

in savings and a loan of \$10,000. After fifty years of devotion and hard work, Bob is officially retiring as an independent distributor, although he frequently consults with his sons who now own the company.

Mr. Speaker, I stand before you to offer my appreciation to Mr. Wallace for being an outstanding inspiration for the Wallace Oil Company. I wish him the best with all of his future endeavors and applaud the many efforts he has made over the years to provide leadership and guidance to the La Junta community—he is an invaluable citizen! I wish Bob the best of luck in his future endeavors.

H.R. 4691

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2002

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, last week, the Health Subcommittee held a hearing on the Abortion Non-Discrimination Act, H.R. 4691. The bill clarifies existing federal conscience protections that prohibit discrimination against health care entities that object to participating in abortion. This bill has the support of both faith-based and secular health care providers.

At the hearing, the subcommittee heard testimony from Karen Vosburgh, who serves on the board of Valley Hospital in Palmer, Alaska. Valley Hospital is a private non-sectarian hospital. But in 1997, the Alaska Supreme Court held that Valley Hospital was a "quasi-public hospital" and ordered it to open its doors for elective second trimester abortions.

Most hospitals do not participate in abortions. According to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, 86% of all hospitals choose not to get involved in abortions. These are religious hospitals of all denominations, non-religious private hospitals, and even public hospitals. There is a reason why: abortion is not health care. It is elective surgery that takes the life of an unborn child.

Abortion advocates are trying to force hospitals to perform abortions against their will. This is wrong. No hospital should be forced to take the life of an unborn child against its will. Religiously-affiliated hospitals and hospitals that simply don't want to offer the elective procedure shouldn't have to.

I hope the Congress acts quickly to pass the Abortion Non-Discrimination Act, and I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor this legislation. I submit for the record a list of supporting organizations, and letters we have received from two of these organizations: the Catholic Health Association, and the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons.

THE CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
OF THE UNITED STATES,

June 17, 2002.

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKAS,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Health, Committee on Energy and Commerce, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN BILIRAKAS: On behalf of the Catholic Health Association of the United States (CHA) I am writing to express our support for HR 4691, the Abortion Non-Discrimination Act. Provisions in this legislation would provide Catholic Health providers safeguards to continue operating in a manner consistent with their moral beliefs and principles.

Increasingly, Catholic and other faith-based health care providers have come under

attack for not offering so-called "reproductive health services (e.g.—abortions, etc.). In recent years, we have seen orchestrated campaigns to force Catholic health providers to offer services that conflict with our values and moral principles. These campaigns have led to legislation in several states and localities that could force Catholic hospitals to close or substantially reduce their services to the community. These threats continue and fundamentally effect the ability of Catholic Providers to deliver services to their communities.

In several states and for certain federal programs, Catholic and other faith-based providers have been able to secure "conscience clause" protection against mandatory provisions of objectionable services. Unfortunately, these approaches are often inadequate and require "year after year" reauthorization. They fail to provide permanent protection and assurances the Catholic providers can continue to operate unencumbered.

In addition to supporting HR 4691, CHA supports legislative efforts to establish a permanent and comprehensive federal conscience clause. We look forward to working with you and the Committee to achieve these ends.

Sincerely,

REV. MICHAEL D. PLACE, STD,
President and Chief Executive Officer.

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING THE ABORTION
NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT (ANDA) H.R. 4691/
S. 2008

Americans United for Life
Association of American Physicians and Surgeons
Catholic Health Association
Catholic Medical Association
Christian Coalition
Christian Legal Society
Christian Medical Association
Christus Medicus
Concerned Women for America
Democrats for Life of America
Eagle Forum
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission,
Southern Baptist Convention
Family Research Council
Feminists for Life of America
Focus on the Family
Lutherans for Life
National Council of Catholic Women
National Organization of Episcopalians for Life
National Right to Life Committee
Presbyterians Pro-Life
Seamless Garment Network
Seventh Day Adventists, World Headquarters
Susan B. Anthony List
Traditional Values Coalition
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

HONORING ANDREA MYSLENSKI

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2002

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Andrea Myslenski, a special young girl in my Congressional district who suffers from a very rare and serious disease, "Post Viral Dysautonomia." This is a condition that affects the autonomic nervous system and renders her very tired and unable to go to school or have the normal social life of a 15-year old girl. Andrea was home tutored due to

Dysautonomia the second half of eighth grade. She completed all of her work and was awarded the Presidential Award for academic achievement. Andrea began 9th grade with the hope of completing the school year, but a virus caused a relapse of Dysautonomia. She was unable to attend school in October, 2001, and home tutored for the rest of the school year.

Dysautonomia is manifested by symptoms of fatigue, weakness, forgetfulness, brain fog, and mood swings, etc. It has been a very trying time for the family. Perhaps one of the biggest challenges was actually making a definitive diagnosis of Dysautonomia. It took several visits to multiple doctors before a definitive diagnosis was made, making it quite apparent why it is called an "invisible disease."

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my support to Andrea and many children like her that suffer from Dysautonomia. It is my hope that we become educated about this disease and become strong supporters for the research and treatment of this invisible illness. I am proud to have Andrea as a member of my district and hope that one day a cure for this disease will be found.

COMMENDING THE U.S.-ASIA INSTITUTE

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2002

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of the House of Representatives the work of the U.S.-Asia Institute, which plays an important role in improving understanding between the United States and China. This nongovernmental organization promotes an ongoing exchange of views between policy makers in the U.S. and China.

Since 1985, a principal vehicle for furthering this dialogue has been the congressional staff delegation visits to the People's Republic of China organized by the U.S.-Asia Institute and hosted by the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs. These official visits serve to increase awareness, knowledge, and understanding of U.S. and Chinese policies. The 50th delegation will travel to China in August 2002.

To commemorate this milestone, the U.S.-Asia Institute is hosting special events in Washington, D.C. in July 2002. The Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs will reciprocate by hosting special events in Beijing in August 2002.

Since its inception, this program has hosted more than 400 congressional staff members who have traveled throughout China—from Heihe in the north on the Russian border to Hainan Island in the south; from the dynamic coastal cities of Shanghai and Guangzhou to the remote city of Urumqi, an oasis on the ancient Silk Road; from Tibet to Kunming to Beijing and other places in between. Over 150 congressional office and committee staff members have benefitted from fact-finding and the opportunity to discuss in depth issues of mutual interest to our great nations. The progress of the U.S.-Sino relationship rests on dialogue and engagement, and this program provides participants with an unparalleled first-hand view of China, its culture, its government, and its people.

In recognition of a program that promotes understanding, goodwill, and trade between the people of China and the United States, I commend the U.S.-Asia Institute and the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs for their work and hope that this long-standing partnership will continue for many years to come.

UKRAINIAN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2002

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Chairman TAYLOR and Ranking Member MORAN for their diligent work in putting together the FY03 Legislative Appropriations bill. I am particularly pleased that the Committee Report for this bill calls for a study by the Librarian of Congress to determine the feasibility of establishing a Ukrainian Leadership Program (ULP).

The ULP would target young Ukrainian leaders from local and regional governments and give them the opportunity to travel to the United States and meet with federal officials in Washington. The Ukrainian officials would also travel to various congressional districts and meet with local officials. While in local communities, these young leaders would meet with farmers, bankers, educators, and business people. In these meetings, the Ukrainians will be able to observe the critical functions that these groups serve in a democracy. The Ukrainian American community will be actively involved in its implementation and providing logistical support thus reducing the cost to the U.S. government.

The ULP will provide the next generation of local leaders with a better understanding of the relationships between the federal and local governments and the constituencies they represent. These young officials would be able to return to Ukraine with greater knowledge of the inner workings of democracy. This knowledge is critical to implementing further democratic reforms in Ukraine.

Ukraine is at a crossroads. While it has taken great strides towards democracy since its independence in 1991, reforms have slowed over the last few years. As the sixth most populous nation in Europe, the Ukrainian people are people eager for reform. The U.S. can help ensure that democratic reforms are successful by supporting Ukraine's young leaders.

This bill takes a significant step towards the realization of the ULP. We all recognize the large task of establishing such a program. With this study in hand, Congress will have road map with which to move forward on this issue.

The ULP has the support the Ukrainian American community and the young leaders in Ukraine. This step that the Committee has taken is appreciated around the world. Again, I'd like to thank Chairman TAYLOR and Ranking Member MORAN for their hard work on this issue. I look forward to the report and working with my colleagues on this issue.

BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR MRS. SUE SHAFFER

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2002

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer best wishes and birthday greetings for a good friend of mine, Mrs. Sue Shaffer, Chairwoman of the Cow Creek Nation. We've worked together for years on issues of importance to tribal governments across the nation. Whenever I speak with tribal leaders around the nation and with lawmakers here in our nation's Capitol about Indian Country, I talk about success stories like those of the Cow Creek Band.

Sue represents the spirit of achievement that so embodies the history of the Cow Creek people. Fighting against a federal government that was at times hostile and at other times indifferent towards them, the people of Cow Creek worked hard from the first treaty with the United States in 1853 until their restoration in 1982 to make a great community for themselves. They've purchased land for themselves and have developed a great business enterprise through the Seven Feathers Casino and other diverse business interests.

Mr. Speaker, what they've done for their community and for all of the non-tribal members they employ is great, and it's in no small part due to the leadership of Chairwoman Shaffer. I'm proud to recognize her as a leader in Indian Country and as a respected Chairwoman in her tribe, but I'm most proud to call her my friend. Thank you for all you've done, Sue. Have a happy 80th birthday and I wish you many more.

HONORING JEANNIE SWEENEY AMBROSE FOR HER COMMITMENT TO VETERANS IN HER COMMUNITY

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2002

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Air Force Captain Jeannie Sweeney Ambrose, a Vietnam veteran and fellow Pittsburgh Irish-American. Captain Ambrose has served seven years on active service with the Air Force as a nurse and has dedicated much of her life to caring for and honoring all veterans.

Born in Ireland, Captain Ambrose immigrated to the United States in the early 1960s and joined the Air Force after becoming a United States citizen. Captain Ambrose served a tour in Vietnam at Camrahn Bay in a MASH unit, where in her time off, she volunteered her skills as a midwife for impoverished Vietnamese civilians. Following her Vietnam tour, she continued to serve our country in an Air Force Hospital in London where she met her husband, Eddie Ambrose, who has also served his country as a C-131 pilot in Europe.

In addition to compassionately caring for our soldiers during the Vietnam War, Captain Ambrose continues her work of honoring veterans through her poems. Every Memorial Day, veterans gather to hear her touching rendition of

a poem she wrote, Flanders Field. Captain Ambrose's efforts on behalf of those who have served our country should be recognized, thus I have included one of her poems "Take My Hand" so that my colleagues in Congress and all Americans may share in her compassionate views. I believe that by honoring Captain Ambrose, we are recognizing not only her efforts, but also the efforts and importance of nurses who serve during wartime.

As a son of a World War II veteran, I would like to extend my gratitude to Captain Jeannie Sweeney Ambrose for her kindness and compassion towards our servicemen and women. She is to be commended for her efforts on behalf of Pittsburgh veterans.

TAKE MY HAND

(By Jeannie Sweeney Ambrose)

Here—take hold of my hand, Lad,
I'll try to kill the pain,
You've had your share of fighting this day,
We'll get you well and home again.

Here—take hold of my hand, Lad,
Don't go away from me now,
I'll stop the blood and fix your wounds
But you must stay with me and fight the pain.

Here—take hold of my hand, Lad,
I can't lose more of you now,
We've all come so far, the lot of us,
And I've got to get you to your home again.

Ah—Lad, you must not quit on me now,
I'll not let you go, you hear,
Come, fight with me just once more,
Your mom must not be left to cry.

He had looked at me with one brief smile,
And had asked me my name.
I said call me Jeannie, or call me your mom,
Today it will all be the same.

My lad squeezed my hand one more time,
He smiled and then he died,
I closed my eyes to remember his face, and said,

I'll see you each year as we call out the names.

Ah Lad, I still see your face,
And all those we tried to save,
Your face and smile were all we had,
To help get us through those days.

I still remember those lads, they were
Our country's best
They had fought and died for all of us,
In a land so far, far away,
Now they were all gone, now all at rest.

My lads are here and everywhere today,
We must never forget what they gave,
They cannot smile or laugh at war anymore,
But then neither can we who stay.

Ah Lad, if I could just hold your hand once more,

It would help me remember this day,
I cannot forget their faces anymore,
Nor the reasons they died in such pain.

I go to the Wall each year to find my lads,
There are so many of them now,
The Wall grows warm under my hand
As I find and touch their names.
Here Lads, hold my hand,
We're all together again.

WILLIAM BATTERMAN RUGER

HON. JOHN E. SUNUNU

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2002

Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my condolences to the family of William B. Ruger who passed away on July 6 at