

specified by the Secretary in addition to the 10 diagnosis-related groups originally selected under this policy.

The Conferees are concerned that Medicare may in some cases be overpaying hospitals for patients who are transferred to a post acute care setting after a very short acute care hospital stay. The Conferees believe that Medicare's payment system should continue to provide hospitals with strong incentives to treat patients in the most effective and efficient manner, while at the same time, adjust PPS payments in a manner that accounts for reduced hospital lengths of stay because of a discharge to another setting.

The Conferees expect that the application of the Transfer policy to 10 high volume/high post-acute use DRGs will provide extensive data to examine hospital behavioral effects under the new transfer policy

THE CRA SUNSHINE ACT OF 1999

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the CRA Sunshine Act of 1999. This is a modest effort to reform the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) and bring more openness to it.

CRA groups have reported over \$9 billion in cash payments received or pledged by banks as a result of CRA activities. A total of \$694 billion in CRA commitments have been made or pledged due to CRA. While these pledges are made and collected as a direct result of federal legislation, the details of these payments are often unknown because many agreements include confidentiality clauses. Congress never intended that CRA dollars be used for anything other than investing in low and moderate income areas. There is concern that some CRA dollars are being used by CRA activists to pay for consulting fees, hiring contracts, administrative fees, and other nonloan activities. By shining light on the details of agreements made pursuant to CRA, this Act would remove the mystery from deals between banks and CRA organizations while ensuring that CRA truly benefits those that it was designed to benefit.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BANKING PRIVACY ACT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, with many of my colleagues, to introduce the Banking Privacy Act. We recognize the threat to consumer privacy and want to return control over an individual's personal financial information back to the consumer.

My constituents are shocked when I tell them that their banking transaction experiences are not private. With certain exceptions, financial institutions may legally share all of the information about you and your bank account activity with affiliated businesses—or anyone else, for that matter. This shared infor-

mation includes the amount of each check that you write, to whom each check is written, the date of each check, the amount and date of any deposits into your account, and any "outside information" available, such as information submitted on your initial application for an account. Under existing law, financial institutions are not obligated to honor your request to restrict the dissemination of this personal information.

I became interested in banking privacy laws after reading a letter from a constituent who was upset about his bank's plans to share his private financial records. I was shocked to learn of the stunning absence of statutory protections of consumer privacy. Suppose banks, insurance companies, and securities firms become affiliated, something that will occur more frequently in the future. Will a bank tip off affiliated stock brokers every time their consumers have a sudden increase in their bank account balance, causing the consumer to be subjected to even more telemarketing calls? Will banks "profile" their customers after reviewing their financial information, then have affiliates telemarket products to those customers? Will life insurance companies affiliated with banks review personal checking records for indications of risky behavior, then increase rates based on that information? Under current law, there is nothing to prevent these types of situations.

As Congress moves to modernize the financial services industry and allow the lines between banks, securities firms, and insurance companies to blur, financial institutions gain a new profit incentive by sharing customers' personal financial information. Customers who prefer to keep their financial information private have no recourse.

The Banking Privacy Act is a first step to return control over an individual's personal financial information back to that consumers. The Act applies to federally insured depository institutions, their affiliates and financial institutions covered under the Bank Holding Company Act.

Currently, under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, banks must disclose to their customers their privacy policies to customers and make allowances to opt-out of certain types of information sharing practices. Specifically excluded from this law is customer "transaction and experience" information.

Transaction and experience information is information about a checking or savings account, information contained on an account application, or even purchasing patterns deduced through a customer's checking account—"account profiling." Transaction and experience information may be shared with affiliated companies or even sold to third parties for marketing purposes. There is no law to prevent such activity from taking place.

The information is currently used to market financial services to customers based on their financial patterns. Banks routinely perform this type of information sharing. However, as we move to modernize the financial industry, there will be greater demand for this type of personal account information to market products and services to a targeted group of consumers.

For example, it is not impossible to imagine that a bank holding company learned that a customer received a life insurance settlement and then made that information available to a securities firm or data broker to market serv-

ices to that customer. While many consumers will appreciate the benefit of this information sharing, the decision to share the information belongs in the hands of the consumer and not the financial institution.

Customers should be able to opt-out of information sharing policies in their banks and financial institutions. The Banking Privacy Act will require banks and financial institutions to disclose their privacy policies and allow consumers to opt-out of information sharing plans—including transaction and experience information.

The Banking Privacy Act will not affect the routine operations of a bank. There are specific exemptions in the bill relating to the day to day practices that banks have in place which do not impact consumer privacy. The bill will protect consumers from unwanted marketing based on their intimate financial details and give consumers control over the use and sharing of their financial information.

Federally insured depository institutions have an obligation to help take a stand for consumer privacy. The government provides a safety net for the banks in the form of insurance and safety provisions. These same banks have to provide a safety net for taxpayer privacy.

Financial privacy should not be sacrificed at the altar of financial industry modernization. Americans have the right to freedom of speech and freedom of religion, and we ought to have the right to freedom from prying eyes into our personal financial business. Financial institutions should not be allowed to share private financial information without customer consent. The Banking Privacy Act is a necessary and practical response to the erosion of financial privacy and the potential explosion in cross-marketing among affiliated financial institutions.

I want to also thank and commend my colleagues for joining me as cosponsors of the Banking Privacy Act. Representatives MICHAEL CAPUANO, BOB FILNER, MAURICE HINCHEY, JOSEPH HOFFEL, PAUL KANJORSKI, BARBARA LEE, JIM McDERMOTT, LYNN RIVERS, BERNIE SANDERS, JAN SCHAKOWSKY and PETE STARK have all cosponsored this bill and I appreciate their assistance.

I urge my colleagues to support and pass the Banking Privacy Act.

IN MEMORY OF PAUL N. DOLL

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Paul N. Doll of Jefferson City, Missouri.

Paul Doll was born on April 4, 1911, in Hamilton, Missouri, a son of Ernest E. and Emma Louise Colby Doll. He was a 1928 graduate of Hamilton High School and a 1932 graduate of Kidder Junior College. He received a bachelor's degree in 1936 and a master's degree in 1937 in agricultural engineering from their University of Missouri-Columbia. In 1984, he received an honorary doctorate from the University of Missouri.

Doll's career in public service and agriculture began immediately after his graduation in 1937. He was a county extension agent

with the University of Missouri Extension Service for several counties from 1937 to 1944. A resident of the Jefferson City area since 1944, he was employed with the Missouri Department of Resources and Development from 1944 to 1947. He was manager of the Missouri Limestone Producers Association from 1947 to 1954. From 1954 until his retirement in 1976, he was executive director of the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers.

Paul Doll was also active in the community. He was an elder of the First Presbyterian Church, treasurer of the Presbyterian Synod and president of the Men of the Presbyterian Synod. He was past president of the Jefferson City Rotary Club and a district governor of Rotary International. He was a member of Alpha Gamma Rho and Tau Beta Pi fraternities. Active in many University of Missouri organizations, Paul Doll was a board member and past officer of the Agricultural Engineering Council and a board member of the Engineering Advisory Council and the Alumni Alliance. A member of the Alumni association, he received its Distinguished Service Award in 1979. He also was a registered lobbyist for MU.

Mr. Doll was an Eagle Scout and merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts of America; board member and committee chairman of the Jefferson City Engineers Club; board member of the Central Missouri United Way; volunteer for Meals on Wheels; chairman of the Greater Jefferson City Committee; and a registered engineer in Missouri.

Paul Doll is survived by his wife, Mary R. "Meg" Doll; his son, Robert; two daughters, Mary Beth Huser and Anne C. Comfort; and eight grandchildren. I know that this body joins me in expressing sympathy to the family of this great Missourian.

IN MEMORY OF MR. OSCAR CROSS
OF PADUCAH, KENTUCKY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the life and legacy of Mr. Oscar Cross of Paducah, Kentucky, whose passing on April 20, 1999 at the age of 92 ended his long and productive investment in great causes, high ideals and humanitarian service.

Mr. Cross was not a man of material wealth. Undeterred, he built a legacy of leadership built on the wisdom of one of his favorite adages: "If you don't have money, you have time." He gave unstintingly of his time, his energy and his vision of a better community in which none were left behind.

Mr. Cross was a founder of the Paducah Boys & Girls Club that now bears his name. He was a tireless advocate of young people and helped provide a sheltering hand for generations of boys and girls who found protection, love, guidance and inspiration as the result of his efforts.

In a front-page account of his funeral service, The Paducah Sun observed, "On the day that had been declared Oscar Cross Day by

the city of Paducah to commemorate his legacy, hundreds of mourners turned out to pay their last respects to one of the city's greatest humanitarians. Nearly 500 people gathered at First Baptist Church Sunday afternoon for the funeral of the legendary humanitarian. Both blacks and whites filled the church to celebrate, not mourn the life and contributions Cross made."

Dhomyric Lightfoot, president of the Boys and Girls Club, was quoted as saying, "Having people of different colors, cultures and backgrounds here to celebrate (his life) is a contribution to Mr. Cross. The perceptions that he broke were astronomical."

In a fitting eulogy, Reverend Raynaldo Henderson, pastor of the Washington Street Missionary Baptist Church, used a parable to illustrate Mr. Cross's faith in young people and in God. "Whoever gets the Son, gets it All! Do you want peace? Get the Son! Do you want joy? Get the Son! Whoever gets the Son, gets it all!" he said.

Mr. Speaker, in further tribute to his remarkable life, I place before the House of Representatives and the Nation for inclusion in the Congressional Record a poem favored by Mr. Cross and a letter written to me by Mr. Clarence E. Nunn, Sr., executive director of the Boys and Girls Club.

THE HOUSE BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD

"HE WAS A FRIEND TO MAN, AND LIVED IN A
HOUSE BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD."

HOMER

There are hermit souls that live withdrawn,
In the peace of their self-content;

There are souls, like stars, that dwell apart,
In a fellowless firmament;

There are pioneer souls that blaze their
paths, Where highways never ran;
But let me live by the side of the road. And
be a friend to man.

Let me live in a house by the side of the
road, Where the race of men go by—
The men who are good and the men who are
bad, As good and as bad as I.

I would not sit in the scorner's seat, Or hurl
the cynic's ban;

Let me live in a house by the side of the
road, And be a friend to man.

I see from my house by the side of the road,
By the side of the highway of life,

The men who press with the ardor of hope,
The men who are faint with the strife.

But I turn not away from their smiles nor
their tears—Both parts of an infinite
plan;

Let me live in my house by the side of the
road, And be a friend to man.

I know there are brook-gladdened meadows
ahead, And mountains of wearisome
height,

That the road passes on through the long
afternoon, And stretches away to the
night.

But still I rejoice when the travelers rejoice,
And weep with the strangers that moan,
Nor live in my house by the side of the road,
Like a man who dwells alone.

Let me live in my house by the side of the
road, Where the race of men go by—

They are good, they are bad, they are weak,
they are strong,

Wise, foolish—so am I.

Then why should I sit in the scorner's seat,
Or hurl the cynic's ban?—

Let me live in my house by the side of the
road, And be a friend to man.

Sam Walter Foss.

OSCAR CROSS BOYS &
GIRLS CLUB OF PADUCAH,
Paducah, KY, May 17, 1999

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WHITFIELD, I am enclosing a brief history of Oscar Cross, the founder of the Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club of Paducah, who was killed in an automobile accident on Tuesday, April 20, 1999. The Paducah community and untold numbers of men and women across the nation owe a huge debt to Mr. Cross for the countless acts of unconditional love and service to mankind he performed while living.

For several years, Mr. Cross worked as a janitor at the courthouse in Paducah, and the courthouse became the initial meeting place for the newly organized Jr. Legion Boys Club formed by Mr. Cross and a few local young men in 1950. In 1953, the organization united with the Boys Clubs of America. It was the first African-American club and is the second oldest Boys & Girls Club in Kentucky. The dream of operating a safe, drug-free environment for kids became a reality for Mr. Cross after many days and nights of soul-searching, praying and rising above the obstacles of segregation and separatist attitudes.

When he was refused access to a larger building and better facilities for his "boys" he sought other creative ways to obtain his goals. He and several club members cleaned and sold used bricks in order to secure the necessary funds to purchase the current club location on Jackson Street. Each time a door was slammed in his face, he invented "windows" of opportunity until he was able to achieve his mission. His tenacity and perseverance enabled him to see his vision of a facility for the youth of Paducah become a reality and in 1987, the library named in honor of Delbert Shumpert, a talented athlete and former club member, was erected on the site of the current boys & girls address.

Throughout his lifetime, Mr. Cross received innumerable awards, certificates and letters of recognition, far too many to list in this letter. However, a few of his recognized achievements include: The Bronze Keystone Award from the Boys & Girls Club of America for 25 years of service (the first black to receive this award), Kentucky Colonel Award, a Duke of Paducah Award, certificate of merit from the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce, certificate of appreciation from the 4-H Club of Paducah Community College, the Lucy Hart Smith-Atwood S. Wilson Award from the Human Relations Committee of the Kentucky Education Association and many others. His most recent honor came three days before his death from Kappa Alpha Psi, a community service fraternity, for his humanitarian efforts.

His legacy of "never give up in the face of adversity" is something that will be treasured and remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him for the brief 92 years he spent with us. Until his death he continued to be an active vital member of the club, continuing to look for financial opportunities and ways to develop our young people so that they would realize there are alternatives to the streets. He was and is a remarkable man and an excellent role model.

Sincerely,

CLARENCE L. NUNN, SR.,
Executive Director.