

penalty of up to \$15,000 per prohibited referral plus twice the amount billed for the referred service. In cases where there was an arrangement or scheme to refer patients to facilities owned by the physician, penalties could be as high as \$100,000 and twice the amount billed for referred services. Also, the physician and specialty hospital would be denied participation in the Medicare program.

Mr. Speaker, we must close the loophole in the Medicare physician self-referral laws and halt this trend that threatens the sustainability of our local community hospitals. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support this important legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for the three votes on March 31, 2003. I was attending a rally for the safe return of Sgt. James Riley of Pennsauken, NJ, a mechanic in the Army's 507th Maintenance Company who was among five soldiers captured in southern Iraq on March 23.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 1166 and H. Con. Res. 58, and I would have voted against H.R. 1463.

CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF BETHEL AME CHURCH

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church of Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania during its 125th anniversary celebration. Bethel AME is the oldest black church on the original Main Line, a suburb of Philadelphia.

Local minister John Hooper began Bethel AME in his home on Conestoga Road in 1878. He was joined by Mr. George Barrick, who continued the mission after Hooper died in 1880.

During the 1880s, Bethel AME petitioned the Philadelphia AME Conference for a pastor. The first permanent pastor, Reverend J.B. Hill, came to the congregation in 1888.

Although the Church now had a full-time pastor, it lacked a fixed place of worship. Too poor to purchase land for a church, congregants moved from place to place, worshipping wherever they could. Eventually Mr. Barrick and Mr. Samuel Curtis purchased a lot on Merion Avenue in Bryn Mawr. Residents of Bryn Mawr, both white and African-American, raised four thousand dollars to construct the church, which was finished in 1889. A parsonage and parish house were added later. They have since been converted to a fellowship hall for use by the entire Church community.

Currently under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Isiah H. Woods, Bethel AME Church is an important part of the Main Line community. The founding and development of the Church illus-

trate for us all what can be accomplished when people work together for a higher purpose. I encourage my colleagues to join me in saluting Bethel AME on reaching this milestone.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on March 31, 2003, I was unable to vote on H.R. 1463 (rollcall vote 92), H. Con. Res. 58 (rollcall 93), and H.R. 1166 (rollcall vote 94). Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all three measures.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND APPRECIATION FOR THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES PARTICIPATING IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 2003

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, as America moves forward with resolve to disarm Saddam Hussein, I rise in support of President Bush for his leadership and to honor our U.S. troops and their families for their dedication and sacrifice.

The time has come when the United States must again lead the world against those who threaten the freedom and stability of the free world. As our troops labor in military encampments at home and abroad, let us labor in prayer on their behalf and on behalf of all freedom loving people around the world.

After twelve years of Iraqi deception and non-compliance, an international coalition of over thirty countries is engaging in a military campaign to forcibly disarm Saddam Hussein. The Iraqi dictator has been given every possible opportunity to cooperate, to reveal his weapons of mass destruction programs, and to provide relief to the Iraqi people. He has failed to take advantage of multiple offers for a peaceful resolution. We do not enter into this campaign cheerfully, but with a somber resolve.

Our goal of liberating the Iraqi people from a tyrannical dictator will not be accomplished without the steely resolve and contributions of all Americans. Whether you are a soldier on the front line or a 'soldier' in America's economy, each person can contribute to our objective of achieving total disarmament and establishing peace.

This resolution expresses the unequivocal support of the President as Commander-in-Chief for his firm leadership and decisive action, the members of the United States Armed Forces serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom for their patriotism and bravery, and the families of the United States military personnel serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Together, with our allies around the globe and our Armed Forces overseas, we will stay focused on our mission and never waver from our objective—total disarmament, the end of Saddam Hussein, free-

dom for the Iraqi people, and peace in the region.

TRIBUTE TO SPC. GREG SANDERS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and honor that I pay tribute to an outstanding American, a true patriot, and a hero to his country, Spc. Greg Sanders. Spc. Sanders was killed in action on Monday, March 24, 2003 while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom for the 3rd Infantry Division of the United States Army. He bravely sacrificed his life to ensure the safety of his fellow soldiers, the Iraqi people, and the very idea of freedom throughout the world. He will be remembered at a candlelight vigil in his hometown of Hobart, Indiana on Wednesday, April 2, 2003.

Greg Sanders was a native of Hobart and graduated from Hobart High School in May 2001, where he thrived both as a student and as an athlete. An honor roll student and member of the Hobart High School track team, Greg was also named co-captain of his high school cross country team, which advanced to the regional finals in each of his last two seasons. Greg's outstanding motivational skills and unmatched charisma helped mold him into a natural leader. His work ethic propelled him to great accomplishments, both academically and athletically. It was this same work ethic, coupled with his dedication to the United States, which led Greg to commit to the United States Army during his junior year at Hobart High School.

Mr. Speaker, after completing his high school career, Greg was sent to Fort Knox, Kentucky for a grueling basic training. Although the physical and mental demands were extremely difficult, Greg remained undeterred in his lifelong desire to serve in the military. The son of a Naval veteran, Greg understood the hardships of military life and accepted them with the courage and fortitude befitting a soldier dedicated to the defense of his country. After completing basic training, Greg moved with his wife, Ruthann, to Fort Stewart, Georgia, where she later gave birth to their daughter, Gwendolyn. It was from here that Greg Sanders's journey to Iraq began.

Spc. Sanders deployed for Kuwait on January 23, 2003 as part of the 3rd Battalion of the 69th Armored Regiment. His duty was to load the 120 mm cannon on the M-1 Abrams tank as the armored caravan stormed through southern Iraq, a duty he carried out bravely and successfully until a sniper prematurely took his life. Greg dreamed of dedicating his life to the military, and he honored that unit on March 24, 2003 by sacrificing himself to preserve the values he treasured.

Although it was his lifelong dream to serve his nation as a career soldier, nothing was more important to Greg Sanders than his family. He is survived by his wife and daughter, his mother, Leslie, and his three siblings, Dean, Clare, and Lauryn, as well as a nation and a community who will never forget the sacrifice that he made to protect our freedom. His father, Rich Sanders, was a Navy veteran who died of a heart attack at the young age

of 37, and Greg looked to him for guidance and advice while contemplating a career in the military. Greg remained close to his family until his death, and he will never be forgotten by those he left behind.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the memory of Spc. Greg Sanders, and in sending our heartfelt condolences to his family. Greg is a hero, not only to his family and friends, but also to Northwest Indiana and to the United States of America. He fought bravely for the ideals of freedom, truth, and liberty, and as our nation mourns his loss, let us honor his life and his dedication to the service of his country.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH MYERS FOR
ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph Michael Myers, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joseph has been very active with his troop, participating in such scout activities as the H. Roe Bartle Summer Camp for 8 years, H. Roe Bartle Summer Camp Staff Member, Seabase High Adventure and Snaws. Over the 13 years he has been involved in scouting, Joseph has earned 30 merit badges. Additionally, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Librarian, Historian, Instructor and Quartermaster. Joseph also has been honored for his numerous scouting achievements with such awards as the Member of the Order of The Arrow, The Parvuli Dei Catholic Religious Award, the Ad Altare Dei Catholic Religious Medal, and the Tom-Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say Award.

For his Eagle Scout project, Joseph imbedded water bars and spread gravel over a section of trail at the Parkville Nature Sanctuary in Parkville, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joseph Michael Myers for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 92, 93, and 94 I missed the votes due to a delay in my airplane flight. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all.

REINTRODUCTION OF SAMPLING
LEGISLATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce legislation that will ensure that future Censuses truly reflect the demograph makeup of this nation. This bill would clarify Section 195 of Title 13 U.S.C. to allow the most accurate numbers to be used for apportionment and all other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CRACK-
DOWN ON DEADBEAT GUN DEAL-
ERS ACT

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by 22 of my colleagues in introducing the "Crackdown on Deadbeat Gun Dealers Act" to hold licensed gun dealers accountable when they knowingly sell guns illegally.

Last year's tragic Washington, D.C., area sniper shootings provide a dramatic illustration of what many consider a lack of regulatory authority over the nation's estimated 104,000 licensed firearms dealers, which are overseen by just 600 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) inspectors who must also oversee breweries and tobacco plants among their other responsibilities.

Federal agents, who searched Bull's Eye Shooter Supply of Tacoma, Washington, last December, indicated in a court affidavit that 78 firearms listed in the store's inventory were missing and could not be traced through required sales records and other documents. Among the missing weapons was the rifle allegedly used by the two D.C. sniper suspects, John Allen Muhammad and John Lee Malvo. During the past few years, many weapons had simply vanished from the shop without an adequate paper trail—some of them possibly bound for people barred from owning firearms.

Unfortunately, the Bull's Eye case is not an isolated one. Statistics provided by the ATF in 1998 show that over 50 percent of the firearms used in crimes nationwide were traced to just 1.2 percent of the nation's gun dealers. By conducting crime gun traces, the ATF can analyze why such a large number of firearms from this small proportion of dealers are used illegally and develop investigative strategies to address this problem.

Currently, the ATF may inspect a licensed dealer's inventory and records without a warrant to ensure record-keeping compliance. The accuracy of a dealer's inventory is critical to the ATF's ability to trace crime guns. However, since 1986, criminal penalties for most dealer recordkeeping violations have been reduced from felonies to misdemeanors. In addition, current law restricts ATF to one compliance inspection of licensed dealers every 12 months. With the exception of violations committed by dealers in transferring firearms to prohibited individuals after national instant criminal background checks, the current law also generally limits ATF's administrative ac-

tions against dealers to revocation of the license.

The Crackdown on Deadbeat Gun Dealers Act will increase compliance and keep guns out of the hands of criminals by increasing the permitted number of annual compliance inspections by federal law enforcement inspectors of licensed firearms dealers; raising the maximum criminal penalty for dealers who knowingly violate the law by committing serious record-keeping offenses that can hinder tracing guns used in crimes; and authorizing \$320 million in grants for 5 years to hire 500 additional ATF inspectors.

Now more than ever, Americans are demanding protection and security, and some are purchasing guns in an effort to protect themselves and their families. But we must remember that others with more sinister motives can just as easily do the same. Real protection means providing authorities with the strongest possible mechanisms to prevent unlawful purchases.

I urge my colleagues to join me and the 22 original co-sponsors of this bill in holding licensed gun dealers accountable when they knowingly sell guns illegally. Please co-sponsor this responsible law enforcement measure, and help keep guns out of the hands of criminals.

HONORING ROBERT WILLIAM
SAUNDERS, SR.

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Robert William Saunders, Sr. Last week, Bob lost his life to injuries from an automobile accident that occurred last month, and Florida lost a fearless champion for equal rights.

Bob was best known for his tireless efforts as field director of Florida's National Association for the Advancement of Colored People from 1952 to 1966. Bob took over after his predecessor, Harry T. Moore and Moore's wife, Harriette, were assassinated in a Christmas night bombing of their home—a crime which remains unsolved.

Undaunted, Bob gave Florida's NAACP his all, traveling throughout the state to organize local chapters and battling discrimination at every level. Bob helped organize bus boycotts, sit-ins, voter registration drives and protests, including the 1963 March on Tallahassee, staged just five months prior to the famous March on Washington. He fought for affirmative action and school integration and fought against police brutality and segregation at public beaches and housing.

Bob went on to serve for a decade as the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity's chief of civil rights for the Southeast, and to work as director of Hillsborough County's Office of Equal Opportunity. His unflinching and selfless dedication to the pursuit of equal rights, despite public rebuke and personal threats, earned Bob enormous respect throughout Florida, as well as an honorary doctorate in public service from the University of Tampa.

On behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Bob's family. His groundbreaking efforts will not be forgotten.