

HONORING THE SOUTH SIDE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the South Side Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These fireman must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R.—, TO EXTEND COMMUNITY NURSING CENTER DEMONSTRATIONS

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, as a strong supporter of home- and community-based services for the elderly and individuals with disabilities, I rise to introduce legislation to extend the demonstration authority under the Medicare Program for community nursing organizations [CNO].

In 1987, Congress authorized the CNO demonstrations to test the efficacy of capitated nursing delivery organizations at providing quality services outside the nursing home setting, without requiring beneficiaries to join HMO's. CNO programs serve Medicare beneficiaries in home and community-based settings under contracts that provide a fixed, monthly capitation payment for each beneficiary who elects to enroll.

The benefits include not only Medicare-covered home care and medical equipment and supplies, but other services not presently covered by traditional Medicare, including patient education, case management and health assessments. CNO's are able to offer extra benefits without increasing Medicare costs because of their emphasis on primary and preventative care and their coordinated management of the patient's care.

At the end of this year, current authority will expire for these effective and growing pro-

grams, which currently serve approximately 6,000 Medicare patients in four States.

Mr. Speaker, we need to act now to extend this demonstration authority for another 3 years. This experiment provides an important example of how coordinated care can provide additional benefits without increasing Medicare costs. For Medicare enrollees, extra benefits include expanded coverage for physical and occupational therapy, health education, routine assessments, and case management services—all for an average monthly capitation rate of about \$21. In my home State of Minnesota, the Health Seniors Project is a CNO serving over 1,500 patients in four sites, two of which are urban and two rural.

These demonstrations should also be extended in order to ensure a full and fair test of the CNO managed care concept. These demonstrations are consistent with our efforts to introduce a wider range of managed care options for Medicare beneficiaries. I believe we need more time to evaluate the impact of CNO's on patient outcomes and to assess their capacity for operating under fixed budgets.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to recognize that the extension of this demonstration will not increase Medicare expenditures for care. CNO's actually save Medicare dollars by providing better and more accessible care in home and community settings, allowing beneficiaries to avoid unnecessary hospitalizations and nursing home admissions. By demonstrating what a primary care oriented nursing practice can accomplish with patients who are elderly or disabled, CNO's are helping show us how to increase benefits, save scarce dollars, and improve the quality of life for patients.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to consider this bill carefully and join me in seeking to extend these cost-savings and patient-enhancing CNO demonstrations for another 3 years.

REMEMBERING THE GENOCIDE OF THE ARMENIANS

SPEECH OF

HON. CARLOS J. MOORHEAD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 1996

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me thank the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] for arranging this special order today. His support of the Armenian community has been, and continues to be tremendous.

Today we mark the 81st anniversary of the beginning of the Armenian genocide. On this date in 1915 hundreds of Armenian political and intellectual leaders were rounded up, exiled, and eventually murdered in remote places. In the ensuing 8 years, over 1.5 million men, women, and children were slaughtered in an attempted genocide of the Armenian people by the Government of the Ottoman Empire. This was a crime not just against the Armenian people. It was a crime against humanity. We must never forget this tragedy of unimaginable proportions.

I have friends who were present during that time. One friend of mine was turned over to a Turkish family by his own mother and father. He then had to endure watching the systematic murder of every single member of his family as well as the killing of many from his community. These kinds of unspeakable atrocities were commonplace in Armenia between 1915 and 1923.

A strong, resilient people, the Armenians survived these cruelties as they have survived persecution for centuries. Their descendants now include over 1 million Americans for whom marking this day is not only a way to remember those who perished, but a way to remind mankind that we must all come together in pursuit of a common goal: to see to it that slaughter of this size and scope has no chance of ever happening again.

Unfortunately, brutality against Armenians continues to this day. The current conflict with Azerbaijan in the Nagorno-Karabagh region has once again brought suffering to the Armenian people. It is my sincere hope that the U.S. Government will do whatever it can to aid in the reaching of peace. Karabagh Armenians currently under the rule of the Azerbaijani Government must have their rights protected.

Today in America, Armenians flourish in the United States as prominent citizens and community leaders despite the pain they and their ancestors have endured. Many survivors of the genocide now live in my district. In fact, in my district, I have the greatest concentration of Armenians outside of Armenia. Armenians serve proudly and with great distinction as mayors, and members of local councils and school boards.

It is with great pride that I have had the chance to serve the Armenian citizenry of my district. On this, my last opportunity as a Member of Congress to observe this day, I wish to thank the Armenian community for its support.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 735, ANTITERRORISM AND EFFECTIVE DEATH PENALTY ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support S. 735, the antiterrorism bill. When H.R. 2703 the House counterpart bill passed the House on March 14, 1996, I voted against it largely because of the severe restrictions on the writ of habeas corpus for death row prisoners. I voted "no" to signal the Senate to strike this section from the bill. Unfortunately they did not.

Other unacceptable invasions of personal privacy in H.R. 2703 eliminated by amendment in the House were not restored by the Senate in conference.

In the current era of threats and acts of domestic terrorism I believe that the Government needs greater authority to act to prevent and apprehend terrorists before they act. However, we must be careful not to create a state where illegal surveillance, spying, wiretapping, and electronic eavesdropping become instruments of violations of rights of privacy of lawful citizens.

It is a fine line between law enforcement and a free society. But however fine, it must be distinguishable.

We must guard against foreign terrorists in particular. These individuals must not be allowed to pervade our open society with seeds

of hate and destruction. I support efforts to stop their entry and to enable expedited expulsions.

A free society cannot conduct witch hunts for suspected terrorists. Our country went through such a black period in the fifties when we unleashed the un-American label on thousands of loyal citizens because of suspected associations.

We must not now begin another period of impugning guilt because of life style, ethnic background, or political associations.

But we cannot fail to safeguard our own people from foreign enemies.

I disagree with the restrictions of habeas corpus and fully expect they will be expunged by courts as unconstitutional.

I vote for this conference report with this expectation.

Moreover, I regret that this legislation is being used as a vehicle to advance antiimmigrant attitudes. This bill increases the number of criminal activities that legal aliens can be deported for. Most of the additional offenses are not required to be linked to terrorism. Listed among these offenses are; prostitution, bribery, counterfeiting, forgery, vehicle theft, false immigration documents, obstruction of justice, perjury, bribery of witnesses, and failure to appear in court.

I am deeply concerned that these provisions expand authorization for deportation of aliens with any association with crimes of violence or terrorism.

I believe legal aliens should be granted the same due process opportunities as U.S. citizens.

We are all legitimately disturbed with terrorism and violence in our communities. However, it is wrong to place upon legal immigrants a higher penalty for crimes which in themselves are not related to terroristic actions. Deportation should be reserved for only the most heinous of crimes rending the person unfit to remain in the country.

These anti-immigrant provisions have been wrongly attached to this bill. I am voting for this conference report, with these serious reservations which I hope can be stripped from this legislation at a later time.

The only way out for now is to encourage aliens to become U.S. citizens and avoid this jeopardy.

AEGIS EXCELLENCE AWARD TO LONG BEACH NAVAL SHIPYARD

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, the Long Beach Naval Shipyard has, throughout its history, demonstrated that it is one of the most effective, cost efficient yards, public or private, in the Nation. Despite this impressive record, the Navy recommended, as part of the 1995 base closure round, that the Long Beach Naval Shipyard be closed. That recommendation was ratified by the Base Closure and Realignment Commission and signed into law by President Clinton.

The closure of the Long Beach Naval Shipyard in September 1997 will be a tremendous

loss to the Navy and to the Nation. Just how serious this loss will be was demonstrated again last month when the Long Beach Naval Shipyard was given the AEGIS Excellence Award by Rear Adm. G. A. Huchting, the Navy's AEGIS program manager, "for its outstanding contributions to the completion of the Regular Overhaul [ROH] of the USS *Antietam* (CG 54)."

In his message to Cpt. John Pickering, commanding officer of the Long Beach Naval Shipyard, Admiral Huchting said, "Long Beach Naval Shipyard's excellent support to both the crew of *Antietam* and the AEGIS Program Office was instrumental in ensuring the success of this complex and technically demanding availability."

"The execution of *Antietam's* overhaul was challenged by several unexpected difficulties, such as consistently poor weather conditions, which significantly delayed progress on all outside work. Long Beach Naval Shipyard accepted each challenge with an aggressive attitude and extraordinary flexibility. Through superb teamwork and perseverance, shipyard personnel accomplished nearly 100,000 mandays of industrial work, enabling *Antietam* to complete its availability on time and under budget."

"Long Beach Naval Shipyard's professionalism and dedication to quality were key factors in the redelivery of an upgraded *Antietam* to the Fleet. In recognition of this outstanding accomplishment, I am very pleased to present the AEGIS Excellence Award to Long Beach Naval Shipyard for an effort that truly exemplifies AEGIS team spirit and the pursuit of excellence. Congratulations on a job well done!"

Admiral Huchting's message confirms what those of us who fought to preserve the shipyard argued, that the Long Beach Naval Shipyard is a critical national security resource which, when closed, cannot be replaced. And it further reaffirms the quality, commitment, and dedication of the shipyard's work force. Though they are slated to lose their positions as the shipyard closes, the men and women who work at the Long Beach Naval Shipyard remain committed to doing the best possible job on behalf of their Nation. These dedicated men and women deserve our highest praise and deepest gratitude for the contribution they are making. The AEGIS Excellence Award is well deserved. I am proud to represent the employees of the Long Beach Naval Shipyard who earned it through their superb efforts and their commitment to excellence.

TRIBUTE TO JERRY TROLZ

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary citizen, businessman, and community leader in my district, Mr. Jerry Trolz of Goshen, IN, and to his hard-working employees.

Jerry is the owner of Goshen Stamping Co. I recently visited with him at his plant to observe an innovative "Partners in Education" Program which he has developed in conjunction with Goshen High School.

Under this program, Jerry puts talented high school students to work in his company as part of a structured academic/work curriculum. The students are given an opportunity to develop basic work skills and work habits and begin to learn a trade while they are still in school.

Before they can be admitted into the program, students must demonstrate a proficiency in basic reading, math, writing, communications, and economics. They must also demonstrate a commitment to the basic values of hard work, honesty, and integrity. Successful participants are guaranteed a job with Goshen Stamping after they graduate.

The partners in Education Program is filling an important niche in both the education and business communities in the Goshen area. It gives motivated students—particularly those who do not wish to attend college—a chance to learn a trade and secure a good paying job. At the same time, it provides companies such as Goshen Stamping with the steady influx of skilled workers they need to remain competitive in the increasingly global economy.

The program is working extremely well for both the students and the sponsoring businesses. Indeed, Goshen Stamping recently received the Emerson Tool Group's 1995 Distinguished Supplier Award, in recognition of its quality workmanship and skilled work force.

This is a reflection not only of Jerry's business skills, but also of the talented and dedicated employees at Goshen Stamping, and the commitment they have made to excellence in the work place.

While Jerry Trolz has been a leader in developing the Partners in Education Program, his contributions to the community do not stop here. Earlier this month, Jerry was named the 1996 winner of the Book of Golden Deeds Award by the Exchange Club of Goshen, in recognition of his lifetime of community service.

Jerry is a charter member and past president of the Kiwanis Club of Goshen; past chairman of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee of Elkhart County; past president of the Goshen Chamber of Commerce; and past president of the Goshen Industrial Club.

He is currently director of the Goshen Salvation Army and Goshen Hospital Health Systems Board; president of the Greater Goshen Association, a member of the advisory boards of First Source Bank, Goshen Partners in Education Committee, the Elkhart Career Center and Ivy Tech State College; and a long-time supporter of Lacasa, Habitat for Humanity, and Youth for Christ.

Mr. Speaker, it is all too common to hear people complain these days that our educational system is not doing a good enough job of motivating and teaching students, or that government is not doing enough to address the problems in our communities.

Jerry Trolz does not believe in complaining. He believes in solutions. In receiving the Book of Golden Deeds Award, Jerry was quoted as saying, "Community service is the rent you pay for being here on earth."

I am pleased to call attention to Jerry's lifetime of community service, and hope that his efforts will serve as an inspiration to all Americans to give a little more of their time and energy to make their communities and our country a better place to live.