

Moneta spent the majority of his career chronicling our Nation's civil rights movement. We are grateful to have had Moneta to record this important part of our history. In 1956, he met a 28-year-old Martin Luther King, Jr., who at the time was a minister in Atlanta. Moneta fostered a close relationship with King, and later would travel with him to Sweden when he received the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize. Moneta also accompanied Vice President Richard M. Nixon to Africa in 1957 when that continent was on the verge of independence.

Moneta was born in Kentucky in 1926. He attended Kentucky State and received a master's degree in journalism from New York University. Moneta went on to work for the *Amsterdam News*, *Our World*, *Ebony*, and *Jet* magazines. Moneta Sleet died in New York City at the age of 70, leaving behind his wife, three children, and three grandchildren.

On September 30, we lost an American treasure. I know my Senate colleagues join me in honoring the life of Moneta J. Sleet. •

THE WELLNESS PLAN OF DETROIT, MI, AND HEALTHSOURCE SAGINAW

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, with the 104th Congress coming to a close, this Senator wanted to come to the floor and express his disappointment at the failure of Congress to act on a couple of extremely important issues affecting the State of Michigan.

One of the matters is a Medicare 50/50 enrollment composition rule waiver for the Wellness Plan of Detroit, MI. The Wellness Plan is a federally certified Medicaid health maintenance organization located in Detroit, MI. It currently has 150,000 enrollees—141,000 of whom are Medicaid, 12,000 commercial and 2,000 Medicare. Since 1993, the Wellness Plan has had a health care prepayment plan contract with Medicare. However, technical changes enacted by Congress effective January 1, 1996, unintentionally prevent the Wellness Plan from enrolling additional Medicare beneficiaries under the HCPP contract. So while the Wellness Plan now is positioned to become a full Medicare risk contractor, it currently is precluded from doing so due to the 50/50 Medicare/Medicaid enrollment composition rule.

My colleague from Michigan, Senator LEVIN, and I introduced legislation recently to grant this waiver to the Wellness Plan. It is important to note that even the Health Care Financing Administration [HCFA] supports the Wellness Plan receiving this plan-specific 50/50 waiver. Because this legislation is noncontroversial, only affects the State of Michigan, and is supported by the entire State delegation, it was our hope that we could either include this measure in the omnibus appropriation bill the Senate passed this week.

Regrettably, we were unable to include this language in the omnibus ap-

propriation bill due to opposition from the Finance Committee to the addition of any Medicare or Medicaid provisions. While this Senator intends to pursue this initiative in the next Congress, it is truly disappointing that we were not allowed to enact this provision this year. This may appear to be a relatively minor, technical legislative issue, but it would have had a profound impact on the ability of Medicare beneficiaries in the State of Michigan to participate in this effective health care plan.

Mr. President, the other matter has to do with HealthSource Saginaw hospital facility in Saginaw, MI. For the past 2 years, several of us in the Michigan delegation have been working diligently to provide a temporary extension of the moratorium that Congress had enacted and previously extended that prohibits the Department of Health and Human Services from considering HealthSource Saginaw to be an institution for mental diseases [IMD]. The most recent moratorium expired on December 31, 1995. We were able to get a moratorium extension in last year's reconciliation bill. Obviously, the President's veto of that bill dashed our hopes of solving this problem through that mechanism. In the interim, however, the State of Michigan has been forced to subsidize the losses incurred by HealthSource Saginaw since the expiration of the most recent moratorium. Reportedly, this has cost the State of Michigan \$902,000 to date since January 1, 1996, it is estimated that amount will increase to \$1.2 million by the end of the year.

The fiscal year 1997 Labor-HHS-Education appropriation bill passed by the House of Representatives contained legislative language providing an extension of the moratorium through the year 2000 or until the first day of the first quarter in which Michigan's State plan would become effective under the new MediGrant program. It was our hope that such language would be included the omnibus appropriation bill or any continuing resolution that was sent to the President. Once again, the Finance Committee's opposition to any such Medicare or Medicaid provisions prevented us from succeeding in enacting this moratorium for HealthSource Saginaw this year. That is very unfortunate for the people of Saginaw, who risk losing an important health care facility in their area, and for the people of Michigan, who continue to have to subsidize this facility's operation because of the unwillingness of some in Congress to address this matter prior to adjournment.

As with the waiver for the Wellness Plan, this Senator intends to continue to press for the moratorium for HealthSource Saginaw in the 105th Congress. •

MARVIN C. PRYOR

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Pastor Marvin C. Pryor,

who on Saturday, October 12, 1996 will be consecrated to the office of bishop to the episcopacy of the Third Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Southwest Michigan. Pastor Pryor is a member of the Church of God in Christ, Inc. The ceremony will be conducted by Bishop Chandler D. Owens, chief apostle of the 4 million member organization.

Marvin Pryor is pastor of the Victorious Believers Ministries, where he has served since 1984. Under Pastor Pryor's strong leadership, church membership has grown from 30 to 700 parishioners. Pastor Pryor has also been influential in the establishment and operation of the church's After School Tutorial Program, Food and Clothing Assistance Program, and Prison Ministry.

Pastor Pryor is no stranger to public service. He worked for the Flint School District for nearly 30 years before retiring in 1992 to devote his full time to the ministry. He served as an administrator for 24 years and was Flint Northern High School's Principal for 16 years.

Marvin Pryor is a Michigan native who has received advanced degrees from both the University of Michigan and Michigan State University. One of Marvin's greatest joys in life is the time he shares with his wife and four children and their extended family. Of the numerous awards he has received for his community, civic, and religious involvement, he is most proud of being named Father of the Year by city of Flint Mayor Woodrow Stanley.

I know that my Senate colleagues join me in honoring Marvin C. Pryor on a long life of faithful service to the community, and in congratulating him on becoming a bishop in the Church of God in Christ, Inc. •

TRIBUTE TO THE STAFF OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

• Mr. COHEN. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to the staff of the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and the District of Columbia.

I have had the pleasure of serving either as the chairman or the ranking member during my entire tenure in the Senate. The subcommittee has been responsible for a number of significant legislative and oversight accomplishments during the past 18 years and, while it would take too long to describe each of these accomplishments, I want to mention just a few of them:

The Competition in Contracting Act [CICA] of 1984, major procurement reform which remarkably improved the way Government agencies acquire goods and services.

The independent counsel law, which serves to ensure that wrongdoing at the highest levels of Government will be impartially investigated.

The Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act of 1988, designed to improve

the regulation and accuracy of medical laboratory tests.

More recently and under the leadership of Senator LEVIN, the Subcommittee was instrumental in the passage of the Lobbying Disclosure Act which requires public registration of professional lobbyists.

Just this year, the subcommittee was responsible for the enactment of the Information Technology Management Reform Act. This landmark legislation will save taxpayers billions of dollars by changing the way the federal government approaches, purchases and uses technology.

As a result of two subcommittee hearings, the Federal Employee Travel Reform Act of 1996 recently became law. This act represents the biggest change in Federal travel rules in 40 years and will result in an estimated savings of \$4 billion over the next five years.

Not only has the subcommittee staff achieved significant legislative accomplishments, but they have worked tirelessly to ensure that the subcommittee's oversight function was performed aggressively, credibly, and with the utmost integrity and care. Regardless of the issue, the subcommittee has undertaken its oversight role with vigor and tenacity. The subcommittee has performed oversight on issues ranging from procurement to Government ethics and, more recently, from bank failures and federal construction to aviation safety.

The subcommittee has also published a number of investigative reports which have had significant impact on Government reform. These reports include "Federal Government Losing Millions By Not Minding the Concessions Store" and "Computer Chaos: Billions Wasted Buying Federal Computer Systems". A soon to be released report on Federally Funded Research and Development Centers [FFRDC] will lay the groundwork to significantly improve the Federal role in promoting scientific research.

Today, I wanted to pay tribute to the staff who have worked tirelessly in recent years to continue the tradition of excellence always associated with the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management. Under the leadership of staff director Kim Corthell and deputy staff director Paul Brubaker, the staff continues to perform a respected and recognized oversight and legislative function on Capitol Hill.

I want to express my gratitude and thanks to the current subcommittee staff—Kim Corthell, Paul Brubaker, Paulina Collins, Bill Greenwalt, Frankie deVergie, and Andrea Gerber.

I also want to recognize and thank other members of my staff who served on the subcommittee in the past—Mary Gerwin, Priscilla Hanley, Andy Antrobus, Jennifer Goldthwait, Kelly Metcalf Meese, Julie Denison, and Matthew Frost.

Finally, I want to mention and thank the individuals who have most recently

served on the subcommittee as fellows and detailees—Don Mullinax, Ralph Dawn, Marty Grenn, Chris Condon, and Peter Wade.

These women and men made an invaluable contribution to the subcommittee's work and to improving government. I deeply appreciate their loyalty and dedication, and I wish all of these talented and hard working individuals continued success and much happiness in their future endeavors.●

A MORE BALANCED IMMIGRATION BILL

● Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, as we move toward adjournment, I wish to comment on the recently passed illegal immigration reform bill. I also wish to commend everyone who helped hammer out the compromise that was incorporated into H.R. 4278, the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations bill.

The resulting compromise properly shifted the focus from penalizing those legally admitted to this country to those who illegally cross our borders. The conference report, as passed by the House of Representatives last week, would have severely restricted benefit eligibility for legal permanent residents and other lawfully admitted immigrants. Legal residents—people who contribute to our society by working hard, paying taxes, serving in our Nation's Armed Forces, and observing all laws to remain in the United States—would have been ineligible for most Federally funded public assistance based on income.

The resulting compromise eliminates deeming provisions that would have restricted the ability of legal immigrants to receive federal benefits during their first 5 years in the United States. Moreover, it dropped provisions mandating deportation or denial of naturalized status to immigrants who accept Federal benefits during a 12-month period over 7 years.

These are significant changes which soften the newly enacted welfare reform bill that bars legal resident aliens from receiving a number of Federal benefits.

The House-passed conference agreement also called for establishing income standards for the sponsorship by U.S. citizens of family members that were unrealistically high and would have had a deleterious effect on family reunification—a long-standing goal of U.S. immigration policy. The conference agreement numbers would have kept sponsorship of immediate family members out of the reach of many hard-working, tax-paying families. Under the compromise, sponsors of immigrant relatives must now earn a minimum of 125 percent of the Federal poverty level. This is a more realistic standard that will assist low-income wage earners in reuniting with their family members.

I voted for the Senate immigration reform bill in May, not because I thought it was perfect, but because it

addressed the issue of illegal immigration. I was hopeful that the House and Senate bills could be negotiated in a bipartisan fashion so that Congress could enact meaningful immigration reform. During the conference, Democrats were excluded from the process. The results, Mr. President, were predictable.

The Congress does not represent only one opinion. We must be willing and able to compromise, to hear one another's concerns, and find solutions that will not harm our citizens and legal immigrants. Congress was on the verge of enacting legislation that would have created a second-class citizenship for legal immigrants. I am pleased that we were able to avert action that would have unfairly treated those legally admitted to this country, threatened to close the door on refugees fleeing persecution, and denied working Americans the right to be reunited with their families.●

REGARDING THE TRAUMA REDUCTION INITIATIVE

● Mr. MACK. Mr. President, as we complete our business in the Senate today, I rise to note with interest the support the Appropriations Committees in the House and Senate gave to the trauma reduction initiative under the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program of the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

On page H11848 of the September 28, 1996 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary and Appropriation subcommittee members of the House and Senate urge the Bureau of Justice Assistance to favorably consider funding the initiative. As you may know, the trauma reduction project was developed by Cooper Hospital/University Medical of Camden, NJ, and NOVA Southeastern University of Fort Lauderdale, FL, to respond to and prevent violence and crime in our neighborhoods. What makes this initiative unique is the joining of therapeutic and alternative dispute resolution methods to train personnel who intervene most often in violent or even chronic abuse situations.

I look forward to working with my colleagues from New Jersey and the Department of Justice to make this proposal a reality. Not only will it assist immediate victims of abuse and crime, but it will contribute to reduce the spiral of crime and violence which plagues our neighborhoods and burdens our health care system.●

URBAN WOES AND SOLUTIONS

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I would like to call the Senate's attention to an op-ed in the New York Daily News by Professor Mitchell Moss. Professor Moss, director of the Taub Urban Research Center of New York University, has a long history of illuminating our Nation's urban woes, and potential solutions.