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TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER STEVEN
STEVENSON

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in appreciation of Commander Steven Stevenson's 21 year of service with the Civil Engineer Corps of the United States Navy. I also wish to congratulate Commander Stevenson on his upcoming retirement.

Commander Stevenson was raised in Western Colorado and graduated from Olathe High School in 1981.

Beginning in his youth, Commander Stevenson chose to put family and country before self, attending the Naval Academy at Annapolis. Upon his graduation in 1985, Commander Stevenson was assigned to Amphibious Construction Battalion One, where he served with distinction as Assistant Bravo Company Commander and Assistant Operations Officer.

From 1987 to 1990, Stevenson served as the commander of the Construction Battalion Unit 418 and was selected for the highly competitive US Navy Ocean Facilities Program. Stevenson, displaying his characteristic level of determination and intellect, succeeded in earning a Masters of Science in Ocean Engineering.

When the Navy needed a capable leader to establish a new Construction Battalion Unit during the 1990's, it turned to Commander Stevenson. And when the Navy needed a well educated officer to bring the Seabees into the information age, once again it turned to Commander Stevenson, who went on to modernize everything from Seabee equipment to training.

Commander Stevenson's scholarly and engineering excellence is only exceeded by his devotion to his country. Stevenson represents the very definition of the famous Seabee valor having earned two Meritorious Service Medals, three Navy Commendation Medals, a Navy Achievement Medal, and the Meritorious Unit Commendation over the course of his career.

Commander Stevenson's life of service exemplifies the Seabee motto "Constrimus, Batuimus"—"We build, We Fight". He spent his career building a better and safer future for our country, all the time ready to put his life on the line for that brighter tomorrow and the ideals he has held dear.

And so today I would like to both congratulate Commander Stevenson on his retirement, and personally thank him for his 21 years of devoted service to his country.

IN LASTING MEMORY OF DR. CARL
EDWARD HYMAN

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Dr. Carl Edward Hyman.

Born on June 29, 1924 in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, Dr. Hyman passed away on December 31, 2005 and I would like to recognize his life and achievements.

After graduating from Merrill High School in Pine Bluff, Dr. Hyman then attended Frisk University and Meharry Medical College in Tennessee. He then became a resident in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Hubbard Hospital in Nashville and completed post graduate studies at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. In 1959, Dr. Hyman was appointed Chief Resident of Provident Hospital in Chicago.

For almost half a century, Dr. Hyman was in a private Obstetrician/Gynecology practice in Pine Bluff, where he became the first residency trained African-American specialist in the State of Arkansas. Over the course of his lifetime, Dr. Hyman earned a reputation as a generous and selfless community leader in Jefferson County. Among numerous accomplishments, he was a Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the first African-American to serve on the Pine Bluff Civil Service Commission, a lifetime member of NAACP and Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, and a member of the Trustee Ministry at Kings Highway Missionary Baptist Church. Perhaps most notably, Dr. Hyman was appointed by Governor Bill Clinton to become the first African-American appointee to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, a board which he served for 28 years.

Dr. Hyman led an exemplary life both professionally and in unwavering service to his community and his state. While Dr. Hyman may no longer be with us, his spirit and legacy will live on forever in the lives he touched. My deepest sympathies and heartfelt condolences go out to his wife, Dr. Edith Hyman; his son, Dr. Carl Alta Hyman; and his extended family of brothers, sisters, nephews and grandchildren.

PATIENTS BEFORE PROFITS ACT
OF 2006

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation—the Patients Before Profits Act of 2006—that will right some of the many wrongs in the budget reconciliation bill passed by Congress last week and signed by the President today. This legislation, which is also being introduced today in the Senate by Senator CLINTON, will realign our priorities to protect the healthcare coverage of working families rather than the profiteering of HMOs and private insurance companies.

The Patients Before Profits Act eliminates Government overpayments to Medicare HMOs through removal of a "slush fund" provision and ensuring these HMOs are only paid what is appropriate for the consumers they serve. This bill would then use these savings to restore protections against excessive out-of-pocket costs for necessary medical visits, prescription drugs, and emergency room care. It will also restore the benefit protections that provide medically necessary treatments under Medicaid and ensure families have adequate benefit coverage, not bare-bone packages.

The Patients Before Profits Act is needed because of the recently passed so-called Deficit Reduction Act, which the Republicans designed and the President is signing into law today. In the dark of the night, the Republicans removed provisions that transferred \$32 billion in taxpayer overpayments to Medicare HMOs and insurance plans.

The Senate bill had cut \$36 billion in overpayments to the HMOs in Medicare. That included \$26 billion in savings by more accurately calculating their payments. But the negotiators rewrote the provision to save just \$4 billion, providing a \$22 billion windfall to the HMOs. The Senate bill also eliminated a \$10 billion slush fund designed to entice HMOs to participate in the prescription drug program. The Republican conferees dropped this provision, providing another \$10 billion gift to the HMOs for a total of \$32 billion.

This bill takes back the money given to Republican-favored companies and restores to our most vulnerable citizens the needed healthcare that was cut. According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, of the \$28 billion in savings from Medicaid over 10 years, about 75 percent of that amount is due to provisions that reduce the number of people who can afford to participate. It will increase the number of uninsured and under-insured by raising the copayments that people will have to pay to see their doctors, increasing premiums, cutting medically necessary treatments, and tightening access to long-term care.

By 2015, 4.5 million children will be affected by higher cost-sharing charges for healthcare services such as doctor visits. A total of 13 million people will face higher charges to access their healthcare services. Twenty million people will face higher charges to obtain needed prescription drugs. One-third of those individuals affected by the drug cost-sharing (6.6 million) will be children and half (10 million) will have incomes below the Federal poverty level (monthly incomes of less than \$1,380 for a family of three). All this because of a Republican unwillingness to take back overpayments to HMOs.

Congressional Budget Office analysis also concludes that the Republican legislation assumes that the number of uninsured will increase. Twenty percent of the savings from new premium charges under this law will derive from families who are no longer able to maintain their Medicaid coverage due to increased costs. Sixty percent of those who will lose coverage due to new premium charges will be children. Again, all of this because of a Republican unwillingness to take back overpayments to HMOs.

The Patients Before Profits Act of 2006 is a good start to right some of the wrongs that the Republican-led Congress and the President have inflicted on working families, individuals with disabilities, the elderly, pregnant women, and children. I urge my colleagues to join me in this fight.

A TRIBUTE TO DAVID LAWRENCE

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. David Lawrence of

CHADBOURN, NORTH CAROLINA, FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION AND YEARS OF SERVICE AS A TOWN COUNCILMAN AND MAYOR PRO TEMPORE. DAVID PASSED AWAY ON JANUARY 24, 2006, AFTER A LONG BATTLE WITH PROSTATE CANCER. DAVID'S TREMENDOUS LEADERSHIP, DEDICATION, AND ALTRUISM AS AN ELECTED OFFICIAL AND MEMBER OF THE CHADBOURN COMMUNITY WILL LIVE ON IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF GENERATIONS TO COME.

Born in Chadbourn, David entered first grade the year that the landmark case *Brown v. Board of Education* was decided. David went on to graduate from West Columbus High School in 1966. During high school, David enjoyed playing in the band and singing in the choir, but he was most well-known for being a star athlete of the basketball team. In fact, David was the first African-American to play in the N.C. East-West All-Star basketball game. Well-known coach Cotton Fitzsimmons recognized David's ability and spirit and recruited him to play basketball at the college level. David went on to become a freshman starter on the Moberly Junior College National Championship Team and was named the best defensive player on the 1970 Kansas State University Big 8 Championship team.

David showed his talent and perseverance off the court as well. He received his undergraduate and Master's degrees from Kansas State University. Later, David earned a second Master's degree from North Carolina Central University in educational leadership. In 1973, David became an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve and served in that capacity for 16 years. David was elected to the Town Council in 1995, and he was elected Mayor Pro Tempore just in the last year.

David utilized the skills he learned playing basketball and the knowledge he learned in school to become a very influential educational and sports leader in Southeastern North Carolina. David truly made a difference in the lives of his students. For 16 years, David worked as an educational administrator for Columbus County schools. His most recent position was as an Assistant Principal at Williams Township School. From 1970–1988, David coached basketball at Kansas State University, Jacksonville University, Pensacola Junior College, Tate High School, and Durham High School. In 1988, David's Durham High School team was the PAC6 Tournament Champs, and he was named the Durham City County Prep Coach of the Year.

Legendary UCLA Basketball Coach John Wooden once said, "Sports do not build character. They reveal it." This statement could not be more true in the case of David Lawrence. The manner in which David played basketball as a youth and coached basketball as an adult not only revealed his leadership, but also more importantly, his unselfish commitment to others and causes greater than himself.

Mr. Speaker, dedicated service to others combined with dynamic leadership has been the embodiment of David's life. May we all use his wisdom, selflessness, and integrity as a beacon of direction and a source of true enlightenment for many years to come. Indeed, may God bless to all of our memories the honored life and legacy of David Lawrence.

THE TAX CODE TERMINATION ACT

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Tax Code Termination Act".

This bi-partisan legislation, which I introduced with my colleague COLLIN PETERSON of Minnesota, will accomplish two goals. It will abolish the Internal Revenue Code by December 31, 2009, and call on Congress to approve a new Federal tax system by July of the same year.

The fact is our current tax system has spiraled out of control. Today's tax code is unfair, discourages against savings and investment, and is impossibly complex.

A few years ago, Money magazine asked 50 professional tax preparers to file a return for a fictional family. No one came up with the same tax total, nor did any of the preparers calculate what Money magazine thought was the correct Federal income tax. The results varied by thousands of dollars. At a time when Americans devote a total of 7 billion hours each year to comply with the tax code, we need tax simplification.

Whichever simple tax system is adopted, the key ingredients should be: a low rate for all Americans; tax relief for working people; protection of the rights of taxpayers and reduction in tax collection abuses; promotion of savings and investment; and encouragement of economic growth and job creation. Taxes may be unavoidable but they don't have to be unfair and overcomplicated.

While many questions remain about the best way to reform our tax system, I am certain that if Congress is forced to address the issue we can create a tax code that is simpler, fairer, and better for our economy than the one we are forced to comply with today. The problem is Congress won't act on such a contentious issue unless it is forced to do so. The Tax Code Termination Act will force Congress to finally debate and address fundamental tax reform.

Just like other programs that require reauthorization, the tax code must be reviewed to examine whether it is fulfilling its intended purpose and then Congress must make what changes are necessary.

There is a widespread consensus that the current system is broken, and keeping it is not in America's best interest. I urge each of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. LAWRENCE W. SCOTT

HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to memorialize the life of a distinguished American, Dr. Lawrence "Bill" W. Scott, who passed away on December 20, 2005.

Throughout his illustrious life, Dr. Scott could claim many "firsts." In 1944, he was the first black student body president of Foshay Middle School. In 1947, he graduated with

honors from Polytechnic High School, where he participated in track and field and also served as the first black student body president. In 1948, he attended the University of California at Berkeley and later became the student body "representative at large." After receiving his degree from Berkeley, in 1951, Dr. Scott was drafted into the U.S. Army and stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, where he served for two years during the Korean War. He eventually attained the rank of Captain.

After his discharge from the Army, Dr. Scott enrolled in the pre-med program at the University of California at Los Angeles. In 1957, the then new UCLA School of Medicine accepted Dr. Scott as its first African American medical student. Upon graduation, Dr. Scott interned at Harbor General Hospital, ultimately specializing in obstetrics and gynecology. He subsequently opened two women's clinics in Los Angeles.

At the age of 52 and after 14 years of medical practice, Dr. Scott returned to law school and received his J.D. from Southwestern University School of Law in 1980. After passing the bar, he initially thought he would pursue missionary work; however, he worked as a forensic attorney and represented victims in malpractice suits.

Dr. Scott's achievements, honors, and awards are numerous. He was the first African American resident at Queen of Angels Hospital in Los Angeles. At one time, he held the record for the most infants delivered at Cedars-Sinai Medical center. He also served on the Board of Governors of the UCLA Foundation in the mid-1980s.

His interest in people and his special affection for children was evident. He enjoyed sports and was an avid tennis player. He also loved music, from jazz to the classics. He will be remembered by many for his wonderful humor and his black book of jokes.

Dr. Scott is survived by his devoted wife of 8 years, Maria; his three children, Rebecca, Brian, and Onjale Scott; his sister, Darling Scott Herod; his brother, Paul Richard Scott; mother-in-law, Loretta Domer-Wilson; and other beloved family and friends.

Dr. Scott truly enjoyed this journey called life and lived it to its fullest.

IN CELEBRATION OF VIRGINIA DENTAL ASSOCIATION'S MISSION OF MERCY TO NEW ORLEANS

HON. ROBERT C. SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, the wealth and generosity of the American people is possibly the greatest story to come from the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Upon seeing their fellow citizens in need, Americans pledged millions of dollars to the Red Cross and other charitable organizations. Families hosted displaced evacuees, while others welcomed strangers into their homes, schools, and houses of worship. I would like to commend one group of volunteers who have put their specialized skills to use in bringing critical services back to New Orleans.

This past Sunday, forty dentists and forty support volunteers from the Commonwealth of Virginia, in conjunction with the Virginia Dental