

NYCHA development in the South Bronx/Morrisania area.

Mrs. Brown belongs to many business, professional, religious and civic organizations and has received numerous honors and awards. Presently, she is serving her fifth term as Chairwoman of Community Planning Board III, she serves as President of the 1162-76 Washington Avenue Tenant Association and has been a resident since the development opened in 1974, she is former Chairwoman for the Interim Council of Presidents for the NYCHA Bronx South District, First Vice President at Lincoln Hospital Community Advisory Board, Worthy Matron at Tyber Chapter #6C Order of Eastern Stars, Member of the Bronx Urban League and the NAACP. She serves as the Chairwoman of Women's Day Program and President of Pastor's Aide-Auxiliary at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church. Mrs. Brown's daily motto has been "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Marcella R. Brown for her outstanding achievements in community service.

IN MEMORY OF U.S. REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM J. RANDALL

HON. KAREN McCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2000

Ms. McCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a former member who was laid to rest today. U.S. Representative William J. Randall died earlier this week in his home town of Independence, Missouri. He served in the United States House of Representatives from 1959 until 1977 representing Missouri's Fourth Congressional District. Through the years redistricting has changed the makeup of the districts in Missouri; his home address is now in the Fifth District which I currently represent. My Independence District Office is located in the U.S. Post Office which now bears his name. Known for his tireless constituent services, my office is inspired by him daily to serve our citizens to the best of our ability.

Congressman Randall had a distinguished career here in the Peoples' House. Elected to fill a vacancy in March of 1959, he served eight additional full terms. His service in the House included work on the House Government Operations Committee. As Chairman of the Government Activities and Transportation Subcommittee he exercised oversight over the Federal Aviation Administration. He is credited with playing a major role in the process of selecting and training air traffic controllers, resulting in improved service and performance in air safety. His tenure is also noteworthy in that he represented then retired President Truman.

As a member of the Armed Services Committee, he rose to the Chairmanship of the NATO Subcommittee. He was an expert in the understanding of the relationship with America and its European allies in the Cold War era.

In his final term in Congress Representative Randall accepted additional responsibility and was named Chairman of the Select Committee on Aging and was an effective advocate for the senior citizens.

Probably the highest tribute I am aware of for Congressman Randall comes from remarks

on the occasion of his retirement by his colleague U.S. Representative J.J. Pickle of Texas. In his remarks about the work on the Armed Services Committee, Congressman Pickle said of Bill Randall: ". . . many of us can sleep better at night because Bill Randall was so diligent in his duties." Following his service in Congress, Representative Randall returned to his home town of Independence, Missouri, and resumed the practice of law.

Born in Independence, Jackson County, Missouri, July 16, 1909, he graduated from William Chrisman High School in 1927, Junior College of Kansas City, Missouri, in 1929, University of Missouri in 1931, and Kansas City School of Law in 1936. He served in the United States Army in World War II in the southwest Pacific and the Philippines. Elected as a judge of the Jackson County Court in 1946 he served in that capacity until elected to Congress in 1959. He was a valued mentor to me. His advise was wise and insightful. A man of the people, he continued attending community events and visiting with patrons at the Courthouse Exchange Restaurant on the Square in Independence, the city he loved and returned to. Everyone in the area knew Bill Randall and appreciated his service and down-to-earth style.

He is preceded in death by his wife Margaret and survived by his daughter, Mary Pat Wilson and his very dear friend and companion Helen Keen, to whom we offer our sincere condolences.

HONORING THE LOCAL 103 OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2000

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, one of the great rewards of public service is the opportunity to work with some of the finest people in this great land. It is with pleasure and pride that I honor today the men and women of Local 103 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers on the occasion of an historic milestone in its long and accomplished legacy.

At the turn of the last century, 12 courageous men gathered in Boston to charter an IBEW local. The national labor union had been formed a decade earlier in St. Louis to help safeguard health and safety for a trade in which half the workers died on the job. Since then, Local 103 has grown to represent over 5,000 men and women working in construction and telecommunications in 106 Massachusetts cities and towns, with over 200 contractors and 30 collective bargaining agreements.

In recent weeks, it was my privilege to participate in a commemoration of Local 103's one-hundredth anniversary. Over the last century, the IBEW has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for our community, and it has been a personal and professional inspiration to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Local 103 on behalf of its extended family.

The able leadership of Local 103 has earned the respect and admiration of all of us who struggle for fundamental safeguards for working families. The breadth and stature of the leadership of Rich Gambino and his entire

team would bring a proud smile to the faces of the 12 pioneers who assembled in 1900 with such vision. We take a moment to salute their memory—Leonard Kimball, Henry Thayer, John McLaughlan, Joseph Hurley, WC Woodward, James Reid, FC Stead, Joseph Matthews, Francis Wachler, Everett Calef, Theodore Gould and WW Harding. We honor their legacy by reaffirming their commitment to paving the way for fair, safe and rewarding work environment for all working men and women.

To commemorate their work and aspirations, following are my remarks to the sisters and brothers of Local 103 to celebrate the dawning of the next century for the IBEW:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

May 6, 2000.

DEAR FRIENDS: To greet the members of Local 103 is to see the face of the American middle class—the people whose mothers and fathers built this nation and the foundation for its future.

From the presidential campaign to the corner grocery, one word you hear a lot these days is "vision". To some, it's little more than a throw-away line. But the rank-and-file of 103 has endured a century of world wars and building booms, of depressions and picket lines, of nonunion competition and responsibilities as big as the Hancock Tower. And the members of 103 have not only endured, but have thrived in ways that literally light up this Commonwealth.

The work of Richie Gambino, the 5000 brothers and sisters of Local 103, and their predecessors over the last century, have laid a sound foundation for our community with genuine vision. Vision for economic opportunity and social justice; for traditional industry and for e-business; for global commerce and human rights.

This vision is an engine of skill, hope and compassion which challenges friends, neighbors and even your adversaries to aspire to the standards of excellence personified by those dozen men who gathered 100 years ago in downtown Boston to lay down a marker for fundamental fairness for working people. Every stride we have made along the way has been earned by the proud work and outstretched hand that defines the vision of this extended family.

We respect these humble beginnings by gathering today to reaffirm our commitment to collective bargaining and the equity it ensures—from wages to health care to retirement security.

Over the last 100 years, this nation has been transformed in dozens of historic ways. But certain truths stand unchanged—and they are embodied in the principles for which we together stand, in Washington and here at home.

Please accept my very best for a joyous celebration.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT.

IMPORTING DRUGS SAFELY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2000

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, last evening I voted against the prescription drug import amendments offered by my good friends and colleagues Representatives CROWLEY and COBURN. I want my colleagues to know that I

wish to work with them to craft legislation that achieves the goals they seek, while ensuring that the prescription drugs that Americans consume are as safe as possible. I see no reason why the Commerce Committee cannot roll up its sleeves and mark up good legislation for presentation on the House floor shortly after the August recess.

Mr. Speaker, the Crowley and Coburn Amendments block a key provision of the Prescription Drug Marketing Act (PDMA). This law came into being after an investigation revealed serious irregularities with respect to imported drugs. As stated in the April 1987 report of the Commerce Committee, “[t]he purpose of the legislation is to protect American consumers from mislabeled, subpotent, adulterated, expired, or counterfeit pharmaceuticals. . .”

Recent investigations of Internet web sites indicate there is still cause for concern. In fact, the U.S. Customs Service recently reported a more than 400 percent increase in the amount of pharmaceuticals being shipped into this country via the U.S. mail, and that in many cases, the origin, purity, or history of the drugs being shipped is indeterminable. These are drugs with major health implications. A May 22 letter from Commissioner Kelly addressed to me and Representative KLINK noted the following: “[a]mong the most common types of pharmaceuticals seized by Customs are Diazepam; Tylenol with Codeine; Mathandienone; Alprozolam; Xanax; Valium; Codigesic; Lorazepam; Fenfleuramine; Thyroid tabs; Panzatazocene; Cetabon; Andriol; Premarin; and Rohypnol, a powerful sedative sometimes described as a ‘date rape’ drug.” Commissioner Kelly said that “[i]n most of the mail seizures that Customs encounters, the brand name and manufacturer of the products are not identifiable because the original packaging has been removed and repacked into containers that bear no marks or identification.” These are the same sorts of mislabeling and repackaging shenanigans that the Subcommittee first identified when it investigated this issue more than a decade ago, and led to the PDMA.

Equally alarming are the findings of a hearing held just last month by the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on the potential dangers of counterfeit bulk drugs, and the global problems they pose. Chairman UPTON, in his opening statement, said: “[t]he international community is also increasingly concerned. Just last month, the World Health Organization and international pharmacists and international drug manufacturers publicized their concerns about counterfeit drugs. Some have estimated that 50 to 70 percent of the drugs in some developing countries are counterfeit.” Why is it that we don’t believe these drugs can find their way into countries where U.S. consumers may wish to purchase their medications? This is particularly troubling given the FDA’s confirmation later in the hearing to Representative BURR that it has information that there were injuries to American citizens associated with counterfeit products.

Chairman BLILEY has also documented potential serious dangers with drugs from foreign sources. In a lengthy May 8, 2000, letter to FDA Commissioner Henney he suggests that not only have Americans possibly been injured or even killed from foreign-made pharmaceuticals, but that “[d]evelopments from this investigation require the Committee to intensify its examination and request that the FDA

consider taking certain actions to protect the American public.”

First and foremost, the PDMA is a public health and safety law. We should therefore tread carefully before changing it. I am greatly concerned that the amendments adopted by the House lack the care and craftsmanship needed to ensure both access to less expensive prescription drugs and assurance of safety for the consumer.

The investigation that led to the PDMA discovered a “diversion market” that prevented effective control over the true sources of merchandise in a significant number of cases. The integrity of the distribution system was insufficient to prevent the introduction and eventual retail sale of substandard, ineffective, or even counterfeit pharmaceuticals. As the Committee report stated, “pharmaceuticals which have been mislabeled, misbranded, improperly stored or shipped, have exceeded their expiration dates, or are bald counterfeits are injected into the national distribution system for ultimate sale to consumers.”

The PDMA was “designed to restore the integrity and control over the pharmaceutical market necessary to eliminate actual and potential health and safety problems before serious consumer injury results.” The Committee report specifically outlined the concerns PDMA was intended to address: “Reimported pharmaceuticals threaten the American public health in two ways. First, foreign counterfeits, falsely described as reimported U.S. produced drugs, have entered the distribution system. Second, proper storage and handling of legitimate pharmaceuticals cannot be guaranteed by U.S. law once the drugs have left the boundaries of the United States.” The PDMA is not perfect. But I dare say that the PDMA has saved a lot of lives.

Now let us note why legislation to modify the PDMA in a responsible fashion is an idea whose time has come. Foreign drugs are often less expensive than domestically available products. Notwithstanding the range of safety risks they pose, many Americans seek them out because of outrageously high domestic prices that make drugs unaffordable for many Americans, particularly the elderly. I am open to a careful review and revision of PDMA for the purpose of creating a paradigm for drug importation that is safe for our consumers while facilitating access to the international market prices at which many commonly prescribed prescription drugs are available.

Mr. Speaker, I do want to acknowledge beneficial aspects of the amendments to which these comments are addressed. An overwhelming majority of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle are now on record for the proposition that the price Americans pay for prescription drugs is too high. Lack of access to medically necessary prescription drugs is a real problem faced by millions of Americans. Let us do better and give consumers access to lower priced prescription pharmaceuticals that are safe.

CAPTAIN ADAN GUERRERO

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a special service officer, Captain Adan

Guerrero, commander of the United States Coast Guard Marine Safety Office in Corpus Christi.

Captain Guerrero is the model service officer for the Coast Guard. In addition to being a great guy who deals squarely with whatever comes up and a tireless advocate for the United States Coast Guard and the men and women who serve in his command, he is also a hometown boy.

This Coastie from Corpus Christi began his service with the U.S. Coast Guard after graduating from the Coast Guard Academy in 1974. He served first as a deck officer on the USCGC *Morgenthau* from 1974 to 1976 when it was homeported in New York City. He served as engineer officer aboard the USCGC *Durable* homeported in Brownsville, Texas from 1983–1986.

Captain Guerrero started a career in marine safety at the Marine Inspection Office in New Orleans, where he served as a marine inspector, investigating officer and licensing examiner. He also served as the Coast Guard liaison officer at the United States Embassy in Mexico City before returning again to the Marine Safety Office Training Office. From 1990–98, he served as the executive officer responsible for marine safety and environmental protection on over 500 miles of the Ohio River.

Before returning to Corpus Christi, he was chief of the Vessel and Facility Operating Standards Division, Office of Operating and Environmental Standards, Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, DC. He represented the United States when he headed the delegation on Ship/Port Interface Working Group of the International Maritime Organization in London.

He also served as director of the National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee and the Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Advisory Committee. He has been awarded two Coast Guard Commendation Medals and three Coast Guard Achievement Medals with Operational Distinguishing Device.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in wishing Captain Guerrero well upon his retirement with his wife, Silvia DeLaRosa of Corpus Christi, and their children, Nicolas and Benjamin.

HONORING LIEUTENANT DENNIS SLOCUMB ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 32 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate Lieutenant Dennis Slocumb on his retirement after 32 years of service with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department. Mr. Slocumb has devoted his career to protecting the lives of all Californian’s, and in doing so, I would like to pay tribute to Dennis who has exemplified the notion of public service and civic duty.

Lieutenant Slocumb entered the Sheriff’s Department in 1968, and during his 32 years of service he assisted the community as a patrolman, a press liaison and lieutenant detective. His most recent assignment was to serve as the president of the Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association, representing over 6,000 law enforcement professionals.