

sense of justice will carry on for years to come, and the accomplishments of his remarkable life will continue to pave the way.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

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

#### A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND LEON SULLIVAN

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, this morning, I received some very disturbing news about the passing of the Reverend Leon Sullivan, founder and Chairman of OIC International.

Reverend Sullivan was a genuine example of civility and social commitment. He was a leader of human rights, and a true humanitarian. He is best known for his advocacy toward obtaining justice to end Apartheid in South Africa. This feat gained him the respect of all of us.

Through his steadfastness and determination, Reverend Sullivan enlightened history and impacted the world with his grace. He came to this earth with a bright inner glow and a spirit filled with light. Reverend Sullivan had a powerful soul and a judicious conscience. His desire to make a difference in the lives of others will be preserved now in our many memories of him. He was a true example of a public servant, and it was through his vision that many people became familiar with his love for hope and compassion for the welfare of people in underserved nations.

Reverend Sullivan was credited by President Clinton with The Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award, and was the author of the "Sullivan Principles" which will serve as part of his stellar legacy. I have no doubt that the Reverend will continue to work for the benefit of humanity from his eternal state. His faith in humanity brought inspiration to our society. As a poet once said "Do not weep because they are gone, smile because they lived". Today we honor Reverend Sullivan with our everlasting gratitude and admiration. For those who have lived and not just existed, we must remember to carry on their messages. Reverend Sullivan's words will linger beyond existence, for time does not abandon immortals.

#### CONGRATULATING HAWAII'S 2ND DISTRICT PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD WINNERS

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

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate four remarkable young women from Hawaii: Lauren Noelani Calhoun, age 16, of Kapaa on the island of Kauai; Celinda Stanton, age 11, of Waimanalo on the island of Oahu; Tessa Munekeyo of Wailuku on the island of Maui, and Kaulani Ostrem of Kaawa on the island of Oahu.

Lauren and Celinda are Hawaii's top two youth volunteers for the year 2001 in the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, a nationwide program honoring young people for outstanding acts of volunteerism. They have each been awarded an engraved silver medallion, a \$1,000 award, and a trip to Washington, DC for the program's national recognition event. Hawaii's Distinguished Finalists—Tessa and Kaulani—have been awarded engraved bronze medallions.

Lauren Noelani Calhoun, a junior at Kauai High School, led an effort to establish a homework and learning center for children at a local family abuse shelter. As a volunteer at the shelter, Lauren was disturbed by its often hectic conditions and wondered how the children who stayed there managed to do their schoolwork. She approached the shelter's director with a plan to convert a storage area into a quiet room for the kids to do their homework. After the plan was approved by the director and the shelter's board, Lauren contacted businesses and organizations for donations.

She surpassed her goal and raised over \$1,500 in addition to many in-kind donations. Lauren purchased furniture, a computer, a printer, software, books, and two sets of encyclopedias for the homework center.

Celinda Stanton, a sixth-grader at St. Andrews, brightened the lives of elderly residents of a long-term care facility by teaching them new skills and providing them with recreational activities. After visiting the facility, where her mother works, Celinda noticed that the residents seemed to enjoy the presence of a young girl and realized she could make a difference in their lives. During her volunteer time at the facility, she entertains the seniors by performing Japanese and Hawaiian dances and helps them play games. She also has taught an 80-year-old woman how to use a computer and regularly assists the staff with recreational activities and filing.

Tessa Munekeyo, age 16, a student at Baldwin High School on the island of Maui assisted in conducting interviews with tsunami survivors as part of a museum educational project.

Kaulani Ostrem, age 17, a senior at Kahuku High School, co-chaired an effort in her community to reduce the number of deaths and accidents on the roadways in her community.

I look forward to having the opportunity to meet Lauren and Celinda and to welcome them to Washington when they come to the Capitol in May. Lauren, Celina, Tessa, and Kaulani exemplify the very best of our youth, of Hawaii, and of our nation.

#### REFORMS NEEDED IN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I have organized my freshman Democratic colleagues to speak out on an issue of great importance to our country, that is, on the issue of health care. I understand that the gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL) has already spoken, and I thank my colleague for his participation.

Mr. Speaker, many of us were elected in large part because we vowed to reform our health care system, to make quality medical care and prescription drugs affordable for all Americans.

Today nearly 44 million Americans under the age of 65, 11 million of whom are children, do not have health insurance.

In the State of Rhode Island, my home, 1 out of 10 people lack health insurance. As we all know, health insurance is critical to obtaining necessary, affordable care. Those without insurance often pay two, even three times more for medical care than an insured person pays for that very same service. The uninsured are hospitalized at least 50 percent more often than the insured for avoidable conditions. They are also more likely to be diagnosed with later-stage cancer than those with insurance. Even newborn infants born to uninsured mothers have a 31 percent greater risk for adverse health outcomes. This inequity in access to medical care reflects the unfair disparity

and health care costs the uninsured face on a regular basis.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I plan to introduce legislation to require the Department of Health and Human Services to make substantive recommendations on how to eliminate this disparity and report to Congress within 1 year on these findings.

Another facet of today's health insurance quagmire is the high cost employees must pay for health insurance premiums, so high, in fact, that many opt out of this vital benefit. Over one-third of the uninsured are in families where employer-sponsored coverage is declined, and Medicaid does not always cover these families, which is why I plan to introduce legislation to help States subsidize employees and some of the employers' health insurance premium costs. I want to make sure employed workers are able to obtain the health care coverage that they need and deserve.

A third aspect of health insurance I am deeply concerned about is the lack of prescription drug coverage in Medicare; 13 million Medicare recipients lack drug coverage at the present time. In Rhode Island alone, almost 200,000 of our seniors have no drug coverage; and drugs are not cheap. In 1999, prescription drugs accounted for almost 10 percent of individual health spending. In many cases these prescriptions amount to \$500 or more per month. To a senior on a fixed income, this represents a greater share of their monthly check. A disproportionate share, and this is wrong.

With 77 million baby boomers soon to retire, we must curb this trend before it spirals out of control. By requiring drug companies to sell prescription drugs in the United States for the same price they charge in underdeveloped countries, I believe we can alleviate the burden on people lacking drug coverage. I commend the gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN), who has introduced H.R. 1400, of which I am a proud cosponsor, the Prescription Drug Fairness Act for Seniors 2001. This legislation ensures drug companies charge fair prices in the U.S., and it is estimated to reduce prices for brand-name prescription medications on average by 40 percent.

□ 1400

All of these issues that I have mentioned address healthcare affordability, and ensuring and guaranteeing a minimum standard of quality is also important. After all, the health care we must pay for is essential for everyone, and it must provide the care that people need. The Bipartisan Patient Protection Act of 2001, otherwise known as the Patients' Bill of Rights, would ensure patients obtain this quality care and are granted greater control over their health care.

If enacted, this bill would provide access to emergency care, specialty care, and clinical trials and allow external review for all Americans who receive

employer-sponsored health care. This bill represents a critical step toward improving our health care system and placing control of patient care firmly in the hands of patients and their doctors.

Disparity in health care costs, lack of affordable health insurance, a prescription drug plan for our seniors, and patients' rights to control the quality of their own medical care are some of the most pressing health care issues facing America today. I urge my colleagues to work together to solve these problems.

Reforming our health care system is probably one of the most complicated endeavors for Congress to undertake. But let us not lose sight of it. It is a goal that we can and must achieve together. It must happen. I look forward to working with all of my colleagues to make this a reality.

#### TRIBUTE TO FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE OF MICHIGAN, RICHARD H. AUSTIN

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, Thursday, April 26, the funeral services will be held in Detroit for Richard H. Austin, who served six terms as Secretary of State of Michigan.

As the longest serving Secretary of State in Michigan's history, Dick Austin set the highest standard of service to the public. Whether it was highway safety or citizen participation in the electoral process, he was always ahead of his time.

It was my privilege to be a teammate with Dick Austin as I ran for Governor and he began his first quest for statewide office, breaking down barriers confronting candidates for elective office in Michigan. He became the longest-serving black elected State official in the history of Michigan, as he was Michigan's first black CPA and the first black candidate for mayor.

I had the joy many times of campaigning with him, hearing him in his quiet way spelling out his aspirations, and watching the magic worked by his warm smile and his friendly handshake. That smile is now gone, but the memories of it will always linger. His friendliness is now a legacy not to be forgotten.

Dick Austin never let down the public trust, and the citizens of Michigan responded time after time. He was an intrinsic part of the web of public service in Michigan for many decades. He made Michigan a better place, and he will be missed by many of us as a warm friend and by all of us as an invaluable public servant.

Mr. Speaker, we here today join together to mourn the passing of Richard H. Austin.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may

have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my special order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF RICHARDSON PREYER, FORMER MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. COBLE. This special order, Mr. Speaker, is to commemorate and honor the memory of one of our distinguished former Members, the Honorable Richardson Preyer.

Judge Preyer, Congressman Preyer, was my congressman for 12 years. His family, Mr. Speaker, and this is probably known to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) because he is a man of letters, and this probably will not surprise him, his family was one of the frontiers in the pharmaceutical industry. Vicks VapoRub, for example, was invented, if you will, and the laboratory was actually probably makeshift, probably a modest facility at the time, by his ancestors.

I shared this story with him one day. When I was a member of the Coast Guard in Seattle, Washington, one of my first times out of North Carolina as a young man, I came across a Vicks VapoRub package in a drugstore in Seattle. I saw on that package, Mr. Speaker, Greensboro, North Carolina. That is where it was manufactured. I felt a sense of obvious pride, as my friend in the well is smiling approvingly.

I saw him much years afterward, and I told him that story. He too beamed with pride because I could see in his face the pride of his grandparents perhaps or uncles that preceded him in the development of that drug that became, obviously, a household word.

Mr. Speaker, Richardson Preyer served as a State superior court judge. He served as a United States district judge on the Federal bench. He was a candidate in the Democratic gubernatorial primary for the office of governor. Although he did not win that nomination, he conducted a very credible campaign.

Then in 1968, Mr. Speaker, Richardson Preyer ran what was then an open seat. I guess it was Congressman Kornegay had retired. Richardson Preyer and Bill Osteen, a long-time friend of mine, who is now a United States district court judge himself in the middle district of North Carolina, Rich and Bill, Bill Osteen, paired off in a very spirited, well-conducted campaign. Mr. Preyer, Congressman Preyer was declared the winner; and he went on to serve six terms in the House of Representatives.