

HI MEADOWS AND BOBCAT GULCH
FIREFIGHTERS

HON. BOB SCHAFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. SCHAFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the courage of the firefighters who fought the Bobcat Gulch and Hi Meadows fires in Colorado. These men and women risked the extreme dangers to aid the people of Colorado's Fourth Congressional District.

The two fires each raged for over a week before containment in the late evening of June 20. In Bobcat Gulch, the initial cause was a campfire, which grew to consume 10,600 acres before containment was achieved. A group of 821 workers, 5 helicopters, all making up 28 crews, worked diligently to overcome the uncooperative weather. Similarly, at Hi Meadow, 1,000 workers, 7 helicopters, and 71 engines battled the blaze.

These individuals deserve our gracious appreciation for pulling together as a team to help save the lives and property of people in Colorado.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICAL
RESEARCH INVESTMENT ACT

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my friend Mr. CARDIN of Maryland to introduce the Medical Research Investment Act.

The MRI Act increases the annual percentage-of-income limitations for individual charitable contributions for medical research from 50 percent to 80 percent. To the extent that such medical research contributions by an individual exceed the enhanced annual percentage-of-income limitation, such excess would be permitted to be carried forward for the succeeding ten taxable years, rather than for the 5 years allowed under current law. In addition, the legislation ends the unfavorable treatment of gifts of stock acquired by incentive stock options for an individual who gives publicly traded stock, earmarked for medical research, to a charitable organization during the first year after the date of exercise of the stock option. The MRI Act will prevent those taxpayers from being penalized with ordinary income tax or alternative minimum tax when they are trying to give away their wealth to help people. No longer will people have to sell \$140 worth of stock to give away \$100, or delay their contributions when that money can be put to work today curing disease.

This country stands on the threshold of an important opportunity for philanthropy. More Americans than ever, many in the high-tech industries, have been able to amass an abundance of wealth in a short time, and are eager to invest in their communities and in their nation. This legislation allows such high net worth donors, who have the capacity to contribute significantly more than they can deduct under current law, to make large charitable contributions for medical research. It also allows those same potential donors, many of whom have a large part of their wealth tied up

in stock options, to contribute their stock to a charity for medical research without incurring taxable income.

Academic research on charitable giving has found, time and again, that individuals tend to give more when the price of giving is lower. This legislation establishes the favorable tax treatment that will stimulate charitable donations of cash and property to medical research. In fact, a study by Price WaterhouseCoopers estimated that if the proposal were effective this year, the additional giving spurred by this bill would be \$180.4 million in 2000—over a 4 percent increase in charitable giving by individuals for medical research. Over 5 years, it would inspire over \$1 billion dollars in additional medical research. In my home state of Washington alone, the increase in the first year would be \$3.67 million.

Increased investment in medical research consistently results in an improvement in the health of Americans and in the health of America itself. For instance, increases in life expectancy in the 1970's and 1980's were worth \$57 trillion to America. Indeed, improvements in health have accounted for almost one-half of the actual gain in American living standards in the past 50 years. It is anticipated that if medical research reduced deaths from cancer by just one-fifth, it would be worth \$10 trillion to Americans. Personal, medical, and insurance expenditures would be reduced, as would public expenditures for Medicare, Medicaid, and other governmental medical assistance programs. Losses in national productivity due to illness would be reduced as well. In a country where cancer costs the nation in excess of \$107 billion annually, diabetes costs us \$105 billion annually, and Parkinson's Disease in excess of \$25 billion annually, there is certainly room for improvement in health. Quick and steady improvement is only possible with increased funding of research.

Today at the introduction of this bill, Cathy and Caity Rigg of Enumclaw, Washington joined us to tell their story. Caity is 8 years old and suffers from juvenile diabetes. She and her mother Cathy have been tireless advocates for increasing both government and private funds to find a cure for diabetes. Under this bill, we will greatly enhance the available funds for research. I am attaching Caity's remarks since I believe that she, more so than anyone, can attest to the difficulties of living with a debilitating disease.

Mr. Speaker, the time to act—to secure the significant gifts that many individuals are anxious to donate to charities—is now. We are entering an era of explosive growth in knowledge that will substantially advance scientists' ability to understand, prevent, and cure disease. I hope I can count on the support of each Member of Congress to pass this bipartisan bill. It is crucial to the health of every American.

Thank you Congresswoman Jennifer Dunn. Thank you to all the congress members here today for remembering kids like me.

My name is Caity Rigg and I'm 8 years old. I've had diabetes for 4 years now. In second grade last year we had our 100th day of school. My teacher asked if I had \$100 to spend what would I do with it. I wrote that I would give it to the doctors so they could find a cure for my diabetes.

I still take 4 shots of insulin every day in my tummy, legs and arms to keep me alive. Sometimes it hurts really bad and I cry but Mom always hugs me. I poke my fingers to

get blood all day long so I can see if I need food or medicine. When I need food I sometimes feel really bad and my head gets dizzy.

I see nurse Julie at school every day to check my blood sugar. Some days its good but some days I need juice or a shot in my arm. I don't want to do it anymore, but I have to so I don't go blind or lose an arm or leg or something bad. Mom promises there is no diabetes in heaven, but I want to get rid of it before then.

Please help me by passing the Medical Research Investment Act so that more money will be donated to help scientists and doctors find a cure for me and other children who have to go through what I do.

Thank You!!

RECOGNITION OF AMSA ON THE
OCCASION OF ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA) on the occasion of its 30th Anniversary. AMSA is the only association exclusively representing the nation's municipal wastewater treatment agencies. As front-line environmental practitioners that serve the majority of the population, AMSA members protect our nation's valuable water resources by treating and reclaiming wastewater to meet the ambitious goals of the Clean Water Act. Congress should celebrate their role in the remarkable revitalization of America's waters during the past 30 years. While the population served by publicly-owned treatment works has risen 40 percent since 1970, water quality has improved dramatically, in large part due to the fine work of AMSA's membership. In addition to their primary responsibility for collecting and treating the Nation's domestic, commercial, and industrial wastewater, AMSA member agencies play a major part in their local communities, often leading watershed management efforts, promoting pollution prevention, water conservation and recycling, and providing resources for environmental restoration.

AMSA was established in 1970 by representatives of 22 municipal wastewater treatment agencies. Since then, AMSA's 30 years of participation, growth and cooperation has helped ensure a strong federal, state and local partnership to attain the important goals of the Clean Water Act: to protect the chemical, biological and physical health of our nation's streams, lakes, rivers, estuaries and coasts.

Today, AMSA's 245 members serve the majority of the population connected to municipal wastewater systems and reclaim 18 billion gallons of wastewater each day. AMSA is a nationally recognized leader in environmental policy and works closely with Congress and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, lending unparalleled technical expertise and information on pollution prevention, air quality, wastewater treatment, ecosystem health, and utility management.

In recent years, AMSA has been actively involved in a broadening array of environmental laws and regulations, including water infrastructure funding, nonpoint source pollution,

and urban wet weather flows, providing valuable testimony to Congress, as it considers legislation to improve the nation's waters. As Chairman of the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, I am in a good position to observe that AMSA is meeting the goals of its founders by pursuing every opportunity to develop and implement scientifically based, technically sound, and cost-effective environmental programs.

AMSA's active membership, prominence as a nationally recognized leader in environmental policy and close working relationship with the EPA and Congress will undoubtedly allow it to help shape the course of environmental protection in the next century. Once again, I congratulate AMSA on this important milestone as an organization and also for America's environment.

BILL BRADY HONORED FOR 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend Bill Brady, who will retire June 30 after serving 19 years as the postmaster of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, and with a total of 40 years and one month of government service.

Bill is truly an example of a dedicated public servant who has taken on as his mission in life the efficient delivery of mail, and he has become an institution in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Brady is a graduate of Duryea High School and a four-year veteran of the Air Force. He received his bachelor of science degree from the University of Scranton in 1971.

Mr. Brady began his postal career as a distribution clerk in Scranton in January 1966. In 1973, he became a U.S. postal inspector and was stationed in Illinois, New York and Wilkes-Barre. In 1980, he left the Inspection Service and became manager of retail sales and services at the Wilkes-Barre sectional facility office. In April 1981, he went to the post office in Hazleton, Pennsylvania, as superintendent of postal operations, and served for six months in that position before assuming his present duties.

During his career at Wilkes-Barre, he has also been assigned to higher-level positions as acting director of mail processing at the Lehigh Valley Postal Facility, director of field operations for the Harrisburg Division and director of marketing for the Harrisburg Division.

As the Postal Service has changed and become more technologically advanced, Bill has adapted, always keeping customer service up-
permost in his mind.

Mr. Brady is a past president of the Luzerne County Chapter of Postmasters and is a member of the National Association of Postmasters of the United States, having served as national chairman of the Postmaster Representative Committee for four years. He is also a member of Pennsylvania NAPUS Postmasters and has been active in numerous professional associations during his postal career.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call Mr. Brady's public service to the attention of the House of Representatives, and I send my best wishes on the occasion of his retirement.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THOMAS AND MARY LOU GALLAGHER ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR FIFTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize a very special couple from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, June 24, 2000, in the presence of many of their family members, neighbors, and friends, Thomas and Mary Lou Gallagher will celebrate a milestone day in their lives. On June 24, in Sandusky, Ohio, Thomas and Mary Lou will celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, the celebration of the sanctity of marriage is one of our most cherished and time-honored traditions. Throughout the ages, husbands and wives have reaffirmed their trust, faith, and, most importantly, love for each other on their wedding anniversaries. On this most treasured day, we, as their friends, neighbors, coworkers, and family members, have the opportunity to recognize them for their commitment, their sharing, and their love for each other.

The day on which two people are united in marriage is much more than simply a ceremony, with wedding vows and the exchanging of rings. It is the true union of two individuals who then become one, inseparable entity. It is the common bond and an unwavering dedication to each other that will help the marriage through good times and bad.

Mr. Speaker, for the past fifty years, Thomas and Mary Lou have shown how love, compassion, and conviction are the cornerstones of their long and lasting marriage. Their strong commitment to each other is an example for each of us to follow.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to stand and join me in paying very special tribute to Thomas and Mary Lou Gallagher on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary. May the love and happiness they have found stay with them far into the future. Again, best wishes and congratulations on fifty wonderful years together.

TO HONOR DR. RICHARD GOODE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to bring to the attention of my colleagues an honor recently bestowed upon one of my most distinguished constituents, Dr. Richard Goode, M.D. Dr. Goode was recently presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Alumni Association of the University of California at Santa Barbara for his contributions to improved hearing.

Dr. Goode graduated from UCSB with his B.A. degree in 1958. As an undergraduate, he was elected President of the Associated Students, and was presented with the "Honor Copy" of the yearbook "La Cumbre" at his

commencement ceremonies. The leadership skills he developed during his years at UCSB clearly set the stage for his subsequent successes in the medical profession.

Dr. Goode is a highly regarded professor and physician in our community. He has served on the surgery faculty of Stanford University School's of Medicine for over thirty years and has led the Division of Otolaryngology at the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Healthcare System. He has served as President of the American Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery, and of the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

Notwithstanding all these wonderful achievements, it is his work in developing hearing technologies that has brought him the greatest recognition. Dr. Goode has developed many devices that are used regularly by ear, nose, and throat specialists, most notably the Goode T-Tube. He has had a successful business career founding two companies which manufacture high-tech hearing devices.

Public service is an important component of Dr. Goode's career. He's a member of the Food and Drug Administration's Ear, Nose, and Throat Medical Device Panel and he serves with distinction on the National Institutes of Health Communicative Disorders Review Committee.

Mr. Speaker, representing my constituent Dr. Richard Goode is one of the great privileges of serving in the House of Representatives. I'm proud to bring his accomplishments and recognition as recipient of the UCSB Alumni Association Lifetime Achievement Award to the attention of my colleagues and ask that the entire House join me in honoring him today.

HONORING BISHOP R.T. JONES JR.

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and work of Bishop R.T. Jones Jr. A staple of the Philadelphia Public School System, Bishop Jones has devoted his life to serving the people of Philadelphia.

Bishop Jones founded the Christian Tabernacle Church of God in Christ in Chester, Pennsylvania where he served as pastor for nine years. He has served as the Bishop of Delaware and as District Superintendent for Southeastern Pennsylvania under the late Bishop R.T. Jones Sr. Bishop Jones currently serves as the founding president of the Philadelphia Azusa Fellowship, Co-Chairman of the Philadelphia Interfaith Clergy Association, Chairman of the Shriners Children's Medical Center's Community Advisory Committee and as Chairman of the Christian Tabernacle Improvement and Development Corporation's Board of Directors.

Aside from his religious service, Mr. Jones has proven himself to be a valuable manager for the Philadelphia Housing Authority. During his eight years with PHA, he has received numerous accolades for his management abilities.

R.T. Jones Jr. has held positions of great importance throughout the Philadelphia area and has received numerous awards and