

COMMEMORATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF SHAKER SQUARE

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2004

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of one of Cleveland's most cherished landmarks, Shaker Square.

The Square was built in 1927–29 by Otis and Mantis Van Sweringen, the brothers who developed Shaker Heights, Ohio. The oldest shopping district in Ohio and the second oldest in the Nation, Shaker Square was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. What you see at Shaker Square today is a happy combination of nearly 75 years of preservation, enhanced by a multi-million dollar renovation in 2000–2001.

The Square has been viewed as the gateway to the Eastern suburbs. In addition to the development of Shaker Square was the creation of a rapid transit (light rail) connection to downtown Cleveland via the Terminal Tower, which is now a part of The Tower City Center.

Shaker Square is home to many unique shops and restaurants and is home to the Historic Colonial Theater, which was built in 1937.

But Shaker Square is more than a shopping area. It is the heart of a lively, diverse neighborhood. There are more than 4,000 units of high-quality rental and condominium apartments near the square—the largest concentration of multi family housing in Cleveland—plus townhouses and many private homes.

Therefore, it is with great pride and pleasure that I congratulate Shaker Square and the community-at-large as we celebrate the 75th Anniversary of this historic landmark in the city of Cleveland and the 11th Congressional District of Ohio.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DENTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Denton Housing Authority to commend them for receiving four National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) Merit Awards this year.

The Denton Housing Authority has been active in the North Texas community for years, working hard to provide quality public and affordable housing. This year at the 2004 NAHRO awards ceremony, the Denton Housing Authority was recognized for their achievements. The Denton Housing Authority raised the bar once again by winning more merit awards than in 2003.

The Denton Housing Authority was recognized for four of their programs. The Class Apprenticeship Program, created by the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, provides career training programs, on-the-job training, and associated technical instruction to program participants and members of the community. The Denton County Health Department Dental Clinic teams with the County Health Department to make available low-cost and free

services to area residents who cannot afford insurance. Also, Project READY teams with the University of North Texas to encourage social and academic success and reinforce positive behavior of youth living in the Phoenix housing development. Finally, Resident Outreach Clean Up Project in cooperation with the University of North Texas and Keep Denton Beautiful improved the community surroundings and eliminated trash and graffiti. I believe these programs will better enhance our community by investing in our citizens and forming a safer environment for our neighborhoods.

Once again, I would like to express my sincere congratulations to the Denton Housing Authority for their innovation and hard work in providing community outreach services to the city of Denton and surrounding communities.

COMMENDING THE PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR ITS DESIGNATION AS ONE OF THE TOP THREE SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Palm Beach County School District for achieving a rating of "Best" in the report released by the America Prepared Campaign on Preparedness in America's Schools. In the twenty school districts rated on their emergency preparedness regarding terrorism, Palm Beach County scored in third place.

The America Prepared Campaign is a non-profit, non-partisan initiative that uses the expertise of national leaders on a range of matters to give citizens the tools and information they need to prepare themselves and their families for a large-scale disaster, particularly a terrorism event.

In their report entitled "Preparedness in America's Schools: A Comprehensive Look at Terrorism Preparedness in America's Twenty Largest School Districts," the foundation examined how well these school districts are prepared to protect their students in the event of a terrorist attack or other major emergency.

With 193 schools and more than 160,000 students, the School District of Palm Beach County was lauded for its "long history of robust school security and safety efforts." School District Police Department Chief James Kelly was singled out for his focus on implementing effective and efficient security methods, such as identification badges for school personnel, including students, a GPS tracking system for county school buses, and the introduction of violence-intervention programs.

This report also cited the School District's outstanding use of communication, employing the use of the existing local notification system rather than a brand-new, expensive phone tree. This method ensures that parents and local officials have up-to-date emergency information.

While the School District has every right to feel proud of their accomplishment, officials know that there is still plenty of work to be done. The school district has, for example, ap-

plied for a grant to print an emergency preparedness pamphlet in four languages to be distributed to every home. Not only would families with children in public school receive this pamphlet, but so would families with students in private and charter schools.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Palm Beach County School District for its efforts to prepare students, faculty, parents, and community members for emergency situations.

RECOGNIZING ALEXANDER COBLE KREEGER FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alexander Coble Kreeger of Kearney, Missouri, 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 397, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the 10 years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Den Chief, Patrol Leader, Bugler, and Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. Alex attended H. Roe Bartle Camp for 6 years, becoming a member of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. He was elected to the Order of the Arrow in 2000, Ordeal in 2000, and Brotherhood in 2001.

For his Eagle Scout project, Alex cleaned and repaired the Lion's Club garage in Kearney.

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

CORRECTING ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 1417

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. Con. Res. 145, a bill for correcting the enrollment of H.R. 1417, the "Copyright Royalty and Distribution Reform Act." I commend Messrs. Smith, Mr. Berman, and Ranking Member Conyers, for their respective hard work in crafting this legislation.

The underlying bill would replace the existing administrative procedures within the U.S. Copyright Office that determine copyright royalty rates and the distribution of related royalties under various compulsory licenses.

Under the Copyright Royalty Tribunal Reform Act of 1993, the Librarian of Congress has the authority to convene Copyright Arbitration Royalty Panels, or "CARPS," to resolve failed private negotiations between parties that fail to establish rates or to distribute royalties regarding the commercial use of movies, music and other specified copyrighted works.

For years, the CARP system has been criticized for rendering unpredictable and inconsistent decisions, employing arbitrators lacking the expertise to render sound decisions, and for being unnecessarily expensive.

H.R. 1417 is a reasonable bill to cure these concerns and is based on the input and recommendations of government and industry experts.

H.R. 1417 addresses the problem of lack of arbitrator expertise by appointing a "Copyright Judge" to preside over the new process. The Copyright Judge will be appointed by the Librarian of Congress, have full adjudicatory responsibility, and have the authority to make rulings on both the law and rates. The Copyright Judge will select two professional staff members with knowledge of economics, business, and finance. These staff qualifications will also improve the quality of the decisions rendered.

H.R. 1417 redefines the role of the Copyright Office. Presently, acts as an intake agency answering initial case intake questions, as well as an appellate court for CARP decisions by advising the Librarian on cases. This dual role forces the Copyright Office to often decline to answer threshold intake questions for fear of having to review its own decisions at the appellate stage. Under H.R. 1417, the Copyright Office's appellate responsibilities will be removed and the Office will only act in an administrative and advisory capacity by counseling the Copyright Judge on substantive issues as requested.

For small claimants who participate in the CARP process, the substantial expenses are practically preclusive. H.R. 1417 contains provisions to make the process more accessible. First, claimants must declare an "amount in controversy" during a distribution determination phase of the proceedings. If the dollar figure is \$500 or less, the claimant will be assigned to the small claims process which is an less expensive, "all-paper" claim resolution method.

Another provision of H.R. 1417, that benefits both large and small claimants requires the filing of a "notice of intent to participate" in either a rate-making or distribution proceeding. This not requirement will discourage entities from disrupting the process by participating at the last minute. If a party failure to file in a timely manner or fails to pay the required fee, they will be an exclusion of either written or oral participation in that determination. Those exempted as small claimants would not be affected by this requirement.

H.R. 1417 contains several procedural changes to make the claim resolution process more convenient for the parties. H.R. 1417 expands the duration of the discovery phase from 45 to 60 days to give parties more time to file their claims. Additionally, the 180-day time-frame for completing the CARP hearing process is amended to require parties complete the hearing phase of a rate-making or distribution determination in 6 months. The Copyright Judge, at their discretion, could extend this period up to a maximum of 6 additional months.

Mr. Speaker, after the corrections made by S. Con. Res. 145, H.R. 1417 will make changes to the CARP system that will benefit the parties as well as the agents of the copyright adjudication system. I support H. Con. Res. 145 and H.R. 1417, and I urge my colleagues to join me.

STEVE LOHR'S NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE: "IS KAISER THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN HEALTH CARE?"

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an excellent article recently published in the New York Times. For years I have talked about the benefits of real managed care, not the managed cost model Republicans in Congress and the Bush Administration blindly push at the expense of patients.

In his article, Steve Lohr presents the facts about Kaiser Permanente and its non-profit staff model health maintenance organization. For thousands of people in my district and millions across the country Kaiser provides quality, cost effective care, while still finding the resources necessary to be a leader in the development of health information technology. At the same time, Kaiser keeps costs down by effectively managing chronic conditions and educating healthy members to avoid chronic conditions down the road.

Tax credits and personal responsibility will do little or nothing to ameliorate the crisis of 45 million uninsured Americans. The Kaiser model is the most reasonable approach to creating a single-payer universal health care system. Obstacles to reaching the goal of universal coverage are many, but this article presents the hard fact that Kaiser is the future of American health care.

It is with pleasure that I submit the attached article, "Is Kaiser the Future of American Health Care?" for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The article originally appeared in the October 31, 2004 edition of The New York Times.

[From the New York Times, Oct. 31, 2004]

IS KAISER THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN HEALTH CARE?

(By Steve Lohr)

OAKLAND, CA—After 18 years in private practice, Dr. Victor Silvestre was exhausted from his lonely battle, day after day, with a health care system that seemed to be working against him. A general practitioner, Dr. Silvestre found it increasingly difficult to get his patients appointments with specialists, who tended to focus on lucrative procedures instead of routine care. Paperwork and haggling with insurance companies, he said, took more and more time. "There just had to be a better way," he recalled.

For Dr. Silvestre, the better way was not across the border in Canada, or in some affluent nearby suburb, but in his own backyard, in Oakland. Two years ago, he joined Kaiser Permanente, the huge health maintenance organization based here. "So many of the solutions, the ingredients of a more rational system for delivering health care, were there," he said.

It may seem unlikely, given Kaiser's past image as a ham-handed H.M.O., but plenty of others are reaching the same conclusion. High-level visitors from across the political spectrum—the Bush administration and National Health Service of Britain, for example—are coming to California these days to look at Kaiser as an institution that is actually doing some of the things needed to improve health care.

Obviously, there is no single model for re-vamping the nation's costly, disjointed

health care system, and Kaiser certainly has its share of problems. But according to economists and medical experts, Kaiser is a leader in the drive both to increase the quality of care and to spend health dollars more wisely, using technology and incentives tailored to those goals. "Quality health care in America will never be cheap, but Kaiser probably does it better than anywhere else," said Uwe E. Reinhardt, an economist at Princeton who specializes in health issues.

HEALTH care systems in most industrialized countries are in crises of one form or another. But the American system is characterized by both feast and famine: it leads the world in delivering high-tech medical miracles but leaves 45 million people uninsured. The United States spends more on health care than any other country—\$6,167 a person a year—yet it is a laggard among wealthy nations under basic health measures like life expectancy. In a nutshell, America's health care system, according to many experts, is a nonsystem. "It's like the worst market system you could devise, just a mess," said Neelam Sekhri, a health policy specialist at the World Health Organization in Geneva.

In this political season, the health care debate has been mostly about who will pay the bill. President Bush talks about tax credits and health savings accounts that are intended to give people more control over their care but would also mean that they would pay more out of their own pockets. Senator John Kerry wants the government to pay more, and he has proposed a major, and costly, program to cover the uninsured.

The favored solution of many liberals—and of no small number of health care experts—is a single-payer system of health insurance, covering the entire population and underwritten by the government. For the foreseeable future, that is considered politically off-limits, which was the message Washington absorbed from the abandoned effort to fashion a national health program in the Clinton administration.

How to finance health care is only one side of the problem. The other is how to deliver the care more intelligently, and that is where the Kaiser experience holds lessons. Given the demands of an aging population and steady advances in medical technology, national health spending will continue to climb. Yet by all accounts, there is plenty of waste—estimates range up to 30 percent or more of total spending—from unnecessary clinical tests, hospital stays and prescriptions, and the bedeviling sea of paper used to handle bills, claims and patient records.

"We're not going to spend less, but figuring out how to get the most value out of our health spending is going to be the big issue of the future," said David Cutler, a health care economist at Harvard.

But Kaiser as a model? Wasn't Kaiser, an H.M.O., part of the "managed care" movement that faltered in the 1990's amid protests from doctors and patients? In fact, Kaiser, with its origins in the 1930's and 1940's, when the industrialist Henry J. Kaiser provided health care for his construction and shipyard workers, has always been a hybrid. The managed care concept of the 1990's was about having an outside bean counter, usually an insurance company, looking over the shoulder of the doctor—managing costs instead of managing care.

Kaiser has a different setup with different incentives. It emphasizes preventive care and managing chronic diseases like heart disease and diabetes to keep people healthier. And that saves money because healthier people require less costly care like hospitalization.

The country's largest private-sector provider of health care, Kaiser employs more than 11,000 physicians and 135,000 other workers, owns 30 hospitals and hundreds of clinics