

National Institutes of Health, and the Agency for Care Policy and Research, to develop outcome standards and other measures to evaluate the quality of care provided to patients at the end of their lives.

This legislation also responds to the serious crisis in pain care. As documented by the Institute of Medicine, studies have shown that a significant proportion of dying patients experience serious pain despite the availability of effective pain treatment. In addition, the aggressive use of ineffectual and intrusive interventions at the end of life may actually increase pain and eliminate the possibility for a peaceful and meaningful end-of-life experience with family and friends. This bill will improve the treatment of pain for Medicare patients with life threatening diseases.

Currently, Medicare does not generally pay the cost of self-administered drugs prescribed for outpatient use. The only outpatient pain medications currently covered by Medicare are those that are administered by a portable pump. It is widely recognized among physicians treating patients with cancer and other life-threatening diseases that self-administered pain medications, including oral drugs and transdermal patches, are alternatives that are equally effective at controlling pain, less costly and more comfortable for the patient. To address this inadequacy in coverage, the bill requires Medicare coverage for self-administered pain medications prescribed for outpatient use for patients with life-threatening disease and chronic pain.

The bill also focuses on the need to develop models to improve end-of-life care. The bill provides funding for demonstration projects to develop new and innovative approaches to improving end-of-life care provided to Medicare beneficiaries. It also includes funding to evaluate existing pilot programs that are providing innovative approaches to end-of-life care.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation we are proposing seeks to improve the quality of care for individuals and their families experiencing the last stages of life so they may do so together with dignity, independence and compassion.

SUMMARY: ADVANCE PLANNING AND
COMPASSIONATE CARE ACT

SECTION 1. TITLE

Sec. 2. Development of Standards to Assess End-of-Life Care

The HHS Secretary, through HCFA, NIH, and AHPR, shall develop outcome standards and measures to evaluate the performance and quality of health care programs and projects that provide end-of-life care to individuals.

Sec. 3. Study and Recommendation to Congress on Issues Relating to Advance Directive Expansion

HHS will study and report to Congress on ways to improve the uniformity of advance directives.

Sec. 4. Study and Legislative Proposal to Congress

HHS shall study and report to Congress on all matters relating to the creation of a national, uniform policy on advance directives.

Sec. 5. Expansion of Advance Directives

Individuals in hospitals, nursing homes and health care facilities will have an opportunity to discuss issues relating to advance directives with an appropriately trained individual. Advance directives must be placed prominently in a patient's medical record.

This section also ensures portability of advance directives, so that an advance directive valid in one state will be honored in another state, as long as the contents of the ad-

vance directive do not conflict with the laws of the other state.

Sec. 6. National Information Hotline for End-of-Life Decision-making

HHS, through HCFA, shall establish and operate directly, or by grant, contract, or interagency agreement, a clearinghouse and 24-hour hot-line to provide consumer information about advance directives and end-of-life decision-making.

Sec. 7. Evaluation of and Demonstration Projects for Medicare Beneficiaries

HHS, through HCFA, will evaluate existing innovative programs and also administer demonstration projects to develop new and innovative approaches to providing end-of-life care to Medicare beneficiaries. Also, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the quality of end-of-life care under the Medicare program, together with any suggestions for legislation to improve the quality of such care under that program.

Sec. 8. Medicare Coverage of Self-Administered Medication for Certain Patients with Chronic Pain

Medicare will provide coverage for self-administered pain medications prescribed for outpatients with life-threatening disease and chronic pain. (These medications are currently covered by Medicare only when administered by portable pump).

RED BANK MEN'S CLUB 50TH ANNIVERSARY: "UNITY—PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE"

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 1999

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, April 17, 1999, the members of the Red Bank, NJ, Men's Club will be celebrating their fiftieth anniversary with a formal dinner ball to be held at the PNC Arts Center in Holmdel, NJ. The theme for the evening, which will be chaired by Mr. Gary Watson, is "Unity—Past, Present and Future." Two of the Red Bank area's leading citizens, James W. Parker, Jr., M.D., and Donald D. Warner, Ed.D., will be honored at the ball.

Dr. James W. Parker, Jr., was born in Red Bank, where he attended the public schools and began his lifelong membership in the Shrewsbury Avenue AME Zion Church. He attended Howard University, graduating in 1940 with a B.S. degree, and earning his M.D. degree in 1944. He also attained the rank of First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. After serving his residency in Norfolk, Va., he came back home to Red Bank and opened a private practice. The Korean War interrupted his career on the home front, as Dr. Parker went to serve his country as a Captain in Korea with a Battalion Air Station on the front line, and later in Japan. After the war, he returned to private family practice, as well as serving on the medical staff at Monmouth Medical Center in Long Branch, NJ, and Riverview Medical Center in Red Bank.

Dr. Parker was married to Alice Williams Parker in 1944. They have two children and four grandchildren. His community involvement has been and continues to be extensive, including service to the YMCA, the Red Bank Board of Health, the American Red Cross, the Red Bank Board of Education, where he served as vice President, the Monmouth County Welfare Board, which he chaired, the

Monmouth College Trustees Board, the Monmouth County Office of Social Services Board and the Red Bank Community Service Board.

Last year, Dr. Donald D. Warner retired after 23 years of service as Superintendent of the Red Bank Regional High School District. Dr. Warner began his long and distinguished career in education 40 years ago, starting out as a classroom teacher. He earned his Bachelor's Degree at Temple University and his Doctor of Education Degree at the Pennsylvania State University. Over the years, he has received school and community awards too numerous to mention. In his nearly a quarter-century in the Red Bank area, he has taken on significant community and professional responsibilities, serving on various boards of trustees, foundations and task forces in Monmouth County and throughout the State of New Jersey.

A native of Pennsylvania, Dr. Warner now lives in Tinton Falls, NJ, with his wife Mercedes, a teacher in the Tinton Falls District. The Warners' three children have all achieved impressive success—not surprising, given the commitment to hard work and excellence instilled in them by both of their parents. Despite his retirement, Dr. Warner has remained active in community affairs, while a scholarship being established in his honor will further his legacy as an educator by providing opportunities for students to expand their educational opportunities for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, the Red Bank Men's Club has been instrumental over the years in supporting youth through scholarships for higher education. Many members of the Club serve as mentors and tutors for youth in the community. I congratulate the leaders and members of the Red Bank Men's Club, and wish them many years of continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1150, THE JUVENILE CRIME CONTROL AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ACT

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 1999

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleague from Pennsylvania, Mr. GREENWOOD, to introduce H.R. 1150, the Juvenile Crime Control and Delinquency Prevention Act. It is essential that Congress join together to fight and reduce the rising rates of crime, particularly violent crime among children.

Our children are our most important resource. They are our future teachers, doctors, lawyers, engineers, and parents. We need to make sure that we do everything in our power to keep them safe from harm and prevent them from becoming involved in at-risk activities, such as drugs, alcohol abuse, and crime. In 1996 alone, there were over 100,000 arrests of children and youth under the age of 18 for violent crimes. Over 1,000 of those crimes were committed by those under the age of 10 and 6,500 were committed by youths between the ages of 10 and 12. In my home state of Delaware, one out of every five persons arrested in 1996 was a juvenile.

The key to lowering these statistics and stopping juvenile crime in its tracks is prevention and that is what we do in the Juvenile

Crime Control and Delinquency Prevention Act. This bill acknowledges that most successful solutions to juvenile crime are developed at the state and local levels by people who understand the unique characteristics of youth in their particular area. H.R. 1150 goes a long way toward providing states and local providers with more flexibility in addressing juvenile crime by reducing burdensome state requirements and streamlining current law. Funds in H.R. 1150 can be used for prevention activities, including for hiring probation officers to monitor youth to ensure they abide by the terms of their probation. The bill also acknowledges that interventions and prevention activities such as educational assistance, job training employment services are effective tools in reducing and preventing juvenile crime. Also included in this bill is the Runaway Homeless Youth Act, which targets prevention as the best means to combat juvenile violent crime. H.R. 1150 authorizes programs to keep youth off the streets and away from criminal activity, so they will never even have the opportunity to become involved in violent crime. The Juvenile Crime Control and Delinquency Prevention Act provides the missing link in our efforts to combat juvenile crime.

Identical legislation to H.R. 1150 passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 413 to 14 last year. This widely supported legislation can go a long way in providing kids support when they are most in need.

REGARDING H. CON. RES. 60

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 1999

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I am particularly pleased to introduce H. Con. Res. 60 telling the United States Postal Service that the Congress believes it should issue a series of commemorative postage stamps honoring veterans service organizations across the Nation.

As we are aware, this year, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States will observe the 100th Anniversary of its founding. This important occasion represents the perfect opportunity to recognize the service of America's veterans, but the Postal Service has turned a deaf ear to numerous requests from veterans organizations, Members of Congress, and the American public to issue even a single stamp this year for this noble purpose.

There are numerous organizations that deserve commendation, including the American Legion, AMVETS, Blinded Veterans of America, Disabled American Veterans, Jewish War Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Vietnam Veterans of America, and the Polish League of American Veterans of which I am proud to be one. And, these organizations would be specifically honored with the V.F.W. The Postal Service should be doing all it can to make this happen. Veterans have fought for our liberties, they should not have to fight for appropriate recognition.

From the time of the Founding Fathers, American service personnel have sacrificed dearly to defend our country and its ideals. But their service is not confined to the battleground. Over time, veterans organizations have ably represented the interests of veterans in the Congress and State Legislatures

across the Nation. They have established networks of trained volunteer service officers who have helped millions of veterans and their families secure the education, disability compensation, pension, and health care benefits they are entitled to receive as a result of their military service. Moreover, veterans service organizations have been deeply involved in countless local community service projects and have been constant reminders of the American values of duty, honor, and national service.

With more than 25 million veterans serving as living reminders of the greatness of our Nation, it is only fitting and proper that their dedicated and professional service in times of war and peace be celebrated in the unique and lasting manner by which the Postal Service has honored past heroes. The Postal Service has seen fit in recent years to memorialize flowers, dinosaurs, dolls, movie monsters, household pets, and even cartoons, but it has been intransigent regarding our veterans. This ought not be so.

I look forward to working with my colleagues—and the list of cosponsors indicates this is a serious matter on both sides of the aisle—to establish this momentous issuance.

COMMEMORATING THE ANNIVERSARY OF LEONARD AND GRACE PAULSON

HON. JOHN R. THUNE

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 1999

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Paulson of Clark, South Dakota, on their fiftieth wedding anniversary. The Paulsons were married on March 19, 1949 at Garden City, South Dakota. There they lived, worked and raised six children, James, Sandra, David, Chantel, Bruce, and Lori. Leonard and Grace were exceptional role models for their family and strived to give their children a solid Christian home. And today, all six of their children reside in South Dakota with their families.

Throughout the past 50 years, Mr. and Mrs. Paulson have been active members of our community. As members of the St. Paul Lutheran Church, both Leonard and Grace served their fellow members through various church activities and organizations. Leonard also served on several agricultural and educational boards in the Clark County area, and continues to be a member of the Clark Lions Club. Grace continues to serve in the church, and is also active in the Clark Lady Lions Club.

Today, Mr. and Mrs. Paulson reside in the same farm house since the day of their marriage in 1949. They enjoy spending time with their children and grandchildren, both at their farm and at their cabin on Lake Kampeska.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize this outstanding American couple. It is obvious to me that Leonard and Grace worked as a team to raise their family and give back to their community through service. The dedication they demonstrate to the institution of marriage and our community provides many Americans with an example to follow. I invite my colleagues to join in extending our congratulations on this milestone occasion to

Leonard and Grace Paulson and with best wishes for health and happiness in the years ahead.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION REGARDING THE MEDICARE+CHOICE PROGRAM

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 1999

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a Concurrent Resolution to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries will continue to have access to the types of medical care they need. Regrettably, the Medicare+Choice regulations do not ensure that Medicare beneficiaries participating in the Medicare+Choice Program receive coverage for chiropractic services like they do under traditional Medicare.

Medicare beneficiaries have access to chiropractic services through Medicare Part B. When the Medicare+Choice Program was created, Congress stated its intention that all services covered under Medicare Parts A and B would be included in the program. It is unfortunate that the such services might not be available under the new program.

The Medicare+Choice program allows Medicare beneficiaries to participate in a managed care system. For many people, such a system will better meet their needs. It was also the intention of Congress, while expanding health care choices, to find cost-effective means of providing care.

I urge my colleagues in the House to join me in rectifying this problem by supporting this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 1999

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I was traveling on official business with President Clinton on his trip to Central America last week and therefore was unable to cast votes on March 10 and 11, 1999. The votes I missed on those days include rollcall vote 34 on Approving the Journal; rollcall vote 35 on passage of H.R. 540, the Nursing Home Resident Protection Amendments; rollcall vote 36 on Ordering the Previous Question; rollcall vote 37 on the Holt Amendment to H.R. 800, the Education Flexibility Partnership Act; rollcall vote 38 on the Ehlers Amendment to H.R. 800; rollcall vote 39 on the George Miller amendment to H.R. 800; rollcall vote 40 on the Scott amendment to H.R. 800; rollcall vote 41 on passage of H.R. 800; rollcall vote 42 on passage of H.R. 808, the Short Term-Extension of Farm Bankruptcy Law; rollcall vote 43 on passage of H. Res. 32, a resolution Expressing Support for Open Elections in Indonesia; rollcall vote 44 on H. Con. Res. 28, a resolution Criticizing China for its Human Rights Abuses; rollcall vote 45 on Ordering the Previous Question; rollcall vote 46 on Agreeing to the Resolution; rollcall vote 47 to Sustain the Rule of the Chair; rollcall vote 48 on the Fowler Amendment to H. Con. Res. 42, a resolution on