

that series, a group of New York gamblers bribed a number of players on the Chicago White Sox team to throw the series to Cincinnati. When the news came out in 1920, the new commissioner of baseball, Commissioner Landis, acted swiftly. In a summary judgment, without an investigation, the commissioner banned eight players on the White Sox team from ever playing baseball again. Shoeless Joe was included in the ban.

I am not going to debate whether or not the commissioner's verdict was the right thing to do. Jackson was acquitted of participating in the fix twice, once in 1920 by a friendly Chicago jury and once in 1924 by an impartial jury in Milwaukee. In fact, the jurors in Milwaukee were asked in a special interrogatory whether Shoeless Joe conspired or participated to fix a Series. The jury answered with an emphatic no.

I am also not going to debate if Jackson was given money. According to the story, Shoeless Joe's roommate Lefty Williams left \$5,000 for Jackson on his bed. Whatever the debate, there are four things that are very clear. First, Shoeless Joe tried to give the money back before the Series started, but was rebuffed.

Second, Shoeless Joe tried to inform the owners of the White Sox of the fix, but the owner refused to see him.

Third, Shoeless Joe offered to sit out the Series but was again rebuffed.

Fourth, and most notably, Shoeless Joe played to win. He led all players by hitting .375, and he had the only home run of the Series. His fielding was flawless, throwing out five men at home plate. He set a World Series record with 12 hits and combined with Buck Weaver, the other player who was unfairly punished, for 23 hits, a record which has stood for 60 years.

I have no doubt of Shoeless Joe's innocence. While it is to his discredit that he took the money, he did nothing for the money. In the end, he came clean the only way he could, with his bat and glove.

In July, Ted Williams, Tommy LaSorda, and Bob Feller filed a petition with Commissioner Selig. That petition does not ask major league baseball to exonerate Shoeless Joe or to endorse his candidacy. To quote,

Those issues are moot at this point as he served a very difficult sentence over a long period of time. The commissioner of baseball is merely asked to acknowledge that Shoeless Joe has fully paid his debt to society and the game, that he satisfied the sentence of the first commissioner with dignity and humility and without rancor. Because he has fulfilled his sentence, baseball has no further call or jurisdiction over Shoeless Joe.

I rise in strong support of this petition. It provides major league baseball with a graceful and dignified way to finally let the issue rest and let Shoeless Joe receive the honor he has long deserved.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, on his death bed, Shoeless Joe said, "I am about to

meet the biggest umpire of them all and He knows I am innocent."

Fifty years after his death, it is time for baseball to restore the honor of this good man. I invite all of my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring House Resolution 269 honoring Shoeless Joe for his outstanding accomplishments in baseball. Let us do our part.

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

(Mr. LIPINSKI addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

FILIPINO WORLD WAR II VETERANS DESERVE OUR RESPECT AND OUR THANKS

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

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, in April of 1999 I was proud to join the distinguished chairman of the House Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), in introducing H.R. 1594, the Filipino Veterans' Benefit Improvement Act.

I rise today to urge my colleagues to support this legislation. Preliminary steps have already been taken toward restoring fairness to the veterans of World War II who are of Filipino descent. In 1996, Members of this House and our colleagues in the Senate passed concurrent resolutions to recognize these brave veterans for their service and contribution toward the successful outcome of World War II.

In October of 1996, President Clinton issued a presidential proclamation recalling the courage, the sacrifice, and the loyalty of the Filipino veterans of World War II and honoring them for their contribution to our freedom. Hearings have been held in both the House and the Senate on the issue of benefits for Filipino World War II veterans; and the President included a line item in both FY 1999 and FY 2000 presidential budgets for Filipino World War II veterans.

Then just 3 months ago, the Filipino Veterans' SSI Extension Act, H.R. 26, was incorporated into H.R. 1802, which passed this House. This bill will allow Filipino World War II veterans who are currently on SSI and living in the United States to return to the Philippines if they wish to do so, taking a portion of their SSI with them. Many are currently living alone and in poverty, financially unable to bring their families to the United States, nor to return to their homeland.

Most importantly, H.R. 1802 will allow those who wish to return to the Philippines to be with their loved ones in their final days, but it also saves the U.S. Government money, money that could be used to balance the costs of

the bill that the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and I have introduced, the Filipino Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act.

These actions are important first steps in our quest for justice and equity. Now is the time to build upon these steps and restore the benefits that Filipino World War II veterans were promised when they were drafted into military service by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. With their vital participation so crucial to the successful outcome of this war, one would assume that the United States would be grateful to their Filipino comrades. So it is hard to believe that soon after the war ended, the 79th Congress voted to take away the benefits and recognition of Filipino World War II veterans in what was called the Rescissions Act of 1946.

The gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and I, along with 209 cosponsors of last year's Veterans Equity Act, are now asking our colleagues to correct this injustice that these veterans have endured for over 50 years.

Because the Filipino World War II veterans are in their seventies and eighties, their most urgent need is for health care. Our bill that we have introduced will provide access to VA medical facilities for these veterans, both in the United States and in the Philippines. We have designed the bill so that it will also provide greater access to VA medical facilities in the Philippines for U.S. veterans who are living abroad. In addition, the bill will also increase the service-connected disability compensation from what is called the peso rate to the full dollar amount for Filipino World War II veterans living in the United States, as called for in the President's budget.

The rationale for a lower payment simply does not exist for the veterans who are now U.S. citizens. All this can be achieved, Mr. Speaker, for \$36 million a year. This should be included in our final budget negotiations. I would urge my colleagues to support this cost-effective humanitarian measure.

Taken together, these acts are the steps we must take during this session of Congress on behalf of our brave colleagues who serve side by side with the forces from the United States. The House has passed the SSI Extension Act. Let us now join together in a bipartisan effort to restore health benefits to the Filipino World War II benefits.

Let us pass H.R. 1594, the Filipino Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act.

THE NUTRACEUTICAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow I am introducing the Nutraceutical Research and Education Act which I am going to call the NREA. Many of

my colleagues may recall the debate and vigorous campaign that led to the passage of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994. With the passage of that legislation 5 years ago, the use of alternative medicines, dietary supplements, functional food products, and medical foods has exploded.

Since the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act was enacted, consumers have flocked to their health food stores and most recently to their drug stores, grocery stores and the Internet to buy products that can keep them healthy. The food and pharmaceutical industries took notice hoping to realize the profits gained by entry into this growing market. The food industry responded by developing novel food products called functional foods. Pharmaceutical and dietary supplement companies have begun calling some of their products nutraceuticals, reflecting their claims for nutrients with targeted health and medical benefits.

Despite this impressive growth, the true health benefits of dietary supplements and functional foods have not been fully explored.

Congress must, Mr. Speaker, in my opinion, as a matter of public policy, encourage the scientific and clinical study of dietary supplements and functional foods. Towards this objective we have created the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine at the NIH and the Office of Dietary Supplements. However, much still needs to be done. Many individuals and companies that would like to clinically research their products have encountered numerous barriers along the way; and the market is such that if I tested and developed a product, often a non-patentable product or difficult-to-patent product, someone else who has not invested time and money in clinical research can come in and develop an equivalent or similar product to mine.

The time has come for Congress to step forward and encourage a research-based dietary supplement and functional food industry. We must do this to protect the people by ensuring these products are safe and effective. Congress can help bring order to the marketplace with the creation of the proper incentives. The answer is a public-private partnership to get these products researched.

I propose, in introducing this bill, the Nutraceutical Research and Education Act, to reward the individuals and companies doing the clinical research on these products with an exclusive marketing claim. In doing so, we will give the term "nutraceutical" a legal definition and classification.

Under the bill, anyone who chooses to engage in clinical research of a natural product and determines that a health benefit exists and that that product is safe and effective to achieve this health benefit can apply to the FDA for a ruling that their product does what they claim. The FDA would

then determine the merits of the application and decide whether the product does, in fact, offer a health benefit at a low risk. If so, the person would be rewarded for doing the hard work with an exclusive right to use the health claim they have proven for a period of 10 years.

In this way, we can redirect advertising dollars into research, encourage private enterprise and provide the public with safe and effective, lower-cost and lower-risk nutraceutical products.

Mr. Speaker, I want to stress to my colleagues that my legislation does not supplant the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act. That legislation was a watershed for the natural products industry. It protects access to products and permits some claims to be made. My legislation just takes us a step further down the road to encourage clinical research and the truthful dissemination of the results of that research to provide the American people access to these products.

Until there is a structure in place to investigate and develop dietary supplement and functional food products and prove their worth, the majority of health professionals will not recommend them, but patients will continue to take them. The NREA will make available a mechanism whereby these products are tested for quality and safety to give the people access to proven health remedies, to enable self-care.

Ultimately, Mr. Speaker, I believe the result will be cost effective, less sickness, more health, more productivity and a healthier population and industry.

HURRICANE FLOYD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, Hurricane Floyd took lives, in fact 47 lives we know to date. It also took lifetimes of family possessions and family history. Lives cannot be recovered but, with effort, lifetimes can be restored. At least 35,000 lifetimes, family possessions and family history, must be restored.

Infrastructure, built over lifetimes, was destroyed, leaving losses that are currently reaching \$80 million and the numbers are growing.

At least 10 bridges are severely damaged and many more, some still underwater, were structurally damaged. At least 600 pipelines were damaged. Electricity costs are \$1 million and growing. In addition, some \$30 million in revenue has been lost. 1.2 million persons lost power due to the storm and close to 10,000 remain today without electricity. Drinking water and waste water treatment systems sustained untold damage. Bacteria, nitrates, and other pollutants have contaminated many wells. Many septic tanks are nonfunctional and due to high water

tables will not be functional for some time. Agricultural losses, compounding previous losses from the drought and economic downturn and other natural calamities, will reach \$1 billion and that number is growing.

Small farm life is seriously threatened in North Carolina. Significant beach erosion has occurred.

□ 1930

Shrimp and blue crab harvests, previously predicted to be at record levels, have been completely wiped out. Fish and shellfish losses are unknown.

If things could not be worse, there are millions of gallons of raw sewage and animal waste, with more than a million dead farm animals contaminating waters that flow into the homes, businesses, and drinking supply. Insects and rodent activity is on the rise.

Mr. Speaker, Hurricane Floyd left in his wake, the worst flooding in the history of the State of North Carolina. The serious health concerns underscore the value and the importance of a program that is being developed at some of our education institutions in the State of North Carolina.

A program termed "Agromedicine" has brought some of our diverse university cultures together with communities to prevent injury and illness and to promote the health and safety of our rural residents.

Agriculture in North Carolina is a significant part of our economy. Agriculture is a \$45 billion a year industry, employing 21 percent of the State's work force. Even without hurricane and flooding, farming, forestry, and fishing in North Carolina can be hazardous. The costs can be great. On average, 50 persons per year die in agricultural-related activities, and 2,000 are disabled. The annual costs of health care in North Carolina farm-related injury exceeds \$195 million.

I am proud that North Carolina is taking a national leadership in Agromedicine through the newly-established Agromedicine Institute. I congratulate the three universities involved, East Carolina State University with its medical school, its nursing and allied health expertise; North Carolina A&T State University with its agriculture, technology, nursing expertise; and North Carolina State University with its agriculture, forestry, natural resources, life sciences, and veterinary medical expertise.

Mr. Speaker, those who grow and harvest the products that provide our food, our clothing, and shelter deserve our support in addressing the continued hazards of health and safety. The Agromedicine Institute is one means of providing that support.

The devastation of Hurricane Floyd will one day become history, a mere memory in the minds of those who are suffering through it now. Possessions will, once again, be collected. North Carolina will be rebuilt, restored, and recovered. Agromedicine can be a lifetime. We urge consideration of this program.