

THE HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO OF CONNECTICUT HONORS LOUISE AMATO ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2005

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating Louise Amato as she celebrates her retirement after twenty-six dedicated years at Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES). For me, Louise is more than just a dear friend—she is my cousin. I am honored to have this opportunity to pay tribute to all of the good work she has done throughout her professional career.

Education is the cornerstone of success and the most critical link between our young people and their futures. Throughout our country, we look to our towns and cities to provide these invaluable skills to our children. ACES is one of six educational service centers that were formed under Connecticut State Statute in 1970. A result of recognizing that school districts must work together to meet the ever changing needs of local education systems, these centers provide an environment where quality programs can be planned, developed and implemented—giving our young people access to the best educational opportunities possible.

The real success behind ACES can be attributed to the unparalleled dedication and commitment of its administration and its staff. I have often spoke of our nation's need for talented, creative educators ready to help our children learn and grow. In her twenty-six years with ACES, Louise has been just that kind of teacher. She has spent her career working with special needs students to develop the life skills they would need to live and work in the community. She went even further, helping graduating seniors to develop plans for their future after high school, helping others with job placement, bringing students to visit job and community sites, and even taking some to visit colleges.

Louise was always looking for different ways to get her students excited about their futures. She has taken her students to New York City and one of my fondest memories of my congressional career was when she brought a group of seniors to Washington, DC, where I had the opportunity to meet with them. Her unique approach to helping these young people develop important skills made a real difference in their lives because she opened the doors of opportunity to them. Louise gave a very special gift to all her students—the promise of a meaningful and productive future.

Through her generosity and kindness, Louise has touched the lives of all who know her—though none know more so than her students. In recognition of her many years of outstanding service, I am proud to stand today to join her husband, Gabe; her children, Cheryl, Laurie, and Mark; family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating Louise Amato on the occasion of her retirement. Our thanks and appreciation will never match the gifts of friendship and inspiration she has given to all of those who have had the opportunity to know her.

TRIBUTE TO JOE TILGHMAN, RETIRING REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE KANSAS CITY OFFICE OF THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2005

Mr. Moore of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, Joe Tilghman has served the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in a senior field leadership position in a career spanning nearly the entire period of enactment of the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Mr. Tilghman is retiring on January 3, 2005, after 37 years of distinguished federal service and I welcome this opportunity to publicly pay tribute to this outstanding public servant.

Joe Tilghman assumed leadership of CMS' Kansas City Regional Office in 1994 following nearly fifteen years as the Deputy Regional Administrator. As Regional Administrator, he has been responsible for the federal administration of the Medicare and Medicaid programs to approximately 4 million beneficiaries residing in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. Prior to joining CMS (then the Health Care Financing Administration) in 1978 he worked in Social and Rehabilitative Services and the Bureau of Health Insurance.

During Mr. Tilghman's tenure as Regional Administrator he led many CMS efforts that impacted the lives of Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries nationwide. Of particular note, Mr. Tilghman:

Lead CMS' Flu 2000 Campaign from 1993 to 1999. He brought together a coalition including CMS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Coalition for Adult Immunization. This coalition was devoted to reaching the Healthy People 2000 adult immunization goals. During his leadership, influenza immunization of persons age 65 and over increased from 50.4% to 65.5% and met the Healthy People 2000 goal of 60% three years early in 1997.

Lead CMS' Screening Mammography Campaign from 1999 to the present, exceeding Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) targets in each of these years.

Established the CMS field National Medicare Education Program (NMEP) operation, providing the inspiration and garnering financial and human resources support for all regional offices to develop creative education and outreach programs. As a result of his work, effective community coalitions and partnerships among the aging network are in place in all states.

Enforced the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) insurance provisions nationally in all states that are not in substantial compliance.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to publicly commend this selfless and dedicated public servant on the occasion of his retirement. Joe Tilghman embodies the work done so well by millions of American public servants on behalf of our nation on a daily basis, with little hope of public appreciation or appropriate tangible reward. On behalf of the people of Kansas' Third District, I thank Joe Tilghman for his lifetime of public service and wish him well on his well-earned retirement.

EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHIES TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF WILLIAM SMITH CLOUD

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2005

Mr. Green of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my deepest sympathies to the family and friends of William Smith Cloud, a constituent and trusted personal friend who passed away January 16, 2005, at the age of 82.

A Galena Park resident since the age of 8, Bill was a positive force in his community for all of his long life. He was a football player for the Fighting Yellow Jackets before his graduation from Galena Park High School in 1941. He then served his country in World War II in the Pacific theater of operations, as a United States Air Force B-29 Bomber turret gunner.

After the war he went to work as a pipefitter, eventually receiving his 50-year commemorative watch from Local 211. He also contributed to the Galena Park community by serving as Co-Captain for the Galena Park Volunteer Fire Department, and as a Commander of the Galena Park American Legion.

As important as these contributions are, none is more important than Bill's devotion to his family, as his wife of 58 years, Robbie Craddock Cloud, and his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren can attest.

His loss will be felt greatly by all of Galena Park, and all those who knew him, and I ask that you remember the Cloud family in your thoughts and prayers.

RECOGNIZING MARTY RALSTON ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2005

Mr. Gordon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a valued staff member—Marty Ralston—who has announced her retirement and will be leaving us at the end of this month. She is one of the longest serving Democratic staff members in the history of the Committee on Science, and will be greatly missed.

Marty came to the committee in the 95th Congress and for more than 27 years, has carried out her duties during the tenure of seven different chairmen and eight different ranking minority members. Marty initially served on the staff of the Science, Research, and Technology subcommittee, but eventually moved to the staff of Natural Resources and Environment subcommittee and then to that of the full committee.

In addition to her current work as the staff assistant of the Environment, Technology, and Standards Subcommittee, Marty organizes the Committee's legislative hearings. It is commonly acknowledged that Marty has staffed more hearings than anyone else in the history of the Committee on Science. One former subcommittee staff director described her as "marvelous" and Marty is widely known for her warmth, kindness, and unflagging dedication to both the Committee and its staff. Others describe her as a "life-saver" whose attention to

detail and proven experience has helped countless fellow staffers go the extra mile in their work each day.

Marty has persevered in the face of personal trials and family challenges. Her dedication to our team is eclipsed only by her dedication to her son Sean, daughter-in-law Julie, and the pending arrival of her first grandchild.

Marty is an important part of the Committee's institutional memory whose welcoming demeanor and ready answers are tools our staff has come to expect and rely on. The Science Committee's Members and staff wish Marty well as she moves on to new endeavors, a relaxing retirement and life as a devoted grandmother. Thank you, Marty, for your many years of dedicated and loyal service.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING FOOD AND
DRUG ADMINISTRATION KANSAS
CITY DISTRICT DIRECTOR BILL
SEDGWICK

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, Charles W. (Bill) Sedgwick is retiring after

more than 40 years of distinguished service with the Food and Drug Administration. His career began on June 7, 1964, as an investigator for the Kansas City District. From beginning to end, Bill sharpened his skills through work performed in a variety of locations; Kansas City, Omaha, Washington, D.C., Dallas, and Cincinnati. His dream was fulfilled, with the help of countless mentors and friends, as he began service as the Kansas City District Director in June of 2000.

Highlights of his work include cases involved with filth and quack drugs; instruction presented on law and evidence to the Southwest and Southeast Regions; work on criminal cases involving illegal distribution of steroids and other enhancement drugs; work with other federal agents and the U.S. Attorney to prepare search warrants and collect undercover evidence for presentation to a grand jury; development of significant case law which permitted not just the FDA, but other federal agencies, to charge defendants with defrauding the government; a commissioner's commendation for critical work performed with state partners to improve the FDA's relationship, working particularly in Texas and New Mexico; criminal investigative work in Cincinnati that resulted in the indictment, prosecution and prison terms of seven defendants in-

involved in a major criminal enterprise which produced over 200 million pounds of phony orange juice; receipt of the FDA Award of Merit (2002) and the ORA Quality of Worklife Award (2003) for his leadership in Kansas City.

After his retirement, Bill intends to spend time with his family, doing anything his wife, Suzanne, tells him to do. He plans to oversee church construction projects, remodel old houses and travel with his wife. I am pleased to have this opportunity to publicly commend this selfless and dedicated public servant on the occasion of his retirement. Bill Sedgwick embodies the work done so well by millions of American public servants on behalf of our nation on a daily basis, with little hope of public appreciation or appropriate tangible reward. On behalf of the people of Kansas' Third District, I thank Bill Sedgwick for his lifetime of public service and wish him well on his well-earned retirement.