

The Congressional advisory commission MedPAC, and other health experts, have long-warned that the proliferation of payment systems makes it evermore difficult for us to know what we are buying and how well patients are being treated.

But moving to a single, unified, and simpler system is not easy. In many areas, the data or basic research is not available. Therefore, my bill sets out a long-term goal for Medicare to move in this direction. I hope that HCFA can develop these simplifications and cross-comparisons sooner, but if not, the bill sets a 'hammer' of requiring the provider communities and HCFA to come together to achieve this goal by the end of the next decade.

In the long run, this effort should yield savings and improve quality measurement. My introduction of this bill is a signal that this is the direction we should be moving.

Following are some quotes from the March 1999 MedPAC report to Congress on why this wonky issue is also an important issue:

To guide the development of consistent payment policies across post-acute care settings, MedPAC recommends that common data elements be collected to help identify and quantify the overlap of patients treated and services provided. Further, it is important to put in place quality monitoring systems in each setting to ensure that adequate care is provided in the appropriate site. We also support research and demonstrations to assess the potential of alternative patient classification systems for use across settings to make payments for like services more comparable. . .

A lack of readily available data on patient function and health status limits the ability to identify where differences and overlaps in patients occur and to compare costs and payments across provider types. In particular, policymakers are concerned that payment policies may furnish incentives for providers to place patients in settings for financial, rather than for clinical reasons. A core set of common data about patients in all post-acute care settings will improve considerably the ability to monitor and make policy decisions about post-acute care.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE LATE MAJ. GEN. WALTER A. CHURCHILL (RET.), U.S. MARINE CORPS, FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to a truly outstanding individual from the state of Ohio, the late Major General Walter A. Churchill (ret.), United States Marine Corps. On Monday, June 7, 1999, a special celebration will take place in Toledo, Ohio to honor the outstanding life and military career of General Churchill.

Mr. Speaker, Walter Augustus Churchill, Sr. was born on November 12, 1903. At the age of 19, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and began a distinguished military career culminating with the rank of Major General in 1962. General Churchill retired from the United States Marine Corps on December 1, 1963, after a remarkable 41 years and 8 days of service to his country.

During his career in the Marine Corps, General Churchill served the United States proudly around the world at Guantanamo Bay, Iceland, Guam, Guadalcanal, and other areas of the Pacific theater in World War II. While serving in World War II, General Churchill was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" for Valor and a Gold Star as Commander of the Fifth Field Service Command, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific.

After his military career, General Churchill was instrumental in forming the United States Marines Youth Foundation, whose goal is to keep children free from the dangers of drugs and substance abuse. General Churchill was also the Chairman of the Board and CEO of Churchill Supermarkets, Inc., the family business of five supermarkets. His tireless dedication and innovation helped propel General Churchill's standing in the business community.

Always the community activist, General Churchill was a member of the Toledo City Council and was Chairman of the Toledo Republican Executive and Central Committees. He was a member of the Toledo Rotary Club, National Association of Grocers, Ohio Automobile Association, and many more. Among others, General Churchill was recognized as "Marine of the Year," "Grocer of the Year," and, in 1992, he received the President's Distinguished Service Award.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to stand and join me in paying tribute to the late Major General Walter A. Churchill. For his unwavering service above and beyond the call of duty, we owe him our most gracious thanks.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID AND ELAINE GILL

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Elaine and David Gill for their almost fifty years of leadership and devotion to the Brandeis-Bardin Institute and the Los Angeles Jewish community.

Since they first attended the Brandeis Collegiate Institute in the 1950s, Elaine and David have forged a warm, longstanding relationship with the Brandeis-Bardin Institute as a whole. Both of them have served on the Board and David is a member of the Executive Committee. Elaine has served as chair of the Alonim Committee, the Women of Brandeis-Bardin, and as co-chair of the Brandeis-Bardin Associates. The Gills have recognized the important role that BBI plays in enhancing the spiritual life of Jews of all ages and levels of observance, and they have committed their time and energy to ensuring the Institute's continued success and development.

The Gills' relationship with the Brandeis-Bardin Institute exists on the personal level as well. All four of their sons have attended Camp Alonim, the youth resident summer camp held on the grounds of the Institute. Between 1971 and 1994, at least one of their sons was involved with the camp either as a camper or a staff member. In fact, both of the couple's married sons met their wives at Alonim. A third generation of Gills, grandsons Jasper, Jonah, and Micah, are all future campers.

In addition to all their efforts on behalf of Brandeis-Bardin, Elaine and David have found time to volunteer with several other Jewish organizations, showing that their dedication to the local Jewish community extends far beyond the tree-lined gates of the institute.

At Valley Beth Shalom, one of the largest Conservative synagogues in the San Fernando Valley, the Gills have both been active members. They have served as pararabbinic counselors and they have been instrumental in developing the synagogue's havurah program, which brings together families with similar interests for social and religious fellowship. David has been chairman of the Board and has led two building fund campaigns. Elaine is currently Religious Vice President.

The Gills have also devoted an extraordinary amount of time to the Los Angeles Jewish Federation which offers a wide range of activities and services to individuals throughout Los Angeles. Together, David and Elaine have led several missions to Israel and they have each chaired committees too numerous to mention.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Elaine and David Gill's outstanding work with the Brandeis-Bardin Institute and the Los Angeles Jewish community. They are the true embodiment of the concept that "all Israel are responsible for one another."

MILITARY HOME OF RECORD ACT OF 1999; LEGISLATION TO CLARIFY THE "HOME OF RECORD" FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE 2000 CENSUS.

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to introduce legislation that I feel is essential to achieving an accurate count in Census 2000.

Military personnel are a unique group because they often pay taxes and vote in a state in which they are stationed; therefore, it is difficult to clearly define their actual residence. Most would not be residing in the place they have been stationed were it not for their military service. Many have family in another state.

My bill will provide clarity by ensuring that military personnel are allocated to their "Home of Record." This will ensure that federal funding and redistricting are based on an accurate count of the population.

Currently, the Census Bureau plans to use "Home of Record" data for counting military personnel who are stationed overseas in Census 2000. This bill requires the Census Bureau to work in partnership with the Department of Defense to count military personnel who have been stationed in the United States as well.

This bill is not a radical shift in policy for the Census. In the 1990 Census as well as in the 1970 Census the Department of Commerce utilized "home of record" data. In 1992, the Supreme Court stated that the Secretary of the Department of Commerce was acting within the law when he used "home of record"

data from the personnel files to count military personnel in the 1990 Census.

I am not seeking to uproot years of tradition here today; I am merely fighting to ensure that the Census is done in a fair and equitable manner, accounting for all U.S. citizens in their proper home. These men and women have claimed a state to be their "home"—why shouldn't we honor that claim. There are many states that, merely based on location, have been chosen to house military personnel. Counting military personnel as residents of these states when they are voting and paying taxes elsewhere simply does not make sense.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in co-sponsoring this legislation.

IN HONOR OF THE LATE DR.
THEODORE MILLER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I wish to take this moment to recognize the remarkable life and significant achievements of one of Pueblo, Colorado's treasured pediatric physicians. Tragically, Dr. Theodore Miller died after a long battle with prostate cancer. While his family and friends remember the truly exceptional life of Dr. Theodore, I, too, would like to pay tribute to this remarkable man.

As a pediatrician in Pueblo, Colorado, for forty years, Dr. Miller's bedside manner was the best around. According to former patients and colleagues, Dr. Miller was the kind of man who took time for the children to get them directly involved with their diagnosis and recovery. Dr. Miller's love for his work was evident through his dedication to his partner, and his patients.

Dr. Theodore Miller served in the medical corps in World War II, and moved to Pueblo Colorado soon after. He graduated from Northwestern Medical School in 1945 and started his partnership in 1951. After forty years of serving the community of Pueblo, Dr. Miller retired in 1991. He was a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Colorado State Medical Society. Dr. Miller also served on the American Board of Pediatrics, and was once president of the Pueblo County Medical Society.

Although his professional accomplishments will long be remembered and admired, most who knew him well remember Dr. Miller, above all else, as a friend. It is clear that the multitude of those who have come to know him, mourn his absence. However, Mr. Speaker, I am confident that, in spite of this profound loss, the family and friends of Dr. Theodore Miller can take solace in the knowledge that each is a better person for having known him.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF RUTH
SQUIRES

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 36th year of service for a teacher in my

district. Sadly, as students and parents in La Crescenta, CA, would agree, it also marks the end of her distinguished career in education. To honor this service to our youth and to our Nation, I ask my colleagues here today to join me in saluting Ruth Squires.

Ruth's career in teaching would carry her from coast to coast. She began her career in New York State, earning a degree at the State University Teachers' College in Cortland. Eventually finding her way to California, Ruth joined the faculty at Rosemont Middle School in La Crescenta in 1963. She immediately became actively involved in both community and school events. She is best known for her leadership in the school's production on the United States Constitution. This community event is Ruth's trademark, bring to life the two-hundred year old document that is the foundation of our government.

In her 36 years at Rosemont, Ruth has taught history, social science and economics, and served as a mentor for her peers. Currently, she is the chair of the history and social science department. And her leadership has not gone unnoticed. In 1988, she was awarded the prestigious Masonic Award, and in 1993, received the John Del Monte Award for her service to campus and community. Ruth is also recognized by "Who's Who, American University and Colleges Edition."

Mr. Speaker, too often, the service of those who mean the most goes unnoticed. Although another school year has come to an end, we must not let it pass without recognizing the service of the men and women in education who have unconditionally served our youth. Ruth Squires is one of these patriots.

For her three decades of service to the families of California's 27th Congressional District, and for her distinguished work in the La Crescenta community, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the service of Ruth Squires.

TRIBUTE TO THE REPUBLIC OF
CROATIA FOR CELEBRATING THE
NINTH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS
INDEPENDENCE ON MAY 30, 1999,
AND FOR OPENING A NEW CONSULATE
GENERAL IN CHICAGO
ON APRIL 8, 1999

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Republic of Croatia for celebrating the 9th anniversary of its independence on May 30, 1999, and for opening a new Consulate General in Chicago on April 8, 1999.

I am proud, and especially proud today, to be one of the more than 2 million people of Croatian descent living in the United States who have maintained their links with Croatia. Croatian Americans arrived in the United States with little except for the belief in the "American Dream" and a perseverance to succeed and watch their children excel. Since they first arrived in large numbers in the United States more than one hundred years ago, Croatian Americans have done well in all aspects of American historical, socio-cultural and political life. Their sons and daughters

have grown up to be doctors, lawyers and other professionals who have served the country which welcomed their ancestors with open arms.

Croatia is a country rich in history, culture and beauty. Its people have a special appreciation for the United States and Americans. A Croatian poet, Antun Gustav Matoš, wrote in 1906 that "America is presently the most important factor in the creation of Croatian democracy, the best school of Croatian vitality." Today these words are even more meaningful than they were in 1906.

We all remember Croatia's lengthy war for independence that made headlines worldwide in the early part of this decade. We celebrated when Croatia finally broke from the Serbian-dominated Yugoslavia in 1991, after such great loss of human life, to become its own independent country. Today, we stand with the Croatians to pay tribute to their courage and perseverance. We pay tribute to Croatia's fully functioning, democratic political structure, and its commitment to further economic development.

I also want to pay tribute to the Republic of Croatia's opening of a new Consulate General in Chicago on April 8, 1999. The three-day series of events entitled Croatia in Chicago was the largest gathering ever of the Croatian community in the U.S. and it demonstrated that the partnership between Croatia and the U.S. is constantly being strengthened. One particularly special event was a Gala Dinner organized by the Croatian community in Chicago. There were 1,400 guests in attendance and the revenues of the dinner went to benefit the children's hospitals in Croatia.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I want to associate myself with the remarks of Ambassador Robert Gelbard at the Croatia in Chicago event. Mr. Gelbard said "As our trade and business ties grow so must Croatia's integration into the full range of Western and Euro-Atlantic institutions." I believe we must do all we can to help Croatia achieve these goals, and we must continue to reinforce to the Croatian people that our goal is a full partnership with Croatia. Finally, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Republic of Croatia for celebrating the ninth anniversary of its independence and for opening a new Consulate General in Chicago.

THE POTOMAC—AN ENDANGERED
RIVER

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 1999

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and District of Columbia Appropriations Subcommittee, I am deeply concerned about the environment in and around our nation's capital.

Two years ago the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus held a monthly informational briefing on fishing in the Washington, D.C. area. Following that briefing I submitted for the record an article written by Charles Verharen, a Professor at Howard University and avid local fisherman, that highlighted threats to the Potomac River fishery.

At the request of local fishermen, a study on the impact of sediment discharge on anadromous fish was initiated by the U.S. Fish and