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I would simply say, Mr. Speaker, that Lois Moore has served her community as a stellar leader. I am so proud to call Lois Moore my friend. Ms. Moore has testified before national committees on health care reform, served with Governor Ann Richard's Task Force on Health Care, and is a frequent speaker on public health issues and health care reform.

She has a husband by the name of Hard, a daughter Yolanda, son-in-law Mike Williams, and two granddaughters Kendra and Jasmine.

Let me simply close, Mr. Speaker, by saying that all of the Eighteenth Congressional District and I believe all of the State of Texas salutes Lois Moore, our past president of the Harris County Hospital District, a great humanitarian, a great Houstonian, Texan, and great American.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to speak on behalf of Lois Jean Moore, a person who exemplifies what the true meaning of commitment, dedication, strength, service and selflessness is. Not only has the Harris County Hospital District lost one of its greatest leaders but also our entire health care community. Her leadership, expertise, commitment and presence will truly be missed.

Under her leadership as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Harris County Hospital District, the Hospital District was named among the Top 100 Hospitals in the United States in 1994 and again in 1995 by Modern Healthcare magazine.

After graduation from Prairie View A&M School of Nursing 35 years ago, Moore began her public health care service in the Jefferson Davis Hospital emergency room; she soon became the emergency center charge nurse. Through the 1960's and 1970's, she moved from evening shift nursing supervisor to assistant director of nursing at Ben Taub Hospital. In 1977, she was named administrator of Jefferson Davis Hospital. During this time, she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing and a Master of Education degree. Moore was appointed Chief Operating Officer for the Harris County Hospital District in 1987. On February 28, 1989, the Board of Managers of the Hospital District appointed her President and CEO.

As President and CEO of the Harris County Hospital District, the sixth largest inpatient health care system in the U.S., Moore oversaw three hospitals, 11 community health centers, one free-standing HIV/AIDS treatment center, and eight school-based clinics. The District has an annual budget of approximately \$528 million with more than 50,000 employees. Ben Taub General Hospital and Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital treat 77% of Houston's serious trauma. Under Moore's leadership the Hospital District's programs in outpatient care and disease prevention and

health promotion have been enhanced and expanded. New outreach programs in the community health centers now provide mammography, diabetes screening, immunizations, early disease detection, and health care for the homeless.

As one of the nation's top public health care administrators, Mrs. Moore never loses sight of the Hospital District's mission-quality health care for the underserved. In a changing health care environment, she has managed, year after year, to balance compassion with fiscal prudence. Under Moore's leadership, the district, which has the lowest per capita tax rate of all Texas hospital districts, has nearly doubled its non-tax revenue.

In addition to her responsibilities at the Hospital District, Lois Moore also serves her community selflessly. She serves on numerous boards including the American Red Cross, March of Dimes, United Way, Texas Association of Public and Non-Profit Hospitals, and the National Association of Public Hospitals. She is a Fellow of the American College of Health Care Executives and is included in Who's Who in America. Mrs. Moore was awarded in 1994 Tree of Life Award from the Jewish National Fund. In February, 1995, she was named co-recipient of the Houston Area Healthcare Coalition's Healthcare Provider Award. In April of 1996 she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Our Lady of the Lake University of San Antonio, Texas.

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With all of this on her plate, Mrs. Moore also found the time to care for her loving family which consists of her husband Hard, daughter Yolanda, son-in-law Mike Williams and two granddaughters, Kendra and Jasmine.

I am stating these things so that they will be inscribed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD but her deeds will forever be remembered by those who will try to fill the shoes of this great woman. Congress and the 18th District of Texas is proud to honor Mrs. Lois Moore and we will truly miss her great service.

SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT ON THE POLITICS OF THE CENSUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, last week Democrats were accused of trying to place politics in the 2000 Census. A Dear Colleague letter was sent out which implied that the Democratic Party, organized labor, and the Census Bureau were involved in a conspiracy to somehow undermine Republicans through the partnership programs being organized to support the 2000 Census.

This claim would be laughable if it were not so destructive. The decennial Census is a national civic ritual. In order to be successful, partnerships with literally thousands of organizations must be established. The Census Bureau is working hard to do that, regardless of the political leanings of any

group. From Fortune 500 companies to the AARP to the NAACP to the National League of Cities, organizational support for the largest national peacetime mobilization in our Nation's history is essential to the success of the 2000 Census.

The claim that it is Democrats who are politicizing the Census is also ironic, coming as it does almost 2 years to the day after the Republican memo which began the blatant politics in the Census.

So I rise today first to set the record straight and share with the Members some of the history of the Republican attempts to place politics in the Census, but also to commend some recent moves by the Speaker which indicate that a more bipartisan spirit may be prevailing over this issue.

On May 20, 1997, 2 years ago, the GOP sent a memo to Republican State chairs. In it, the Chair of the Republican National Committee said that the 2000 Census was, and I quote, "an issue of unusual importance to the future of the Republican Party," and that at stake is "our GOP majority in the House."

In that memo was nothing about the importance of counting all Americans, regardless of race, age, or income; nothing about the impact of the Census on the lives of real people: about how State and local governments use Census information to plan schools and highways, about how the Federal government uses it to distribute funds for health care and other programs; and nothing about how businesses use it in making their economic and marketing plans. Instead, we find only cynical, partisan rhetoric about how to make sure the 2000 Census benefits Republicans.

That was just the beginning. In June of 1997 Republicans tried to ban statistical methods for the Census on the disaster relief bill for the flood victims in the Midwest. Then in September of 1997 the majority put language in the Commerce-Justice-State appropriations bill to ban the use of statistical methods.

They tried again in 1998 to kill the use of statistical methods and failed. Then they turned to the courts. In January they lost that battle, too, when the Supreme Court ruled that the Census Bureau could not use modern scientific methods for apportionment, but they are required to use it for everything else, if feasible. The majority has done everything it can to prevent the most accurate Census possible in 2000.

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They have recently begun throwing up legislative obstacles to an accurate census here in the House and have also begun a campaign at the State level to prevent the use of accurate numbers.

The 1990 census had an error rate of over 10 percent. There were 8.4 million missed and 4.4 million people that were counted twice. The 1990 census missed one in 10 African-American males, one

in 20 Latinos, one in eight American Indians on reservations, and one in 16 rural non-Hispanic whites.

Up until just recently, the sole focus of the majority's agenda has been to make sure that these people are left out of the 2000 census. But there are signs of hope. Call me a starry-eyed optimist, but I think the Republican leadership may be coming to its senses.

They have finally agreed with us on one census problem and will not shut down the government this June 15 as they originally planned. The emergency supplemental appropriation which passed last night contained a provision eliminating that artificial deadline. It also included almost \$45 million in additional money the Census Bureau will need to conduct the census using old methods. That, too, is a hopeful sign. I welcome these signals of a new spirit of bipartisanship on census issues.

Let me just add that I hope it continues through the fiscal year 2000 appropriations process, as we are about to begin it.

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In it, the Chair of the Republican National Committee said that the 2000 Census was "an issue of unusual importance to the future of the Republican Party," and that "At stake is our GOP majority in the House. . . ."

In that memo was nothing about the importance of counting all Americans, regardless of race, or age, or income.

Nothing about impact of the census on the lives of real people—about how state and local governments use census information to plan schools and highways, about how the federal government uses it to distribute funds for health care and other programs, and nothing about how businesses use it in making their economic and marketing plans.

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But there are signs of hope. Call me a starry-eyed optimist, but I think the Republican leadership may be coming to its senses.

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We also need to realize that conducting the Census using the old methods that Republicans have insisted upon will cost a lot of money—as much as \$2 billion more than originally planned.

I urge Republicans and Democrats alike to support full funding for the 2000 Census.

There is one clear and simple issue here—will the next census count everyone, or will it repeat the mistakes of 1990 leaving millions of people unrepresented and unfairly left out.

I call upon the Republican Party to build upon its recent gestures and allow the Census

Bureau to conduct the most accurate census possible.

The first census of the 21st century must be as accurate and complete as we can make it.

The Constitution of the United States and the American people demand no less.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICING IN THE 7TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF MARYLAND: DRUG COMPANIES PROFIT AT THE EXPENSE OF OLDER AMERICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SESSIONS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, food and medicine are very, very important to people. Sadly, in Baltimore City and Baltimore County and all over this Nation, it has become increasingly clear that after a lifetime of service to family and community, too many seniors are faced with the cruel and difficult choice between paying for the miracle drugs which sustain life and buying food.

The findings of the Committee on Government Reform minority staff study of my district, the 7th Congressional District of Maryland, demonstrates that in Baltimore a senior citizen paying for his or her own prescription drugs must pay on the average more than twice as much for the drugs as the drug companies' favored customers.

For the five drugs investigated in this study, the average price differential was 133 percent. The drug with the highest price differential was Synthroid, a commonly used hormone treatment manufactured by Knoll Pharmaceuticals. For this drug, the price differential for senior citizens in Maryland was an incredible 1,641 percent. An equivalent dose of this drug would cost the manufacturers' favored customers \$1.75. An uninsured senior citizen in Baltimore must pay over \$30.

Now, because large preferred customers of the drug companies typically buy in bulk, some difference between retail prices and favored customer prices would be expected. But the study found there is an unusually large price differential being enforced for prescription drugs, over six times greater than the average price differential for other consumer goods typically purchased by senior citizens.

Moreover, it appears to be pharmaceutical manufacturers, not our local drug stores, which are responsible for the far higher prices. Local pharmacies appear to have relatively small mark-ups between the prices at which they buy prescription drugs and the prices at which they sell them. Retail prices are just 5 percent above manufacturers suggested price to pharmacies.

It appears that the drug companies are engaged in a form of discriminatory pricing that victimizes those who are least able to afford it. Large corporate governmental and institutional