

often taking home far less than the minimum wage.

In the absence of federal guidelines, day laborers are often subjected to long, unpaid wait-periods before being assigned to a job. Commonly, these workers also face dangerous working conditions and are paid lower wages than full-time workers performing the same or similar jobs. Further, day laborers are frequently charged high (often undisclosed) fees for on-the-job meals, transportation to and from job sites and special attire and safety equipment necessary for jobs. Some agencies even ask workers to sign waivers in case they are injured on the job.

Partially due to these unfair labor conditions, many day laborers are caught in a cycle of poverty. A study by the University of Illinois Center for Urban Economic Development found that 65 percent of 510 surveyed day laborers receive \$5.15 per hour. Taking into consideration the number of hours spent waiting to be assigned to work (often between 1.5 and 3 hours), the real value per hour of work is reduced to less than about four dollars per hour. This low figure does not reflect transportation and food and equipment fees, which are often deducted from day laborers' wages.

To address these problems, this Act requires day laborer wages that are equal to those paid to permanent employees who are performing substantially equivalent work, with consideration given to seniority, experience, skills and qualifications. Also, it will help ensure that workers are being properly trained before performing hazardous tasks. My bill would also ban fees and wage deductions for health and safety equipment and for transportation between the place of hire and the work site. Further, it requires itemized statements showing deductions made from day laborers' wages. It will also outlaw the unscrupulous practice of charging workers a fee for cashing paychecks. Some companies reap millions of dollars from this deceitful practice. Finally, it mandates that when a day laborer is hurt on the job, the employer who has requested the services of the day laborer provide for coverage of health care costs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this pro-labor legislation that will help ensure that people who work hard and pay taxes have the same employment protections as people in other jobs.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO GRANT CITIZENSHIP TO SOLDIERS
OF OPERATION IRAQI
FREEDOM

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call to the attention of my colleagues a bill that would extend automatic citizenship to those immigrant soldiers who have served our country during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

I introduce this bill in honor of soldiers like Sgt. Riayan Tejada of Washington Heights, who laid down their lives so that all of the people of the United States, regardless of immigration status, could continue to enjoy the freedoms that our Constitution lays out. To uphold and protect a Constitution that this august

body continues to perfect through legislation and debate.

The Riayan Tejada Memorial Act of 2003 goes beyond current congressional efforts by granting citizenship to all servicemembers that request naturalization and have served in a combat zone designated as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. It ensures that not only spouses and unmarried children, but also parents of soldiers killed as a result of service in the U.S. military, can apply for citizenship or legalization of status beyond the death of that servicemember. It allows undocumented spouses, dependents and parents of servicemembers to stay in the country while they are legalizing their status. Finally, this bill honors our current and fallen soldiers for their service by prioritizing the naturalization applications of servicemembers and their families.

No one in this country who works hard and abides by the just laws of this country should have to die to receive the citizenship that they crave and deserve. For men and women who decide to don the uniform of the armed forces, their actions on the battlefield should be enough to prove their allegiance and dedication to this land and our families.

HONORING LUCILLE COUGHLIN

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today in recognition of a truly amazing woman, Lucille Coughlin. Last year, Lucille was named the top usher at Wrigley Field, home of the World Famous Chicago Cubs. While we are all extremely proud of Lucille for becoming the Cubs' "top usher," we are even more impressed that she achieved this at 88 years young.

A true Chicago Northsider, Lucille is a graduate of Lakeview High School—one of Chicago's finest public schools. She was married at St. Andrew Parish and lived 40 years of her life in the Sauganash neighborhood. Lucille raised three children, one of whom is our own Chaplain, Reverend Daniel Coughlin. Today, she lives near Lake Michigan and enjoys spending time with her five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Approximately 15 years ago, Lucille and her friends at St. Andrew began looking for ways to stay involved in their community. After exploring a few options, they decided on working at Wrigley. Among the original group of St. Andrew's parishioners who began ushering at Wrigley Field, only Lucille remains, working nearly every day. Because she is universally loved and recognized for her cheerful and friendly demeanor, I share the joy felt by so many thousands of Cubs fans who are thrilled she has been honored with the Usher of the Year award for the 2002 season.

During her years at Wrigley, Lucille has witnessed the addition of lights to the field, rejoiced when the Cubs won the National League East title in 1989, lamented the retirement of Cub legend Ryan Sandberg, mourned the loss of Harry Carey, and celebrated many of Sammy Sosa's 505 home runs. Knowing Lucille, she'll be around when the Cubs finally return to the World Series.

But if you ask Lucille why she still works, she will tell you that it's partly to stay active,

but mostly because of the great friends she has made. As an usher she has met some of the players, past and present, as well as many important public officials. But, as interesting as the VIPs are, it is the strong bonds she has made with co-workers and fans which keeps her coming back.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call Chicago home because of people like Lucille. When she retired, she chose to stay active and involved in the community she has called home for more than 88 years. This August, Lucille will turn 89, and I hope to see her at Wrigley for years to come. Lucille Coughlin is a great Chicagoan. I congratulate her on her successes, and I wish her a happy birthday and the best in whatever life sends her way.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2004

SPEECH OF

HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2800) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to bring attention to a very important issue for my state. My intent is to demonstrate to the government of Mexico that they must start working with us to provide great health care services for its citizens.

As you know, the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) requires hospital emergency rooms to treat all patients who seek care, regardless of immigration status.

The cost of providing free medical care to illegal immigrants is a devastating burden particularly to hospitals in counties along Arizona's southern border. While this problem affects our national health care system, it has resulted in a health care crisis in states such as Arizona.

Many Arizona hospitals face serious financial difficulties. Some have cut back services and state residents are forced to stand in longer lines to see fewer doctors.

Last year, the U.S.-Mexico Border Counties Coalition released a report that should alarm and concern all of us. It found that health care facilities in 28 border counties lost nearly \$200 million in one year in costs for the emergency medical treatment of illegal aliens, \$31 million of which was lost in Arizona's border counties.

Because the federal government has failed to take financial responsibility for the costs associated with illegal immigration, much of the financial burden of emergency care for undocumented immigrants falls to state and local governments. I support efforts to ease that financial burden and I am proud to be a co-sponsor of my colleague Mr. KOLBE's bill—H.R. 819—that will assist border states, localities, and health care providers. In addition, I will be sending a letter soon to Medicare conferees in support of a Senate provision that

provides \$250 million a year for 4 years to reimburse state and local governments and local health care providers for emergency health services provided to undocumented aliens.

The Congressional Budget Office says helping border states deal with this problem will cost \$1.45 billion a year. The United States should not have to bear this burden alone. The Government of Mexico has an obligation to provide its citizens with greater health care services and help stem the tidal wave of illegal immigrants into this country. One way the Mexican government can be helpful is to provide matching funds for projects like the Nogales Trauma Center. It seems to me that the better job the Mexican government can do to provide medical care for its own people, the fewer Mexicans will be attracted to cross the border to obtain medical care. In Arizona and other border states the Mexican government needs to do more and I will work with you to urge them to take these matters seriously.

However, if the Mexican government is unwilling or unable to work with us over the next year, I fully intend to offer an amendment next year that would eliminate all aid provided to the government of Mexico in the Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill and redirect those funds to states, localities, and health care providers to help deal with the crushing burden of health care costs for illegal aliens.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2800) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate Congressman HAYWORTH's concern on the issue of medical care for undocumented aliens. He and I are both from Arizona. We know very well the concerns of our state.

Together, we are actively working to get the federal government to compensate state and local governments along the border for the costs resulting from illegal immigration or undocumented entries along the border. There is currently no federal or state policy to reimburse medical care providers for their treatment of illegal immigrants not in custody or who do not possess proof of residency in Arizona. During the past six years, Arizona has experienced a drastic surge in illegal immigration due to recent policy of sealing off Texas and California borders. Therefore, Arizona hospitals and ambulance service providers have had to shoulder an increasingly harsh economic burden.

If we fail to act quickly, our hospitals will go bankrupt leaving the citizens in many areas of Arizona without access to medical care.

Just this week, I introduced H.R. 2807, The Border Hospital Survival and Illegal Immigrant Care Act. This legislation aims to address the

shortcomings created by Immigration and Naturalization Service policy instructing the Border Patrol to not apprehend illegal immigrants injured in the process of crossing the border thereby avoiding financial responsibility.

It is a bipartisan effort being supported by several Republicans and Democrats across the border region, including Representatives REYES, FILNER, PASTOR, RENZI, and GRIJALVA.

I know the intent of Congressman HAYWORTH's floor amendment to the Foreign Operations appropriations bill is to get greater Mexican attention and resources on this issue. I think that is appropriate.

There is an innovative pilot project underway that may actually yield commitment on a larger scale from the Mexican government on these issues.

Just recently USAID contributed resources to establish a triage and stabilization unit at the General Hospital in Nogales, Sonora located in Mexico just across from Nogales, Arizona.

This unit would seek to take care of most emergency medical needs of Mexican citizens on the Mexican side of the border in Nogales, Sonora. I encouraged and supported this leadership by USAID and the U.S. government.

In the spirit of public private partnerships, its funding composition has several components:

\$350,000 from USAID/Mexico and a USAID Global Health agreement with EngenderHealth, a U.S. NGO,

Nearly \$200,000 of cost-sharing support from Arizona partner organizations, principally the USAID grantee, Tucson's University Medical Center Foundation,

2,000,000 pesos from Mexican Federal and State Government, and

1,000,000 pesos from local Mexican business association.

I recognize the goal of Congressman HAYWORTH and I appreciate his willingness to withdraw the floor amendment to the Foreign Operations appropriations bill.

As I continue to work on this issue, I would propose that he and I work together to bring greater focus to this important issue.

Cooperation in support of Mexico's economic and social development and its consolidation of democratic institutions and practices ranks high in the range of U.S. policy interests. This national interest of the U.S. mirrors what is in our intense local Arizona interest.

I plan to work with the distinguished Member of Arizona on this issue. In the near future, I hope you can consider co-sponsoring H.R. 2807, The Border Hospital Survival and Illegal Immigrant Care Act.

HONORING GEN. LESTER L. LYLES
ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Gen. Lester L. Lyles, United States Air Force, who will soon be retiring from the U.S. military after 35 years of distinguished service to our nation.

Gen. Lester L. Lyles is currently the Commanding General of the Air Force Material Command, headquartered at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in the 7th Congressional Dis-

trict. The command conducts research, development, test and evaluation, and provides acquisition management services and logistics support necessary to keep Air Force weapons systems combat-ready.

The general entered the Air Force in 1968 as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force ROTC program. He has served in various assignments, from the Headquarters of the U.S. Air Force, to the Air Force Systems Command (AFSC). The general became AFSC headquarters' Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Requirements in 1989, and Deputy Chief of Staff for Requirements in 1990.

From 1992 to 1996, he served consecutively as: Vice Commander and then Commander of the Ogden Air Logistics Center at Hill Air Force Base in Utah, and then commander of the Space and Missile Systems Center at Los Angeles Air Force Base in California.

The general became the Director of the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization in 1996, which is certainly one of the most politically charged offices in the Pentagon.

In May 1999, he was assigned as Vice Chief of Staff at Headquarters, U.S. Air Force. He assumed his current position in April 2000.

I have had the privilege to work with the General on many occasions, since we have the mutual goal of seeing the Air Force (and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base) maintain its role as the preeminent leader in aerospace and advanced technology research.

General Lyles has always understood what has needed to be done, and we have worked very well together to maintain a robust research atmosphere at Wright-Pat. In addition to being a great leader and administrator, General Lyles is also the only African-American four-star general in the Air Force.

This makes him an outstanding role model for the youth of today as an example of what can be accomplished through hard work and perseverance. In fact, in February of this year, General Lyles received the Black Engineer of the Year Award for lifetime achievement. This award is presented on behalf of the Council of Engineering Deans of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Lockheed Martin, Daimler Chrysler and U.S. Black Engineer & Information Technology Magazine.

As befitting a leader of his stature, General Lyles has an impressive academic background including: a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Howard University in Washington, D.C., and a Master of Science degree in mechanical and nuclear engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology Program at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces.

Through his advancement in military rank, he has also attended: the Defense Systems Management College, the Armed Forces Staff College, the National War College, and most recently he completed a National and International Security Management Course at Harvard University.

And, like any successful person, General Lyles is supported by a strong family relationship with his wife of 33 years, Mina, and their four children.

During my tenure in Congress, it has been my honor to work with several consecutive commanding generals of the Air Force Material Command. Each one has been professional, dedicated and a credit to the caliber of general officers in the U.S. Air Force. However, General Lyles has greatly impressed not