

as now seems to be the case. In the days ahead, I shall consult with my colleagues, with legal scholars, political scientists and historians, in order to weigh the appropriate actions necessary to prevent this or any future Administration from usurping the power of Congress and the power of the people to decide public policy on the basis of accurate knowledge.

An accurately informed public is the essence of our democracy. It is most essential on the ultimate question of peace or war. To deceive the Congress and the public about the facts underlying that momentous decision is to transgress one of the president's supreme constitutional responsibilities. I believe the House Committee on the Judiciary should consider whether this situation has reached that dimension.

That question is especially acute at this time because President Bush's disturbing doctrine of "preventive war" means he plans to persuade the Congress and the electorate that additional "preventive wars" are necessary. Will that advocacy be based on deception and false statements, too? The prospect is frightening.

Finally, I note the provocative analysis on this point recently offered by former Counsel to the President John Dean, who has carefully analyzed the nature and context of the President's many assertions about the threats allegedly posed by Iraq and the constitutional implications should they prove false upon further examination. It deserves wide dissemination.

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IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1738, "THE AMERICAN PARITY ACT"

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2003*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, we all know that it will take years, if not decades, for Iraq to be restored and rebuilt in the wake of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Our nation's desire to restore and rebuild Iraq—for the Iraqi people—is to be commended. It reflects the most dearly held values in American society.

As Americans, we want to make the world a better place. We want people to live full, healthy lives without fear of violence and hunger. We want children to have full stomachs, clear heads and the educational resources to realize their potential. We believe that healthcare should not be available to only the rich.

Certainly, as a nation, we want to elevate the quality of life for the Iraqi people, who bear the scars of years of hunger, violence and fear. At the same time, we must ask, what is being done to end the hunger, violence and fear that dominates the lives of far too many Americans?

As USAID makes the first down-payment of \$1.7 billion that the United States has dedicated to the housing, education, health care, and the infrastructure of rebuilding Iraq, we must ask—what is the Administration's plan to "Rebuild America"??

Here at home, our schools are closing, summer school activities are being shut down, hospitals are not able to provide the health care, and state and local first responder budgets are being stretched thin.

Over the past two years, 3.1 million Americans have lost their jobs, nearly 5 million Americans have lost their health care coverage, and 2 million families that were living the American Dream have dropped out of the middle class into poverty.

This is not progress. We need a plan to "Rebuild America."

Enacting more tax cuts, as the Administration favors, is illogical. How can a \$550 billion tax cut that primarily changes the tax treatment of corporate dividends stimulate the economy? How will this tax cut help state and local authorities address the shortfalls in our nation's critical infrastructure? Twenty billion dollars, as provided in the tax package, is wholly inadequate. Moreover, it is a drop in the bucket as compared to our \$1.7 trillion commitment to Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, while I believe that rebuilding Iraq will be important to secure lasting peace in the region, it must not come at the expense of rebuilding America.

My colleague, RAHM EMANUEL, has introduced legislation to require that for every dollar spent rebuilding Iraq, at least one dollar is spent addressing the health care crisis in America, urgent school construction, funding for first responders, and other domestic priorities.

In looking over USAID's plans for Iraq, I cannot understand how the Administration can justify building 12,500 new schools in Baghdad, without doing anything for children in America. Today, far too many American children are forced to study in trailers because their school districts simply do not have the funds to build a new school.

How can the Administration justify providing health care services to 13 million Iraqis while 42 million Americans struggle to live without health care? It's indefensible. Why, just today, Paul Bremer, the U.S. civil administrator of Iraq, announced plans to invest \$100 million to create jobs in Iraq.

IN IRAQ?

Mr. Speaker, how can the Administration justify launching this ambitious initiative in Iraq when there are thousands of workers in Western New York that have been unemployed for over two years?

Mr. Speaker, the Administration must not sit idly by and let America fall apart, just as unprecedented resources are being dedicated to reconstructing Iraq. I strongly believe that enactment of H.R. 1738 will help us make significant strides in the effort to restore this nation.

We must rebuild America. We owe it to the men and women who fought in Iraq, risking their lives to protect our homeland. We owe it to our children. We owe it to our seniors. We owe it to all Americans.

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THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CHIROPRACTIC EMPLOYMENT ACT

**HON. JERRY MORAN**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2003*

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Department of Veterans Affairs Chiropractic Employment Act. I do so to prompt the Department of Veterans Affairs to make chiropractic care available to America's veterans.

Currently, thousands of veterans enrolled in the VA health care system could benefit from chiropractic care. Millions of Americans use the services of chiropractors. However, veterans who are enrolled in VA's health care system are unable to receive this specialty care. Numerous studies have shown that chiropractic is an effective therapy, and can be an effective approach to low back pain, spasm, and other maladies of the spinal region, including health problems caused by the aging process and physical exertion. This bill would grant specific employment authority in VA for chiropractors as clinicians under Title 38 of the United States Code.

Signed into law in 1999, section 303 of Public Law 106-117, the Veterans Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act, required the VA Under Secretary for Health to establish a defined policy regarding the role of chiropractic care for veterans enrolled in the Veterans Health Administration. Issued almost a year later, VHA Directive 2000-014, established what the Department deemed a policy on chiropractic care. However, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs found that declaration to be woefully inadequate and less than a policy. It was a way for VA to further delay the advent of VA chiropractic services for veterans. As a result, Congress enacted section 204 of the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Programs Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-135). This statute required the Secretary of VA to create a program to provide chiropractic care and services for veterans who are enrolled in VA's health care system, and specified that each of VA's 21 Veterans Integrated Service Networks put at least one chiropractic care program in place. This law also required the establishment of a Chiropractic Advisory Committee within the Department, and charged the Committee to provide assistance to the Secretary in the development and implementation of the chiropractic health program the law authorized, including recommendations on scope of practice, qualifications, privileging and credentialing matters, among other factors that might influence the employment of chiropractors and the deployment of the new program nationwide.

While some progress has been made by the advisory committee on chiropractic care, the Department is now contending that formal organizational, qualification, and classification studies are needed due to VA's lack of a specified employment authority in Title 38 of the United States Code for chiropractors. Other unnamed technical and professional fields are already specifically authorized. Such an undertaking by VA may require extensive usage of resources and much time investment on the part of the Central Office, advisory committee, Office of Personnel Management staffs, as well as outside consultants. A number of Members of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee believe we can remedy this situation with the bill I am introducing today, to speed VA's decision-making on establishing chiropractic clinical care positions within the staff of the Department.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce this legislation that would address the authority for VA to appoint chiropractors in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department so that those veterans who are in need of chiropractic care may indeed and at last receive it in VA facilities. This bill will allow a fair compensation schedule with other comparable

categorical providers already authorized in Title 38. Furthermore, this bill will permit the Secretary to appoint chiropractors on a full-time basis. Currently, chiropractors are only available to veterans on a fee or contract basis, thereby causing VA additional administrative expenses and inconveniencing the veterans who need this care. With this bill chiropractors may also be appointed to intern or residency positions, or on a part time or intermittent basis, as dictated by need. My bill will afford to chiropractors practicing in VA facilities the same privileges and responsibilities of other VA caregivers.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation. My bill will provide an additional, needed specialty care program for our nation's veterans, who are most deserving of this benefit.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2003*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 9, 2003, I was unable to cast my floor vote on roll call numbers 249, 250, and 251. The votes I missed include rollcall vote 249 on Suspending the Rules and Passing H.R. 1610, the Walt Disney Post Office Building Designation Act; rollcall vote 250 on Suspending the Rules and Agreeing to H. Con. Res. 162, Honoring the city of Dayton, Ohio for hosting "Inventing Flight: the Centennial Celebration;" and rollcall vote 251 on Suspending the Rules and Passing S. 763, the Birch Bayh Federal Building and U.S. Court House Designation Act.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 249, 250, and 251.

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#### CONGRATULATING AETNA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2003*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Connecticut delegation to congratulate Aetna as it celebrates a milestone. On June 14, 2003 Aetna Inc. will observe the 150th anniversary of its founding.

The year 1853 was an extraordinary one for America. Our country was 77 years old and on the brink of Civil War. Despite the strife of the times a handful of leading business, civic and cultural leaders founded a company that would evolve into Aetna Inc., one of the nation's largest health care and employee benefits companies serving over thirteen million Americans with medical coverage, over eleven million group customers and eleven million dental members, all served by over a half million health care service providers.

Since 1853 Aetna has never lost sight of its customers, always striving to meet their changing needs. The people of Aetna have been inspired by the fact that what they do is truly important: helping people protect against

the risks and uncertainties of life and promising to be there when needed the most.

Today Aetna is one of the nation's premier providers of health care and related benefits, dedicated to helping people achieve health and financial security. This occasion offers us the opportunity to thank Aetna for this commitment.

It is with great pleasure that we commend the employees of Aetna for their excellence and determination with which they perform their work. In its 150 years of existence Aetna has become an indispensable asset to the people and culture of Connecticut. Its contributions to both the business world and the fabric of life in our home state of Connecticut have been tremendous. It is therefore with great appreciation that we offer congratulations to Aetna on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary and wish Aetna and all those associated with it continued success for many years to come.

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#### A TRIBUTE TO JOHN SEHE JONG HA

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2003*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of John Sehe Jong Ha in recognition of his dedication to his community and his commitment to world peace.

John's life is best defined by his service to both his immediate community and the global community. John is currently an Ambassador for Peace for the Inter-religious and International Federation for World Peace. The goal of the organization is to develop world peace by harmonizing both the spiritual and material dimensions of life. He is also a member of the Global Cooperation Society Club. The goal of this group is to establish social harmony and friendship among nations around the world. Additionally, he is a member of the Advisory Council on Democratic and Peaceful Unification U.S.A New York Area Councils. The Council advises the president of The Republic of Korea on issues pertaining to the unification of North and South Korea.

John is the CEO of Korean American Senior Citizens Society of Greater New York. He is responsible for overseeing the operation for the benefit of its 2400 members. He is also on the senior advisory council of The Korean-American Youth Foundation. John also serves as president of the Korean-American Traditional Art Development Association. This organization preserves traditional Korean Art and develops talent among the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Korean generations throughout the United States. He is also the chairman of the Greater New York TaeKwon-Do Association. He is responsible for the association's membership of 300 grandmasters.

John has been honored by the Republic of Korea with a Certificate of Official Commendation and a Certificate of Appreciation. Our government has awarded him a certificate of Appreciation as well.

John came to the United States in 1956 and became a citizen in 1972. He began his professional career at McCann-Erickson Advertising, Inc. in 1962. He followed this position as the CEO/President/Producer of Korean Television Broadcasting Corporation of New York

from 1974 to 1983. For his last professional job, John was CEO/President of Galaxy Children's Shoes, Inc. from 1984 to 1995. Currently, he is retired.

John is married and has two sons. He enjoys golf, table tennis, and travel. He is fluent in English and Korean and speaks some Spanish.

Mr. Speaker, John Sehe Jong Ha is committed to assisting the Korean-American community in New York and working toward world peace. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

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#### HONORING THE LIFE OF VICENTA B. PEREDO

### HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2003*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the House that Vicenta B. Peredo recently passed away. She was also known as "Seabee Betty" and for years she had provided a home away from home for the Seabees in Guam. She frequently held fiestas for the deployed battalions, which were always well attended, and gave her world renowned status within the Seabees. She was also annually crowned queen of the Seabees Ball. It was said that stories circulated about Seabee Betty even in Gulf Port, Mississippi.

Vicenta Peredo lived in the village of Yona, where she held these fiestas since 1951. At the fiestas she served all different types of local food to give the Seabees the experience of Chamorro hospitality and to make them feel right at home.

Even the Seabees helped to make sure the fiestas would continue when her house was damaged by a typhoon. After the roof of her kitchen collapsed, one of her daughters jokingly said that the Seabees might fix it tomorrow. It actually took the Seabees two days to fix her kitchen.

Vicenta Peredo also had fiestas that coincided with the birthdays of the Saints. She would pray for nine days, a novena, then cook a large amount of food and invite the Seabees over to enjoy the fiesta. She also wanted to give the Seabees a place to get away from the Naval Base and enjoy the rest of the island. She was a woman who always thought about the Seabees first and in return she received the rare distinction of being named an honorary Navy Seabee.

I join the Peredo family and all the people of Guam in sorrow that Vicenta Peredo is no longer with us, but I am proud to say that she touched so many people during her life. I am also very proud of the way that she reached out to the Seabees and her ability to be a great symbol of the generosity that the people of Guam have to extend to the visitors of the island.

We love you Vicenta and our thoughts and prayers are with your family. I am sure she will be remembered by the Seabees with the honor and generosity she showed them in life. She showed us all that one person can make a difference, that one person can affect many lives.