

at risk for diabetes or that they may already have the disease. Even more shocking is the disproportionate manner in which diabetes affects children and communities of color. Our bipartisan legislation is intended to see that as many citizens as possible receive the education, treatment, and care they need at the earliest and most treatable stages of the disease.

The Diabetes Prevention and Treatment Act will apply proven methods of prevention and control throughout the country. Its success will produce major improvements in health, and major reductions in diabetes-related costs.

The bill authorizes quality improvement grants for diabetes. It supports the widespread application of best practices in diabetes prevention and control. It also authorizes further education initiatives and outreach strategies, including public awareness campaigns, public service announcements, and community partnership workshops.

In addition, the bill strengthens the ability of the Centers for Disease Control to support State programs, with the goal of establishing a comprehensive, fully funded program in every State. It strengthens the ability of the National Institutes of Health to enhance the role of federally funded centers for diabetes research and training. It authorizes additional initiatives to identify the genetic basis of diabetes and its complications. It expands research on diabetes in historically underserved and minority populations.

The bill will help to reduce diabetes in children and in communities of color, where it disproportionately affects American Indians, Latinos, and African Americans. In the American Indian and Alaskan Native communities, type 2 diabetes has rates 8 to 10 times higher than among whites. African American adults have a 60 percent higher rate, and Latinos have a 90 percent higher rate of type 2 diabetes than whites.

People of color also have unacceptably high death rates from diabetes. African Americans and Latinos die twice as often from the disease as whites, and American Indians and Alaskan Natives die three to four times as often. The bill provides the CDC and NIH with new resources to discover why this epidemic is disproportionately affecting communities of color.

The epidemic level of type 2 diabetes among children is also extremely disturbing. Ten years ago type 2 diabetes was unheard of in the pediatric community. Today, apparently because of poor nutrition and more sedentary behavior, children are developing a disease that 10 years ago usually only affected adults 45 years of age or older. The bill's provisions on children expand and intensify research on this crisis, and add long-term epidemiological surveillance for type 1 and type 2 diabetes and the establishment of regional clinical research centers.

Saving lives will save costs too. Providing better testing, prevention, and

treatment for diabetes will save billions of dollars a year in the years ahead. By 2008, we could save \$5.7 billion on costs of end-stage renal disease alone.

Many leaders from the diabetes community have worked closely with us on this legislation this year. I commend them for their leadership and I look forward to early action by Congress to approve this bipartisan legislation.

DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, this November marks 10 years since our Nation imposed the discriminatory law known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" on the lesbian, gay, and bisexual patriots of our Nation. During the past decade, almost 10,000 men and women have been fired from our Armed Forces simply because of their sexual orientation.

Many of those men and women have sought the assistance and advocacy of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, SLDN, the Nation's only legal aid and advocacy organization for those harmed by the military's gay ban. In August, SLDN's executive director, C. Dixon Osburn, commemorated 10 years of service to the organization he founded and the brave Americans it serves. Mr. Osburn cofounded the organization in 1993 with former Army CPT Michelle Benecke.

Under Mr. Osburn's leadership, SLDN has provided legal services to 5,000 service members and obtained 35 changes in military policy and practice related to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue, Don't Harass." Also under his leadership, SLDN's policy efforts have included obtaining new Pentagon and Service policies on anti-gay harassment, an Executive order on hate crimes in the military and an Executive order providing, for the first time, a limited psychotherapist privilege in the armed forces.

Due in large part to Mr. Osburn's work, The Boston Globe has said "[SLDN] knows far more than the Pentagon about what reality is like in the military and helps individuals caught in the mess." Deb Price of The Detroit News also commended their work, nothing that: "SLDN has repeatedly forced the Pentagon not just to take notice, but to change." And the Nation reports, "It's amazing how much this small legal-aid group has accomplished already."

Mr. Osburn received the 1994 GAYLAW Distinguished National Service Award, and the 1998 Kevin Larkin Award for Public Service from the Massachusetts Lesbian and Gay Bar Association. In 1998, Mr. Osburn was named by the Advocate magazine as one of the Top 10 National Gay Leaders. In 2000, under Mr. Osburn's leadership, SLDN received "Organization of the Year" awards from both the District of Columbia Bar Association Young Lawyers Division and the International Lesbian & Gay Museum of History. I am honored today to recognize his decade of

leadership at the helm of SLDN and his unparalleled advocacy for our men and women in uniform.

RETIREMENT OF ROD L. BETIT

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay special tribute to a wonderful public servant, Rod L. Betit, who is retiring after a long and distinguished career in public health policy and administration for the State of Utah. His leadership and integrity leave the Utah Department of Health with a long legacy of initiative and excellence.

In 1992, Utah Gov. Norman Bangerter appointed Rod as the Executive Director of the Utah Department of Health making him the longest serving Health Director in the country. This appointment put him in charge of more than 1,300 employees with an annual budget in excess of \$1 billion. While serving in this position, Rod established himself early on as an innovator, and someone who was not afraid to try new things. He developed a priority management approach for the Department which significantly improved the Department's ability to make progress in areas such as childhood immunization rates, tobacco control, American Indian health care system issues, youth suicide prevention, and health information systems development.

In addition, Rod has designed and launched a number of innovative health access programs by obtaining special federally-approved waivers. Some of his greatest achievements have included the nation's only comprehensive public mental health system, a managed care program that focuses on moving nursing home residents back into the community; and more recently an initiative that uses a unique 1115 waiver under Medicaid that establishes a Primary Care Program that brings basic health coverage to 25,000 working Utahns whose employers do not offer health care coverage. More than 11,000 adults had enrolled in the first six months of this program. United States Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson had this to say about the new program: "I am approving this waiver over the objections of my staff because I see great potential for this approach to help reduce the number of working uninsured throughout the country once its success has been demonstrated by Utah."

Rod's leadership abilities and vision prompted Utah Gov. Michael Leavitt to call on him for additional service in 1995 when he asked him to assume the role of the Executive Director of the Utah Department of Human Services while retaining his position with the Department of Health. This is the only time in Utah history that one person has been appointed to oversee two key agencies in state government. The Department of Human Services was facing some very difficult challenges at that time, and Rod, in true capable and courageous fashion, was able to step in

and make a difference. He solved some key problems and was able to return to running only the Department of Health 2 years later.

Prior to assuming the role of Executive Director in 1992, Rod served as the Utah Director of the Division of Health Care Financing. In this position he was responsible for all facets of the state Medicaid program and the Utah Medical Assistance Program. Rod's experience directing the Alaska Medical Assistance Program for 12 years before coming to Utah had served him well, and established him as a capable leader.

Rod has not only made a name for himself in Utah he is widely respected throughout the Nation. He is frequently called upon to represent the States' perspectives before Federal officials. He is a recognized expert on Medicaid and health care financing, and is widely viewed as an expert on health care reform.

Rod is returning to his native Alaska to become the President and CEO of the Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association. He will also be able to pursue his love of King salmon fishing, and to be near his family. He will be deeply missed throughout Utah for his expertise, commitment and leadership. I want to commend Rod for the exemplary service he has given to the Utah Department of Health, Utah State Government, and to our nation. He is not only a truly great public servant, he is a loving husband and father to his wife, Ellen, and their three children. I wish Rod the very best life has to offer and pray for his continued good health, success, and happiness.

A TRIBUTE TO TENNIS GREAT ALTHEA GIBSON

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, some 40 years ago while investigating a case near the intersection of US 15 and State Highway 26, up a dirt road, there were located four shacks. One was the home of Ms. Elizabeth Gibson. I asked her if she had ever heard of Althea Gibson. She pointed to the shack and said she was born right there in that shack. That was the first time I had ever heard that Althea Gibson was a native South Carolinian.

Of course, she had to leave South Carolina to become a success. The good news now is that you can stay in the State and succeed. Over the weekend we lost Althea Gibson. We lost this championship athlete at the age of 76. USA TODAY has an interesting article of her success, and I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

TENNIS TRAILBLAZER ALTHEA GIBSON DEAD
AT 76

(By Doug Smith)

She took the snap from center, faded back like a seasoned quarterback and then threw a perfect spiral on target to a receiver 35 yards down field. Althea Gibson was 58 at the time, testing her arm in a friendly game of touch football in Washington, D.C.

"I'm a little rusty, but I can still chuck it," she said.

In her younger days, Gibson, who was 76 when she died Sunday of respiratory failure at an East Orange, N.J., hospital, played tennis with the same unexpected boldness and talent.

A trailblazer for African-Americans as well as women, Gibson fulfilled her dreams of becoming a great tennis champion despite the racial barriers of that era. She won 11 major titles, including the 1956 French Open, Wimbledon (1957-58) and U.S. Open (1957-58) and was the first African-American to play in Grand Slam events.

She was named Associated Press and Babe Zaharias Woman Athlete of the Year in 1957-58 and was honored with a New York ticker-tape parade in July 1957 after becoming the first African-American to win Wimbledon.

Gibson won her first tournament at 15, becoming the New York State black girls' singles tennis champion. Boxer Sugar Ray Robinson helped pay for her travels.

"We all know people who influence us and, if we are lucky, we meet a few in our lives who improve us," tennis legend Billie Jean King said. "Althea Gibson improved my life and the lives of countless others. She was the first to break so many barriers and from the first time I saw her play, when I was 13 years old, she became, and remained, one of my true heroines."

"It was truly an inspiration for me to watch her overcome adversity," King added. "Althea did a lot for people in tennis, but she did even more for people in general. In a tribute, Arthur Ashe once said, 'Politically, Althea's acceptance was crucial to my own. It made it easier for other blacks to follow.'"

Zina Garrison, a 1990 Wimbledon finalist, Lori McNeil, Leslie Allen and Serena and Venus Williams say they were inspired by Gibson's success. Gibson had lived as a recluse in her East Orange home since suffering a stroke in 1994. Besides her longtime friend Fran Gray, Garrison and former New York mayor David Dinkins were among only a few who spoke to or visited Gibson over the last few years.

Garrison said she made a surprise visit to Gibson in her home last month after the U.S. Open.

"I just decided that I wanted to see her," Garrison said. "She looked at me and said 'What are you doing here?' I said, 'I came to see you. Looks like you're doing OK. You're still feisty.' She started laughing and said, 'I might look good, but I don't feel that great. I'm just tired, tired of being here.'"

"I think of all that she had done in golf, as a singer, her tennis, the music that she played, and I realize that she broke barriers for women, not just for African-Americans."

Born on a cotton farm in Silver, S.C., on Aug. 25, 1927, she moved with her family to New York when she was 3. She grew up on the rugged streets of Harlem and made the transition from farm girl to city girl without missing a step. She excelled in baseball, basketball, football and was unbeatable in paddle tennis and stickball champion in the Police Athletic League.

When not involved in tennis or team athletics, Althea spent most of her teenage years in pool halls and bowling alleys. In 1946, Gibson was rescued from a possible life of poverty by two black physicians—Hubert Eaton and Robert Walter Johnson—when she showed potential as a tennis player.

With her mother's approval, the physicians devised a plan that allowed Gibson to live with Eaton in Wilmington, N.C., during the school year and spend the summers training on Johnson's backyard court in Lynchburg, Va. She quickly became the premier African-American woman player in the country.

She took up golf in 1960 and became the first black woman on the LPGA Tour two years later, but she never won a tournament and earned little money.

Recently, Gibson, Fran Gray and others had collaborated on a book, "Born to Win: The Althea Gibson Story," to be published next year.

"I called her champ and still do," Dinkins said. "We say everybody stands on somebody else's shoulders, and we're talking about people like Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman. A whole lot of people—tennis players and many who are not tennis players—stand on Althea's shoulders, because when any black achieves in any discipline, it helps everybody else. It's unfortunate that she never realized and reaped the rewards that she was due."

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT J. "BOBBY" PFEIFFER

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, one of Hawaii's most widely respected business and community leaders has passed away. Robert J. "Bobby" Pfeiffer was, as his friends described him, "an old sea dog" who rose from deck hand aboard tugs and steamers to become Chief Executive of one of Hawaii's most important companies, Alexander & Baldwin, Inc., and of its subsidiary, Matson Navigation Co., Inc.

He was a man of vision who was always in touch with the concerns of all of the people of Hawaii. He often said, "What is good for the community is good for business."

I would like to honor the late Mr. Pfeiffer by asking to have the following biography of Mr. Pfeiffer printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

ROBERT J. "BOBBY" PFEIFFER, MARCH 7, 1920–
SEPTEMBER 26, 2003

CHAIRMAN EMERITUS, ALEXANDER & BALDWIN, INC.; CHAIRMAN EMERITUS, MATSON NAVIGATION COMPANY, INC.

"Old sailors never die, they just drop the anchor," Robert J. "Bobby" Pfeiffer said over a decade ago as he was contemplating retirement. Pfeiffer, one of Hawaii's most renowned sailors and captains of industry, dropped the anchor on September 26, 2003, at age 83, at his home in Orinda, Calif., after a lengthy illness.

During his 12½ years at the helm of Alexander & Baldwin, Inc., Bobby Pfeiffer became practically synonymous with business leadership in Hawaii. He charted a course of modernization and diversification, and led A&B through one of its strongest periods of growth and prosperity. At the same time he earned a reputation for leadership—personal as well as corporate—in support of charitable and other community causes.

Mr. Pfeiffer's maritime and business career spanned 58 years, nearly 38 of them with A&B and its ocean transportation subsidiary, Matson Navigation Company, Inc. During that nearly four-decade period, he served as A&B's chief executive longer than all but two of his predecessors, and he piloted Matson for 19 years, longer than any of that company's chief executives since its founder, Captain William Matson.

For his significant contributions to the mid- and late-20th-century modernization of American shipping, Bobby Pfeiffer was recognized with the transportation and maritime industries' highest honors.