

been an honor to work with him in pursuit of this noble goal. America's armed forces and I applaud his service. A grateful nation wishes him and his family the very best.

TRIBUTE TO THEODORE BLUM

HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Theodore Blum, a resident of Hillsborough, New Jersey, on his recent nomination to the National 4-H Hall of Fame.

Mr. Blum will be one of the inaugural 100 members of the National 4-H Hall of Fame, which has been created to commemorate the 100th anniversary of this world-renowned service organization.

Known by many as "Mr. 4-H," Theodore Blum served as Somerset County, New Jersey's 4-H agent from 1956 to 1984, the longest anyone has held that position since the county program began in the mid-1920s.

As county agent, Mr. Blum oversaw the construction of a 20,000-square-foot facility in Bridgewater, New Jersey, which is the largest 4-H center in the state. He initiated a program that enrolled six through eight year olds in a 4-H prep program that inspired similar programs throughout New Jersey. Mr. Blum also oversaw the growth of the county 4-H Fair to its status now as one of the largest free fairs in New Jersey, and tirelessly promoted the 4-H and their activities by distributing pamphlets to local newspaper and schools.

But most importantly, Theodore Blum helped enrollment in Somerset County 4-H programs from 500 to 2,500 members, paving the way for greater involvement by young people in their community.

Today I commend Theodore Blum, who recently has turned 75 years old, for his leadership and congratulate him on being named as one of the first one hundred members of the National 4-H Hall of Fame.

HONORING REVEREND JOE GRIZZLE

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, a wonderful family man and a true servant of God: Reverend Joe Grizzle.

Reverend Grizzle has recently accomplished a great feat: celebrating 25 years in the same church, in the same town: First Free Will Baptist Church of Norman, Oklahoma—in the heart of the 4th district of Oklahoma.

And heart is what this is all about. Churchgoers at First Free Will refer to their home as the Church with a heart. Many Oklahomans have commented that Joe Grizzle has a great big heart. A heart that cares for others, a heart that cares for his wife Billie and his children Christy and Rick and their spouses Jeff and Kim and 5 beautiful grandchildren, and a heart that recently was broken but thankfully God saw fit to mend it back together again to allow

him to continue his ministry. More than that, Rev. Grizzle has a heart that cares for God. And like David, he is a man after God's own heart.

Rev. Grizzle knows what it means to teach and be obedient. He knows what it is to plant seeds that will bloom well into eternity. He knows what is done for God will last. While we debate budgets and appropriations and talk of legislation, Rev. Grizzle is doing the real work of this great nation: healing hurts, mending brokenness and putting families back together and talking about the things of God.

When it comes to keeping this nation great and strong, we need to look to our families and our churches. Especially right now, our churches have been raised for such a time as this. Rev. Grizzle is a credit to this nation and a testimony of God's grace as he celebrates 25 years of ministry at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Norman, Oklahoma.

RECOGNIZING STEW FLAHERTY

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, all of us were thrilled to watch Jill Bakken and Vonetta Flowers make history by winning a Gold Medal in the first-ever women's bobsledding competition at the Winter Olympics. But there might not have been a Gold Medal, or even a women's bobsledding event, without Stew Flaherty of Westerville, OH.

After meeting two of the U.S. athletes in a Westerville gym 7 years ago, Stew spearheaded a campaign to make the women's bobsled an Olympic sport. He organized a letter writing campaign to pressure the International Bobsled and Skeleton Federation and the International Olympic Committee to include the event in the Salt Lake City games. Along with others, Stew helped build the sport internationally by convincing other countries to create teams.

As women's coach Bill Tavares told the Columbus Dispatch, "Without Stew's support we wouldn't be here." And to quote Gold Medalist Jill Bakken, "Stew's role was huge. He was supporting us when no one else was."

Stew Flaherty's efforts show that with hard work and a never-give-up attitude, you can move mountains. Or in Stew's case, make it possible for others to win Olympic gold.

HONORING BILL JOHNSON

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, We in the 7th District are deeply saddened by the loss of one of our greatest friends; a man who carried the torch not only for truth and justice as an excellent lawyer, but also stood as an outstanding community volunteer.

Bill Johnson was born November 10, 1932 in Moreland, Georgia. He graduated from Moreland High School and received his B.A. from West Georgia College in 1951. After graduating Bill moved on to the University of

Georgia, where he received his juris doctorate in 1954. After serving a three-year stint in the Army, Bill continued on to a distinguished law career, operating as the Carroll County government attorney between 1969 and 1984, and then in private practice, eventually opening his own firm—Johnson, Word, and Simons, which still remains in Carroll County.

Bill was a member of numerous legal and financial organizations, including the Carroll County Bar, the Coweta Circuit Bar Association, the State Bar of Georgia, the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association, and the Association of Trial Lawyers of America. He also served as a board member for the Community Bank and the Peoples Bank of West Georgia. Bill also belonged to several philanthropic groups such as the Lions Club and the Jaycees. He was extremely active with the First Baptist Church, as well as the Masons and Shriners.

On a personal note, Bill was my friend. He enjoyed sponsoring huge annual BBQ fundraisers, and was one of my biggest and most outspoken supporters. I will dearly miss the grace, and dignity, and humor he brought to the courtroom and the political arena, and the dedication he offered up to all.

Bill left us to join his Creator in heaven on Monday, February 18, 2002, after a long illness. He is survived by his wife, Ramona Teal Johnson, his daughter Angela Lee Johnson, and his son Alton Parker Johnson II, a Carroll County Magistrate Judge. We will all miss him and his legacy of dedicated service.

MILITARY SPENDING AND PUBLIC HEALTH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my colleagues' attention to an Op-ed in the Chicago Tribune (February 17, 2002), by the highly esteemed Dr. Quentin Young, "President puts military funds ahead of those for health." As the head of Physicians for A National Health Program and the Health and Medicine Policy Research Group, Dr. Young reports on the uncertain and frightening future of a disintegrating public health system.

With a \$340 million reduction in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's expenditures not devoted to "anti-terrorism," the Bush Administration is abandoning needed support for our public health system. Dr. Young highlights how the Bush Administration has subordinated public health to military priorities, through \$57 million slash in the program for chronic disease prevention and health promotion, a \$10 million cut for infectious disease control, and a \$9 million cut for Medicaid funding.

We have made great strides in public health over the last 150 years with strong focus, and fiscal and political support. Life expectancy in our country has doubled, from 40 years to 80 years, through "...[t]he separation of sewage from drinking water, mass immunization, discovery and elimination of insect vectors of disease, improved nutrition, prenatal care, purification of the food supply, addressing ambient pollution, and diminishing workplace hazards."

But in recent decades, we have neglected critical public health needs, eroding our ability

to protect communities and individuals. We cannot allow emerging issues to destroy our nation's efforts to enhance the health status of the population. If we continue to divert funds from critical investments in public health because of short-term goals and a "military first" attitude, we will inevitably harm our nation's health in many other areas. A single-minded focus on bioterrorism that neglects ongoing public health needs is a shortsighted and dangerous policy.

I strongly urge my colleagues to read the enclosed full text of Dr. Young's very informative op-ed.

[From the Chicago Tribune, Feb. 17, 2002]

PRESIDENT PUTS MILITARY FUNDS AHEAD OF THOSE FOR HEALTH

(By Dr. Quentin Young.)

Americans, still on the threshold of the 21st Century, confront an uncertain, even frightening, future, not least because their public health system is diving headlong into errors of the past.

On Feb. 4, President George W. Bush presented his FY 2003 budget to Congress.

Its health provisions repeat the dangerous errors of the past, especially with its focus on defense. To truly strengthen the public health system, millions should have been added to the budget of the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. Instead, CDC would take a \$340 million reduction in expenditures not devoted to "anti-terrorism."

A sampling of the reductions indicates a \$57 million slash in the program for chronic disease prevention and health promotion, \$10 million for infectious disease control, \$9 million for Medicaid funding. On the other hand, there is a 33 percent increase in funding for abstinence-only-until-marriage education. The decision to increase community health center support by \$114 million was helpful; it probably should have been more.

Our public health system needs serious invigoration based on adequate funding at all levels. The president, however, has debilitated the system by removing support for programs with proven success and doing nothing to rally independent public support for the mission of public health. Finally, he has moved a long way toward repeating the 1950s blunder: subordinating the public health system to military priorities.

The nation may pay dearly for this strategy.

A good way to approach an understanding of the place of contemporary public health is to look backward a century and a half. Such an examination will define our current situation and how we got there. It can illuminate the wisest decisions we can make based on science and practice.

In the past 150 years, life expectancy in our country has doubled, from 40 years to nearly 80 years. This astounding extension of life in such a brief time has no precedent in the human experience.

It was achieved fundamentally by public health triumphs: the separation of sewage from drinking water, mass immunization, discovery and elimination of insect vectors of disease, improved nutrition, prenatal care, purification of the food supply, addressing ambient pollution, and diminishing workplace hazards. The public valued these gains. The decline in the perils to life was palpable. A grateful citizenry accepted the rules and regulations that the preventive discipline required. Fiscal and political support were there for the array of measures—from compulsory immunization to meat inspection—needed to improve the nation's health.

Until the 1950s.

Then, three powerful currents emerged and converged to undermine the vigor and the

readiness of the public health establishment. The recent panicky response to the anthrax letters and the legislative fixes being proposed will achieve the necessary safeguards only if we recognize how we blundered in midcentury and if we resolve not to repeat history's mistakes.

The first blow came, paradoxically, from the success of the system.

In a recent article, Lawrence Gostin and M. Gregg Bloche captured this turnaround: "Americans saw these [public health] activities as vital to their security, no less so than military force or police and fire protection. Taxpayers supported the needed spending. Lawmakers empowered local health authorities to move robustly when contagion threatened. Destruction of buildings, killing of infected animals and even restraints on the movement of infected people were provided for by law and widely accepted by citizens."

"But after World War II, American public health fell victim to its own success. Thanks to city-planning and sanitation campaigns of the early 20th Century and the antibiotic revolution of the 1940s, fear of infectious disease waned. The conquest of polio through vaccination in the 1950s delivered the coup de grace for public health's middle-class constituency."

Despite awesome accomplishments, public health was now the Cinderella—nay the Caliban—of our health system. Although exploding health expenditures reached \$1.4 trillion by 1999, less than 2 percent was allocated to all activities in public health. The workforce, the facilities, the technology—all of the basics—fell behind.

The second undoing of progressive growth of public health was essentially political. This derived from the hard fact that it is a governmental function, totally dependent on fiscal and legislative policies. Because the designated leaders—from the local and state health department directors on up to the surgeon general—are all political appointees who serve at the pleasure of an elected chief executive, an effective independent professional advocacy did not and perhaps could not develop.

These health chieftains were locked into a loyalty to their sponsors. They cannot question the budgetary and policy devolution openly and expect to keep their jobs. At the local, state and federal levels, the reward for public health successes was reduction of support from the public treasury.

The third major element in the decline in U.S. public health over the past half-century is a cautionary tale. It is quite pertinent to the re-emergence of concern with bioterrorism, which is the deliberate use of lethal pathogens on your opponents. It was Alexander Langmuir, chief epidemiologist at the CDC, who was the architect of the dramatic shift in research and funding to look at what was called biological warfare in the midcentury realpolitik.

The irony of the resource shift lies in the reality that we have not developed reliable defenses against hostile use of organisms. We have a gigantic capacity to create these weapons, but the option to use them is illusory. Nor do our weapons offer deterrence to enemies who are not powerful nation-states but an elusive network of terrorists who claim to welcome death in the service of injury to us.

An unintended consequence of Sept. 11 is an overdue appreciation and enthusiasm for the vital functions of public health. We have not been at all steadfast in this regard in the past five decades. Indeed, we have been heedless. In all quarters the question arises: Can we now build a public health capability that is robust and responsive, independent of volatile political swings?

Above all, can we avoid the trap of reducing our focus to garrison state protection functions? The system should be developing defenses against all threats to the public's health, including bioterrorist ones. However, we should recognize the folly of neglecting or abandoning the great array of other crucial functions.

Public health has been defined as those things society as a whole does together to enhance the health status of the population. This tradition grows out of premises that include equity, social justice, confidence in government capability in a democratic society, and reliance on observation and scientific validity to guide practice in the community. When the system works efficiently and compassionately, it generates the solidarity and confidence much needed in a time of confusion and polarization.

To achieve the benefits of a vigorous, fully developed public health system, our strategy should not repeat the major errors of the past: Do not abandon sustained support of public health because of short-term achievements; Decouple the subordination of public health leadership to politicians; introduce a tradition of independence from partisan politics by developing an informed citizenry acting as public health advocates; Do not let the system become simply an auxiliary to the military.

**INTERNET FREEDOM AND
BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT ACT
OF 2001**

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1542) to deregulate the Internet and high speed data services, and for other purposes:

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 1542, the Internet Freedom and Broadband Deployment Act. As a member representing one of the most rural states in our nation, I believe that this bill will do nothing to spur broadband deployment in rural America, while destroying the ability of the FCC and state regulatory commissions to provide valuable consumer protections.

The Bell companies say they are eager to deploy broadband in rural areas, but their actions speak louder than their words: for years, the Bells have sold off millions of lines in rural America. These companies have no commitment to rural America, and passing this bill will not change that. In fact, the Bells can easily evade the rural broadband development provisions of this bill simply by selling off additional rural exchanges. Rather than encouraging Bells to invest in rural America, this bill increases their incentives to accelerate their rural sell-off.

Small carriers and local providers have long been the lifeblood of communications services in rural America, yet this bill allows the Bells to deny these companies access to their networks. The very small competitors which today provide outstanding communications services in rural North Dakota and throughout the country could be quickly put out of business by this bill. Thousands of jobs at these competitive carriers would be lost.