeed. He was educated at H.B. Pemberton High School and Tennessee State University. He served in the Air Force and the Air Force Reserve and worked at the U.S. Post Office for a time.

In 1975, he started his work in communication and began broadcasting over the Houston airways. He was the news director and program director at KYOK-AM radio. At KYOK, he started a number of Afro-centric programs, including the "Community Hot Line" talk show. His interests conveyed his own broad spectrum of coverage involving politics, human interest, education, and sports.

In 1980, he joined the KMJQ-FM Majic 102 radio team. After being a member of the team for only a year, he was promoted to news and community affairs director. He found a home at Majic 102 and stayed there for 16 years. In June 1996, because of his health, he took a medical leave of absence and then retired.

After surviving prostate cancer surgery and participating in the million man march, he went through a period of introspection and decided to take an African name—Ambakisye Jabari. Ambakisye is a Tanzanian name that means, "God has been merciful to me." Jabari is a Swahili name that means brave. He felt that changing his name was necessary to alleviate my legal of consciousness to a higher plane and to set my spirit free. Indeed, his spirit is free and his consciousness is on a higher level. The comforting sound of his voice and his wonderful soul will be missed by everyone he touched.

His years of radio service to the Houston community earned him many public service awards. Among his awards and recognitions of his accomplishments are the "Kid-Care Family Service Award for helping to change the lives of children throughout the Houston area; West Houston Outreach and Family Counseling Center Award for his outstanding and dedicated community service; Shape Center Greater Houston Educational Task Force

Award for the enhancement of education in the African-American community, the Black United Fund of Houston, Texas; American Cancer Society Award for starting the hotline for prostate cancer; Thurgood Marshall Law School Award; Over-The-Hill, Inc. Award as a person reform advocate; Black Data Processing Award for sponsoring the Houston High School Computer Team Competition; City Wide Club Award for exceptional community service, and many others too numerous to name.

His commitment to public service outside of his broadcasting duties was also widely known. He was a frequent worker and contributor to the Houston chapter of the NAACP as well as the Mount Olive Baptist Church, the South Post Oak Baptist Church, the Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church, the Houston Community Anti-Drug Coalition, and the National Black United Front, amongst others.

Ambakisye Jabari is survived by his loving wife, Allie, and their four children: Lisa C. Milton, Cessandra J. Johnson, Ronie L. Johnson, and Kenneth R. Johnson.

WELFARE BILL SIGNALS REVOLUTION

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I want to encourage my colleagues to read the following column by Dick Williams from the Atlanta Journal Constitution. Welfare reform must be implemented if our country is going to continue to prosper. The welfare reform bill which was recently signed into law is an historical achievement that encourages personal responsibility, imposes work requirements and time limits, ends welfare for noncitizens and felons, and moves power and responsibility back to the States and communities. Local solutions to local problems are more effective than wasteful and inefficient Federal bureaucracies. As Dick Williams points out, the welfare system is destroying the Nation by warping the behavior of millions. It must change and that change is better managed by the governments closest to the people:

WELFARE BILL SIGNALS REVOLUTION (By Dick Williams)

History was made this week, the sort that will go in the textbooks. President Clinton's decision to spit in the face of his party's history and sign the Republican welfare reform bill means the beginning of the welfare state's going out-of-business sale.

It also answers a question first raised two years ago when Newt Gingrich and his Republicans won control of the people's House. Was it to be a revolution? Or was it simply a modest counterrevolution—one that would trim Democratic excesses?

The answer is revolution.

After Reconstruction, Jim Crow and the ascendancy of the nondemocratic elites in Washington, Congress has decided to trust the states to care for the poor, just as the Founding Fathers intended.

Three times Congress, with substantial Democratic support, tried to end welfare as we know it. Twice Clinton refused.

But this president, we know now, will stop at nothing to be reelected. Being re-elected was far more important than party principle,

the so-called 60-year-old guarantees to the poor (with an outcome the New Deal neither envisioned nor would have countenanced).

As we in Atlanta emerge from the emotional peaks and valleys of the Olympics, the welfare picture will begin to emerge. The cynicism of Clinton and his spouse, the former head of the Children's Defense Fund, will be ever more apparent.

The Clintons know we are a conservative nation. They know candidate Clinton's election is inseparable from his pledge to end welfare as we know it. That statement alone made him a different kind of Democrat. He had to spend three years in office proving his campaign was just a trick.

In the meantime, Gingrich had put flesh on the vague Clinton bone. "It is impossible to maintain civilization," he said over and over, "with 12-year-olds having babies, 15-year-olds killing each other, 17-year-olds dying of AIDS and 18-year-olds getting diplomas they can't even read."

Specifics won, stabbing at the national mood. Now with Clinton's promise to sign the transfer of welfare to the states, time limits for welfare recipients and requirements for work after two years on the dole, the most important part of the Contract With America is about to become law.

"Where is the sense of decency?" railed U.S. Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.). "Where is the heart of this Congress? This bill is mean; it is base; it is downright lowdown."

That is Lewis saying that the Democratic governor of Georgia and the Democratic speaker of the Georgia House and the Democratic General Assembly can't be counted on to care for the less fortunate.

Once the Olympic flame has moved on, the Centennial Park bomber is caught and the tragedy of TWA Flight 800 is resolved, such stories will pick up steam. It will take strong will to withstand the misfortunes of others, but the bigger picture is essential. The welfare system was destroying the nation by warping the behavior of millions. It must change, and that change is better managed by the governments closest to the people.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JAMES H. QUILLEN ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Mr. MOAKLEY. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to a dear friend of mine and my longtime colleague on the Rules Committee JIMMY QUILLEN.

JIMMY QUILLEN joined the Rules Committee with another dear friend of mine, Claude Pepper, in 1965.

But this year he will be retiring and the entire country will be the worse for the loss of his service.

JIMMY QUILLEN is the longest serving Republican on the House Rules Committee and the longest serving Tennessee Representative in history.

But JIMMY's service merits distinction for its quality as well as its longevity.

He began serving his country as I did, in the Navy in World War II.

He was elected to the Tennessee State House and eventually chosen as speaker of that body.

And in their wisdom, the people of the First District of Tennessee first elected him to Congress in 1963 and every other year thereafter.

He has been married for 44 years to his beloved Cecile. It is partly to spend more time with her that he is leaving us and I can think of no more compelling reason.

Although most Democrats may not realize it, JIMMY QUILLEN is one of the few Members with an assigned seat on the House Floor. He sits in the second seat in the second row from which he discussed his trademark wisdom and anecdotes. Anyone who tries to sit in that seat supposedly learns very quickly that it is not theirs to use.

But it has not only been in the Congress where JIMMY QUILLEN made his mark. I'm told that nearly every single road, medical school, and institution in eastern Tennessee is named after JIMMY QUILLEN. And, after 34 years of unparalleled service to the people of the First District of Tennessee, JIMMY deserves every accolade he gets.

Like many of my colleagues, I always admired JIMMY QUILLEN. I heard the story of his taking his office door off the hinges to represent his open-door policy when we was first elected and it has served as a great inspiration to me and to many of my colleagues as we work to emulate his great record of constituent service.

He has been a distinguished hard-working, kind member of the Rules Committee and although I often wished he were arguing on our side, he has been a very worthy adversary and he will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a great honor serving with JIMMY QUILLEN on the Rules Committee and I join the entire Congress in wishing him well in his retirement.

CONSTITUTION WEEK, SEPTEMBER
17-23, 1996

HON. JAN MEYERS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Mrs. MYERS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, September 17 to 23 is Constitution Week. On behalf of the Daughters of the American Revolution I take pride in reminding my colleagues and all Americans to take a few minutes to reflect on that great document written and ratified 209 years ago this week.

The Constitution of the United States of America is an enduring safeguard of our freedom. Its Framers knew then that personal liberty is inherent in every human, but that a careful balance between that liberty and social order was the key ingredient of a strong nation. Our Republic's longevity throughout the crucible of history is testament to their success at achieving that balance in our basic framework. Our generation will be judged by future generations on how well we maintain that delicate balance, not forgetting that with our unparalleled freedoms, each of us also shoulders unparalleled responsibilities.

My heartfelt thanks go to the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution for their distinguished service to our Nation by helping to make every American aware of the foundation of our glorious freedom. Hopefully, through the efforts of patriotic Americans such as they, our enhanced knowledge of our own Constitution will help make us a stronger and more cohesive nation.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON
H.R. 3666, DEPARTMENTS OF VET-
ERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND
INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the motion to instruct the conferees on H.R. 3666, Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act of 1997, which the House passed on September 11, 1996. The issues of parity for mental health coverage and allowing a 48 hours hospital stay for newborns and mothers following child birth are extremely timely and relevant.

As an active participant in the fight for health care reform, I continue to believe that all Americans should have the security of knowing that they will have health care coverage—regardless of their health or economic status.

Perhaps no group of individuals has faced more discrimination by our Nation's health care system than those with mental illnesses. In the past 15 years, a revolution has occurred in neurobiology that has clearly documented that many of these severe mental illnesses are, in fact, physical illnesses. These physical disorders of the brain—neurobiological disorders—are characterized by neuroanatomical and neurochemical abnormalities. Controlled clinical research undertaken by scientists across the Nation have produced a body of irrefutable scientific evidence documenting the physical nature of these disorders.

Despite this, individuals with neurobiological disorders and their families continue to face discrimination and stigmatization by health insurance plans and society at large. I have visited with families who have had to cope not only with the emotional pain of dealing the neurobiological disorders, such as schizophrenia and autism, but the financial hardship as well.

Health insurance coverage for mental disorders is often limited to 30 to 60 inpatient days per year, compared with 120 days for physical illnesses; copayments, which are usually about 20 percent for physical illnesses, are often raised to 50 percent. Because of these arbitrary limits on coverage, individuals and families affected by these disorders are faced with onerous financial burdens. These people deserve the same kind of care and treatment that is available to those who suffer from other severe illnesses such as cancer, diabetes, or heart disease.

Families who are faced with severe mental illnesses should not be placed in a different category—financially burdened, stigmatized, and treated as if they had done something wrong.

On June 8, 1995, I introduced the Equitable Health Care for Neurobiological Disorders Act of 1995. My bill would help these individuals and their families by requiring nondiscriminatory treatment of neurobiological disorders. Health care plans would be required to provide coverage that is not more restrictive than coverage provided for other major physical illnesses and that is consistent with effective

and common methods of controlling health care costs—such as copayments and deductibles. My bill also stipulates specific benefits that must be provided and assesses a penalty on those plans that do not comply with the Act's requirements.

I believe that the provisions included in the Senate's version of the VA/HUD appropriations bill is a strong start toward achieving equity for those who truly suffer from mental illness. Requiring equal health coverage for these disorders is not just important to individuals suffering from neurobiological disorders and their families. It is also important to the Nation. According to the National Institutes of Mental Health, equitable insurance coverage for severe mental disorders will yield \$2.2 billion in net savings each year through decreased use of general medical services and a substantial decrease in social costs.

I also strongly support the provision included in the Senate VA/HUD appropriations bill requiring health plan coverage for a minimum hospital stay of 48 hours for newborns and mothers following childbirth.

I have spoken with Wilfred Reguero, M.D., the chairman of the St. Raphael OB/Gyn Department, and other hospital staff at a trip to St. Raphael's Hospital in my district. They told me of the dangers of early discharges for new mothers and their infants—discharges that are dictated by certain insurance companies, not doctors. The decision to discharge a new mother and her child should be based on medical criteria, not on the bottom line.

According to reports published by the University of California San Francisco and Dartmouth's Hitchcock Medical Center, a post-delivery hospital stay of 24 hours or less means infants are not adequately tested and monitored by medical professionals for conditions that appear in the first few days of life, including jaundice and excessive weight loss. The reports found that mothers also experience medical difficulties, including lactation difficulties, urinary tract infections, incisional pain and post-partum pain and depression.

I have cosponsored two bills H.R. 1948 and 1950 which would require health plans to provide maternity benefits for a minimum hospital stay for a mother and her newborn following the birth of her child. The bills do not mandate the length of hospital stays, but requires that longer stays are covered if deemed necessary by a woman, her family, and her physician. The legislation includes:

A minimum stay of 48 hours for vaginal deliveries and 96 hours for caesarean-section deliveries.

An exception for home births.

A requirement for health plans to provide written notice to enrollees regarding coverage included in the act.

I know that many States, including Connecticut, are pursuing similar laws, but we need Federal legislation to make sure that women who are covered by health insurance companies that are headquartered in other States are protected under the law. That's why I am so pleased that this legislation was included in the Senate VA/HUD appropriations bill and should be included in the final VA/HUD appropriations bill as well.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting these instructions. Adoption of these policies will go a long way toward saving billions or dollars, eliminating the stigma and misunderstanding so often associated with