

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE "CHILDREN'S EXPRESS LANE
TO HEALTH COVERAGE ACT OF
2005"

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced the "Children's Express Lane to Health Coverage Act of 2005."

Far too many children in this Nation are not covered by even the most basic health insurance. In my home State of California, 10 percent of the approximately 10 million children do not have health insurance. Close to 9 million children nationwide are in similar situations.

This does not have to be the case. Of the almost 9 million children who are uninsured, an estimated 6.9 million are eligible for public health insurance coverage. What is keeping them from obtaining coverage?

In many cases, children who are eligible for subsidized health care do not receive it because of the cumbersome and confusing process families must go through to obtain health insurance for their children.

The bill I introduce today, the Children's Express Lane to Health Coverage Act, a companion bill to the one introduced by my colleagues in the Senate: Mr. LUGAR, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. COCHRAN, will streamline the process by which children are enrolled in both Medicaid and State Children's Health Insurance Programs or SCHIP.

This legislation will allow States to streamline enrollment in Medicaid and SCHIP. It would allow a child's enrollment in WIC and similar assistance programs to serve as a gateway to health coverage, thus avoiding a separate lengthy and confusing application process.

The need for health care coverage for these children is urgent. Without health insurance, children do not see doctors with the regularity that is essential for their well-being and the well-being of their peers they come into contact with at school, at daycare and on the playground. Many children without health insurance end up in the emergency room with illnesses that could easily be treated in a doctor's office. Emergency room visits are extremely costly, both for parents and for hospitals. The cost of health care for everyone increases as a result.

For the good of our Nation's children and for the good of our Nation's communities, I ask my colleagues today to join me in support of this vital piece of legislation.

HONORING L.C. GREENE, A SOUTH
CAROLINA LEADER

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to recognize the tremendous achievements of L.C. Greene, a life-long resident of South Carolina who has demonstrated a tradition of excellence and a commitment exceptional leadership throughout his life. From his distinguished twenty-three year career in the U.S. Air Force to his thirty years of service in municipal and county government, L.C. Greene has exemplified the qualities that are critical for leaders of good government.

After retiring from the military, L.C. Greene brought his leadership skills to the classroom. He later became the Emergency Medical Service Director for Aiken County, South Carolina. Because of his leadership skills and ability to handle crisis situations, L.C. Greene was then promoted to County Administrator, and served a total of eight years. During this time, Mr. Greene was awarded the Distinguished Service Citation, the highest Federal award to a civilian, by the U.S. Department of Defense, for his outstanding leadership and cooperation in the aftermath of a B-52 Bomber crash in Aiken County. He was also recognized by the U.S. Army at Ft. Gordon for the role he played in the recovery operation of this tragic accident.

After serving as a director for Lockheed Aircraft Support Systems for two years, Mr. Greene became the City Manager for the Town of Winnsboro, South Carolina, serving in that capacity for eight years. During his service to the citizens of Winnsboro, Mr. Greene played a critical role in the recruitment of the Mack Truck Assembly Plant, which invested \$168 million and created over 2,000 jobs, and the Rite Aid Southern Distribution Center, which invested \$80 million and created over 325 jobs. Mr. Greene was also recognized by the U.S. Senate for his innovative approach to public-private partnerships and was invited to Washington, DC for a briefing. Mr. Greene's leadership skills in the area of natural disaster were also called upon in Winnsboro as he led the emergency preparedness and clean-up efforts after the town was struck by three different tornadoes.

For the past fourteen years, L.C. Greene has been the Town Administrator for the Town of Lexington, which has become the fastest growing municipality in South Carolina. During this time, he has been instrumental in working with other state and local governments to form regional partnerships and cooperation, especially in the area of water and wastewater infrastructure. Mr. Greene is recognized throughout the state as having expertise in all facets of local government and is often called

upon for assistance and advice from other municipal and county leaders as well as from state officials and past governors. He selflessly shares his wealth of information and wisdom in an effort to bring better government to all communities throughout the state.

Mr. Greene has consistently led with a management style that focuses on people and the improvement of the quality of life for the citizens of his community. Whether it is in obtaining grant funding for blighted and impoverished areas, recruiting industries that will build investment and create jobs, responding to the devastating effects that a tornado had on the Lexington community, sharing scarce water supplies with sister cities in need, sending utility personnel to other States devastated by hurricanes or building a special-needs park for handicapped children, Mr. Greene's commitment to finding better procedures and more cost-effective measures to achieve the highest level of services to the citizens at the lowest possible tax cost is an inspiration to all who know him. He exemplifies the true spirit of leadership through the development of friendship, team building, and cooperation for the greater good.

L.C. Greene is also a devoted family man, having been married to his wife Colleen for 48 years. They are the proud parents of five daughters and one son, fifteen grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. Mr. Greene has also served on various boards such as the South Carolina Retirement Advisory Board, the Central Midlands Environmental Protection Agency Committee, the South Carolina Local Government Assurance Group, Lexington County Municipal Association, and the Lexington Economic Development Association Board. Additional awards and recognitions include recognition by: the South Carolina Senate; Low-Country Regional Emergency Medical Services; the Strategic Air Command; and the Midlands Human Sources Development Commission for service to Low-Income Home Energy Program. Mr. Greene was also named as the Jaycees "Boss of the Year" and was named Who's Who in Executives and Professionals in 1996-97.

As L.C. Greene retires as Town Administrator of Lexington, it is only fitting that his selfless, lifelong commitment and service to his community, his State and his country be recognized by awarding the Order of the Palmetto. Truly, cities and counties are vital to the health of our State because they provide essential elements of our civilization. And, in order to have healthy, growing communities, there must be stalwart leaders of good government. L.C. Greene has been such a leader. When Mr. Greene retires on June 30th, he should take pride in knowing that our community and our State is better because of his exemplary service.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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