

that pharmaceutical companies will either redirect those funds toward research and development of lifesaving drugs or reduce the prices of prescription drugs for seniors and all Americans.

The American Medical Student Association has endorsed the Prescription Drug Safety and Affordability Act. This group of future doctors—not yet beholden to the drug industry—recognizes the importance of this bill and the problems physician gifts cause in the doctor-patient relationship. I am pleased to submit their attached letter of support for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of the Prescription Drug Safety and Affordability Act. Prohibiting the drug industry from lavishing unnecessary gifts on physicians is a nonpartisan issue that should receive bipartisan support. If we can clean up Congress there is no reason we shouldn't clean up health care. It is time to stop using taxpayer dollars to fund marketing campaigns that put profits above patients.

AMERICAN MEDICAL STUDENT
ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION,
Reston, VA, February 1, 2006.

Hon. PETE STARK,
House of Representatives, Cannon House Office
Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE STARK: On behalf of the 60,000 physician-in-training members of the American Medical Student Association (AMSA), we would like to offer our strong support for the Prescription Drug Safety and Affordability Act. The impact of pharmaceutical marketing on the professional behavior of physicians is very concerning to the future physicians of America. AMSA has long advocated for physicians to protect their independence from the pharmaceutical industry.

We applaud the Prescription Drug Safety and Affordability Act as a way to reduce the financial incentives for promoting drugs. The pharmaceutical companies spent \$7.3 billion on detailing to doctors in 2004, more than twice what was spent in 1997. These gifts to physicians contribute to the high cost of medications for our patients. Taxpayers should not further subsidize this behavior through the deductibility of drug company promotions to physicians.

Gifts from the pharmaceutical industry have an eroding effect on the doctor-patient relationship. Numerous studies have documented how those gifts influence the prescribing behavior of physicians, often in ways that deviate from the recommended treatment guidelines. However, the most obvious evidence that gifts influence physicians in the fact that drug companies would not spend billions of dollars on pens, meals and honorarium if it didn't work.

Since 2002 AMSA has been entirely independent of funding from drug companies in our meetings and publications, and we have called for other physician groups to follow our lead. Last month the Journal of the American Medical Association published recommendations from leading academicians that academic medical centers—where physicians are trained—should be entirely free of pharmaceutical representatives, industry sponsored meals and free samples. We applaud the institutions of medical education for taking this step.

AMSA's PharmFree Campaign (www.amsa.org/prof/pharmfree.cfm) has been cited in major medical journals, making AMSA a leader in removing the pharmaceutical companies' influence in the practice of medicine. In 2005, AMSA launched the Counterdetailing Campaign where medical students teach physicians to use non-biased

sources of information about prescription drugs. Time magazine and USA Today have featured AMSA and our Counterdetailing Campaign. Through AMSA, medical students continue to lead the drive to protect the doctor-patient relationship from outside influences.

The Prescription Drug Safety and Affordability Act will remove the unhealthy influence of the drug industry from the practice of medicine. AMSA is proud to support your efforts and leadership in this issue. If we can help in any way, please contact Chris McCoy, Legislative Affairs Director at 703-620-6600 x 211.

Sincerely,

LEANA S. WEN,
National President.
CHRISTOPHER P. MCCOY,
Legislative Affairs Director.

TRIBUTES TO BARBARA JAEHNE,
TRACY BRAINARD, CATHY
BOUDREAU, CELIA SZELWACH
AND KENDALL JONES

HON. KATHERINE HARRIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

Ms. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize five extraordinary women whose diligence and determination have led them to pinnacles of their chosen professions. Despite their numerous successes, it often is the case that their contributions are never recognized.

One goal of my Women In Business Initiatives is to highlight positive role models, engage them in the community and applaud their worthy contributions. To achieve this end, I asked my constituents to nominate a business woman whom they believed deserved recognition.

A woman whose compassion and charity has been invaluable in lifting others to greater heights. These women represent the very best our State and Nation has to offer. It truly is an honor and a pleasure to serve as their Representative in Congress.

Woven from unique backgrounds, their histories share a common thread—a refusal to allow obstacles placed in their way by outdated thinking or unpredictable circumstance to delay the pursuit of their dreams.

A wife, a mother, a medical professional, and an active member of the community, Barbara Jaehne could have found equal success as a juggler if her passions had not led into the field of medicine. Currently, Jaehne serves as chairman of the board of speech language in the Department of Pathology and Audiology at the Florida Department of Health.

Her work managing two offices in Venice and Englewood and her involvement with initiatives to improve the lives of the hearing impaired have not confined Jaehne to professional pursuits. The Republican Executive Committee of Sarasota County, as well as the Manatee Community College, is one of the varied organizations on whose behalf she volunteers her energy and her time.

Tracy Brainard is literally the ground-breaker of this distinguished group. In her role as office manager, Brainard is an integral member of the team at Coastal Construction Southwest, a construction company owned and administered by women. Coastal Construction

President Evelyn Treworgy has made note of her “most unbelievable work ethic,” an invaluable quality in any field.

Recognizing the indispensable role she holds within the company, Treworgy has stated that Brainard is “respected, trusted and absolutely depended upon by not only the principals but also fellow employees.”

It has been said of Cathy Boudreau that she “works until all of her duties are completed” and her tasks are “always handled with complete professionalism.” If there were a key to Cathy's success, it certainly is the single-minded commitment she brings to every endeavor. From the front desk, where Boudreau began her career at the Palm Island Resort, to the office of the President, Boudreau has earned the high praise and respect of her colleagues and peers.

Another individual not content to limit her horizons, Cathy also functions as event and group planner and assistant to the director of sales and marketing.

In 2000, when Celia Szelwach launched her own company—Creative Collaborations Consulting—there were no surprised faces to be found. After graduating in 1990 from West Point, Celia earned distinction as a senior parachutist and subsequently, her captain's bars while she led relief missions in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew.

The skills which served her as a logistics specialist in the Army were an asset in her various roles with the Tropicana Corporation. Determined to positively impact others, Celia shares her entrepreneurial vision through her column for The Maddox Business Report, a Tampa Bay business magazine with a focus on diversity.

More importantly, Celia recognizes the power of her position as a role model within the Hispanic community. This commitment earned her recognition by the Girl Scouts Gulf Coast of Florida branch, which awarded her the President's Merit Award for service above and beyond expectations, particularly in the area of Hispanic outreach. It has been said of Celia that she possesses “tremendous personal strength and unlimited potential,” qualities which have sustained her through difficult life challenges.

Kendall Jones. In the words of her business partner, Anand Pallegar, Jones is “driven by the love of this community and a desire to make it better.” As editor of the S2 Report, the only free digital daily business news report in Sarasota and Manatee counties, Jones recognizes that the business community is hungry for information, yet starved for time. Her success in reaching a balance is evident in the publication's growing readership, not to mention the first-place award she received from the Gulf Coast Business Review for in-depth writing.

The audience Jones places the greatest priority on reaching is an audience of one—her daughter, whom she single-handedly raises. When she is not keeping the business community up to speed on events, Jones is busily trying to keep up with her daughter's Brownie troop.

As separate and distinct as the stories of these five successful business women may be, all serve to illustrate the power of the individual to reach a goal, the value of hard work and the necessity to never give in or give up.

It is a pleasure to honor these five extraordinary women and to highlight their contributions to their businesses, their neighbors and their communities.

TRIBUTE TO HARRY AND DARLA
WYENO, CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harry and Darla Wyeno who were recently honored with the Crowley County Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Award. The Wyenos were described as making community service a labor of love. They have worked tirelessly for the benefit and promotion of Crowley County.

The Olney Springs couple was recognized for the volunteer work they do within the county, but especially for the work they do as members of the Crowley Heritage Society.

Although Darla is retired, she continues serving as the Town Clerk. Harry, who is also retired, still continues to work part time at the First National Bank of Ordway.

Whenever they are not working these jobs, they can be found volunteering. Darla is probably best known for her work as the President and Chief Procurer of Crowley County. She continues to gather, archive, and present the county's history. Through her efforts, grants for the Crowley Heritage Center have been procured so much of the historical collection can be catalogued and protected for future generations to enjoy.

As President of the society Darla has made certain that all cultural and ethnic groups in the region are recognized in the local museum. The couple has also been very involved in the Chamber of Commerce for many years.

In addition, the Wyenos can be found volunteering for their church, where among other things, they have been faithful choir members for over 50 years at the United Methodist Church of Ordway.

Harry and Darla Wyeno are two people whose strengths of love, devotion and community service are wonderful examples for all of us to follow. As a Member of Congress I am proud to represent such fine citizens from Colorado's Fourth Congressional District.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING

SPEECH OF

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Coretta Scott King, wife of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and a guiding force of the modern civil rights movement in her own right.

Just seventeen days ago we honored the birthday of her husband and celebrated January 16th as a national holiday in his honor. It would be too easy to remember Mrs. King simply as the wife of Dr. King, one of this country's great 20th century leaders. To do

this would be a disservice to the memory of a champion of civil and equal rights in her own right.

Coretta Scott King began her long career of civic engagement as an undergraduate at Antioch College where she joined the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

After graduating from Antioch with a B.A. in music and education, Coretta Scott received a scholarship to study concert singing at the New England Conservatory of Music in my home state of Massachusetts. While there she met her future husband, Martin Luther King Jr.

After receiving her degree from the Conservatory, she and Dr. King moved to Montgomery, Alabama. It was here that she and her husband became central figures in the Montgomery Bus Boycott and ultimately, the civil rights movement.

Following the success of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Dr. and Mrs. King traveled tirelessly to ensure that the civil rights movement continued to grow. Mrs. King's talent and education in the arts led her to conceive of and perform a series of Freedom Concerts which incorporated poetry, narration, and music to tell the story of the larger movement for equal rights. These concerts were vital in the fundraising efforts for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the organization her husband headed.

Mrs. King was not deterred by her husband's assassination, and if anything this tragic event strengthened her resolve in their shared struggle. In 1974, she established the Full Employment Action Council, a diverse coalition of more than 100 religious, labor, civil, and women's rights groups dedicated to economic justice through equal opportunity.

In 1983, Coretta Scott King marked the 20th anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington with another march on the Capitol featuring hundreds of organizations called the "Coalition of Conscience." At the time it was the largest demonstration in Washington's history.

Mrs. King led the movement to have her husband's birthday, January 15th, established as a federal holiday and I am happy to say that Congress and the President acted on the merit of Coretta Scott King's wish and established Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a national holiday in 1986.

While we are truly saddened at her passing, we are given pause to contemplate the impact she made during her lifetime on our lives and those of future generations. The freedoms all Americans enjoy today are due in no small part to her participation in the struggle for civil rights and equality.

Mr. Speaker, let us celebrate the achievements of this remarkable woman's lifetime and work to ensure that her legacy endures long after her passing.

RELATING TO CONSIDERATION OF
S. 1932, DEFICIT REDUCTION ACT
OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this week House Republicans high-

lighted their commitment to sound fiscal policy and protecting the hard-earned income of the American taxpayer by passing the Deficit Reduction Act. This legislation finds almost \$40 billion in savings through programmatic reforms to mandatory spending.

Along with my Republican colleagues, I supported this vital legislation because it ensures that Federal programs are more efficient for the beneficiaries that rely upon them, while safeguarding taxpayer dollars.

Unfortunately, the radical left wing could not even support this modest step towards making government more efficient. It seems that raising taxes and recklessly spending is the only fiscal policy they will support.

I applaud the Leadership of the House and Senate for bringing this legislation to the floor and greatly appreciate the President's support and commitment to fiscal responsibility and reducing the deficit.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ms. Coretta Scott King, a civil rights icon and the widow of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who died January 30, 2006, at the age of 78. Coretta Scott was born and raised on a farm near Marion, Alabama, where she knew little racial prejudice. However, living in town to attend high school, young Coretta learned firsthand of the harassment and violence directed at African-Americans. In 1942, at the age of 15, she was personally exposed to this hatred when the Scott home was set on fire on Thanksgiving night.

Church and music became Coretta Scott's salvation, and in 1945, she left for Antioch College in Ohio where as one of three African-American students in her class, she began to study music and education. After graduation, Coretta ventured off to the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston to study concert singing. It was in Boston where Coretta met Martin Luther King Jr., who was then studying for his doctorate in theology. She later said, "Even at the time we were courting, Martin was deeply concerned—and indignant—with the plight of the Negro in the United States."

The two married in 1953 and within the following decade became the parents to two sons and two daughters. In her new life as a married woman, Mrs. King gave up music to take on the role of a pastor's wife at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, where Dr. King became the seminal figure in the civil rights movement. Mrs. King joined her husband's pursuit of civil rights, and occasionally substituted for him as a speaker. They traveled the world, observing severe poverty and all its consequences, and together they learned the art of nonviolent protest from the disciples of Mahatma Gandhi. Throughout their married life, Mrs. King was an equal partner in Dr. King's tireless efforts to pursue justice, equality and peace, and was by his side in Oslo in 1964 when he received the Nobel Peace Prize.