

combines my own bill to provide money for Magnet hospitals Accreditation and another bill I offered to retain and attract nurses. Magnet hospitals enjoy low turnover and top-notch work conditions. Nurses at magnet hospitals consistently report greater job satisfaction than other nurses, and patients also give these types of hospitals high ratings. Attracting more nurses to move into positions at magnet hospitals will both lower the nursing shortage and help the profession remain competitive with other health care fields.

Although last year's legislation is a good start, more needs to be done to find ways to recruit more young people to the nursing profession. That is why earlier this year, I introduced H.R. 934, the Teacher's and Nurses Support Act of 2003. This bill provides loan forgiveness for teachers and nurses around the country. I want to encourage every student that nursing, in my view, is the best profession in the world. This legislation would help eliminate financial barriers to pursuing a nursing career.

In closing, I urge my fellow nurses to tell friends, children and neighbors about all the positive aspects of being a nurse. We need to excite our students in high school and junior high about our career choice and how nurses are always there to help the sick get better and to make sure the healthy stay that way.

HONORING THE SELECTION OF MS.
ERIN BEAULIEU FOR THE PRU-
DENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY
AWARD

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Ms. Erin Beaulieu upon her selection as one of two recipients of the Virginia 2003 Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

Erin, a Red Cross member and eighth-grader at Whitman Middle School in Alexandria, Virginia, started a Red Cross student chapter at her school and encouraged her fellow students to become involved! The chapter now boasts more than 30 members dedicated to helping the American Red Cross respond. For her efforts, she was selected from more than 24,000 nominees to receive a Spirit of Community Award.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, created by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, constitute America's largest youth recognition program based exclusively on volunteer service. The award was created with the intent to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example.

Erin should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud Erin for her initiative in seeking to make her community a better place to live, and for the positive impact she has had on the lives of others. She has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. Her actions show that

young Americans can—and do—play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding Erin for all that she has done.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JESSE BROWN

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join my colleague, the gentleman from Chicago, DANNY DAVIS in recognizing a true American hero, the Honorable Jesse Brown. The late Jesse Brown served as the Secretary "for" Veterans Affairs from 1993–1997. Jesse insisted that people refer to him as the Secretary "for" Veterans Affairs in order to emphasize his role as a champion of veterans. It is for this role that he will always be remembered.

Jesse spent his teens and early adulthood in Chicago where his mother, Mrs. Lucille Brown, continues to reside today. It is fitting that we re-name the West Side division of VA Chicago in his name.

Jesse was a personal friend of mine, but thousands of veterans in this Nation also recognized him as a friend. He oversaw a period of growth and improvement in the VA health care system that changed many Americans' view of the health care system by modernizing and greatly improving the quality of its services and allowing new access to millions.

Jesse never took "no" for an answer. When it came to demanding the best for our veterans, he would even take on the President. I remember the legendary stories of his trips to the White House to challenge the President's budgets for veterans. He always wanted more and he almost always won. Even at his memorial service, which I, along with former-President Clinton, attended this past summer, long-time friends and associates spoke of a man to whom it was impossible to say no.

Jesse's path was probably laid for him when he was wounded in combat while on patrol in Danang. The injury would leave him partially paralyzed for the rest of his life. After a long period of recuperation, Secretary Brown began a career in veterans' advocacy that spanned the remainder of his life. The Secretary worked his way up the Disabled American Veterans structure culminating his 25-year career by serving as executive director from 1989–1993.

As Secretary "for" Veterans Affairs, Jesse fought to make good on his promise of "putting veterans first." He made it his priority to meet veterans whose needs had long gone unrecognized—he made homelessness "the fifth mission" of the VA. He added counseling for women who experienced sexual trauma during military service. He worked tirelessly to expand benefits for veterans who were former prisoners-of-war and for those exposed to Agent Orange, radiation and mustard gas. He began an aggressive research agenda into the causes and effective treatments for veterans of the first Persian Gulf War.

Even toward the end of his life, Secretary Brown continued his advocacy for veterans as

the first executive director of the Disabled Veterans Life Memorial Foundation. Sadly, Jesse left us all too soon after a struggle with Lou Gehrig's disease this past summer. He is survived by his wife Sylvia, along with two children Carmen Stewart and Scott Brown and many other relatives and friends.

As a fellow Marine, Jesse truly knew the meaning of "leave no man behind." He lived his life according to that creed. He has earned the honor we are bestowing upon him today.

IMPROVING EDUCATION RESULTS
FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABIL-
ITIES ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2003

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, last week the House considered H.R. 1350, Improving Education Results for Children With Disabilities Act of 2003. I would like to add the following list of organizations opposed to H.R. 1350 for inclusion in the RECORD:

National PTA, Children's Defense Fund, National Association of Education of Young Children, American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Association on Mental Retardation, American Association of University Affiliated Programs, American Council of the Blind, American Counseling Association, American Music Therapy Association, American Occupational Therapy Association, American Physical Therapy Association, American Society for Deaf Children.

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, The Arc of the United States, Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs, Association of University Centers on Disabilities, Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Council for Exceptional Children, Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates, Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund, Disability Service Providers of America, Easter Seals, Epilepsy Foundation, Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health.

Higher Education Consortium for Special Education, Learning Disabilities Association of America, National Alliance of Pupil Service Organizations, National Association of Developmental Disabilities Councils, National Association of Mental Illness, National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems, National Association of School Psychologists, National Association of Social Workers, National Center for Learning Disabilities, National Coalition on Deaf-Blindness, National Coalition of Parent Centers, National Committee of Parents Organized to Protect IDEA.

National Consortium for Physical Education and Recreation for Individuals with Disabilities, National Down Syndrome Congress, National Down Syndrome Society, National Mental Health Association, Research Institute for Independent Living, School Social Work Association of America, TASH, Teacher Education Division/Council for Exceptional Children, The International Dyslexia Association, Tourette Syndrome Association, UCP.

EDUCATIONAL INNOVATOR—SR.
JOEL READ RETIRES AS PRESI-
DENT OF ALVERNO COLLEGE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 22, 2003 the Milwaukee community will honor Sr. Joel Read for 35 years of distinctive and dedicated service to Alverno College.

A member of the School Sisters of St. Francis and President of Alverno College since 1968, under her leadership, Sr. Joel and Alverno College have gained national and international recognition for their innovation in education. Sr. Joel's commitment and hard work has led to the introduction of Alverno's ability-based curriculum, which has placed Alverno at the forefront of education as a liberal arts college.

Her efforts in this area have brought her high honors from other educators. Sr. Joel has been described by her colleagues as someone who has emerged as one of the country's most remarkable leaders in higher education. She is legendary in our community for her passionate spirit and steadfast approach to getting results.

So distinguished is her reputation that educational associations across the nation seek Sr. Joel's assistance. She has received numerous local and national awards and recognitions for her dedicated support to higher education, the advancement of women and the development of our communities. Awards and recognitions include: Anne Roe Award, Pope John XXIII Award, Morris T. Keeton Award, Sacajawea Award, Lifetime Leadership Award, Distinguished Service Award, and Outstanding Woman of Achievement—just to name a few.

Sr. Joel is actively involved in volunteering her time and talents to various organizations and causes. She is a founder of the Milwaukee Achiever Program, has served with the Goals for Milwaukee 2000 Task Force, the United Way of Greater Milwaukee, and the Mayor's Beautification Committee and was appointed by the Governor to the Wisconsin National and Community Service Board. Currently, she serves as a board member in several organizations, including the Greater Milwaukee Committee, Junior Achievement of Wisconsin, and the YMCA.

I congratulate Sr. Joel for 35 years of visionary leadership and devotion to Alverno College and to women in higher education. Her significant contributions have broken educational ground and have placed Alverno College on the map as a national and international leader in education. May God continue to bless her in her retirement, and as she takes on new challenges within the community.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1894, TO PROHIBIT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DISCRIMINATORY PRECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, the earned income tax credit is an important program to assist low-income families and move them from welfare to work.

The IRS is proposing a precertification program for EITC unlike that applied to any other tax benefit program, or for that matter any other program. As proposed, the IRS's precertification program will have the consequence of excluding persons who clearly qualify for EITC benefits. This is because, as proposed, many of the precertification requirements simply cannot be met. As one example, marriage certificates are required in certain instances. In several states, however, the waiting period to receive this documentation may be years. It is for this reason that I am co-sponsoring H.R. 1894, introduced by Representative CHARLES RANGEL.

Because of my strong support for EITC, I also support both simplification of the EITC documentation process as well as fair and appropriate review of the program's eligibility and enforcement processes. This will guarantee that those persons who are eligible to receive the credit receive the benefits to which they are entitled, and that those persons who endeavor to take unfair advantage of the EITC are prevented from doing so. Fraud certainly cannot and will not be tolerated, but we also should not punish people who fairly qualify for this credit by making them provide documentation that they cannot acquire. I look forward to working with my colleagues and the Internal Revenue Service in ensuring that these dual aims are accomplished.

**PUBLIC HOUSING DRUG
ELIMINATION**

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I offer the Public Housing Drug Elimination Act of 2003 on behalf of myself and 71 original co-sponsors.

We have been fighting to reauthorize this HUD program as well as appropriate money to the program for a long time. As a matter of fact, on July 10, 2002, I offered an amendment to the Housing Affordability Act for America, authorizing the Public Housing Drug Elimination Program (PHDEP) through 2005.

Despite the drug elimination program's widespread success and the bipartisan support, President Bush eliminated funding for the program in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget and has again zeroed out funding for the program in his Fiscal Year 2004 (FY04) budget. We must understand that programs like drug elimination ease the strain on public housing's capital improvement and maintenance funds. Pro-

grams like drug elimination protect the elderly, who compose one-third of all residents who live in public housing, working families and children. I believe there is more we can do to ensure decent living conditions for all Americans, and I'm sure all of my colleagues would agree.

The Public Housing Drug Elimination Program funded employment of security personnel, reimbursement of local law enforcement agencies for additional security, drug education and prevention; physical improvements designed to enhance security, and youth programs. In my own district, the Oakland Housing Authority funneled their money into five different areas. They created three Boys & Girls club programs on-site; the local Museum of Art which ran an after-school performing and visual arts program—serving forty at risk youth daily; the City of Oakland's Discover Center operated a program with PHDEP dollars called, "Science in the Hood," which taught hands-on general science, physics, and chemistry; and the Asian Community Mental Health center provided health, educational, and employment assistance and cultural services for Asian residents, filling a gap in community service.

The Public Housing Drug Elimination is a real tool to combat real bad actors from public housing, all while protecting youth and tenants. This program, unlike the one-strike policy (upheld in *U.S. HUD v. Rucker*), puts the power to change the community in the hands of the community, it's leadership, and public housing officials. Hand and hand, the drug elimination program and a modified eviction policy could help end the criminal activity that takes place in public housing.

Mr. Speaker, one-third of all residents who live in public housing are elderly. If we fail to at least authorize this program we will in fact allow thousands of elderly people to live in fear and potentially unsafe environments. We are the richest country in the world. Housing is a basic human right. We can do more to ensure decent living conditions for all Americans and we can do more to make public housing safe.

Today I offer the Public Housing Drug Elimination Act of 2003 to authorize this program and allow appropriators to commit such sums as they deem necessary. I ask that my colleagues join me in support of this important program and this bill.

**RECOGNIZING LUIS TIANT FOR HIS
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GAME
OF BASEBALL AND FOR HIS CON-
TINUED INVOLVEMENT IN THE
BOSTON LITTLE LEAGUE COM-
MUNITY**

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Red Sox pitching legend Luis Tiant for the contributions he has made to the game of baseball and for his continued involvement in the Boston Little League community. On Saturday, May 3, 2003, the Luis Tiant Field at Peters Park in the South End of Boston was dedicated to this sports icon in recognition of all that he has contributed to the game.