

I want to applaud an organization that has been fighting on behalf of these children. Since its inception in 1970, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International has raised over \$900 million for diabetes research. I commend its efforts and will continue to support it in its commitment to finding a cure for the disease.

But we must do more for a disease that has become almost epidemic for children and adults. Twenty million Americans suffer from diabetes, which is the leading cause of kidney failure, adult blindness, non-traumatic amputations, heart attacks and stroke. In fact, every 30 seconds a new case of diabetes is diagnosed and over 1.3 million Americans are newly-diagnosed each year.

But for those of my colleagues who make decisions by the numbers, I offer these grim statistics. Diabetes costs this country \$132 billion per year, almost five times the entire National Institutes of Health \$28.5 billion budget. This disease also accounts for 30% of every Medicare dollar.

The Diabetes Research Working Group mandated by Congress called for \$1.6 billion in funding for NIH diabetes research, but actual funding hovers around \$1 billion. Accordingly, I support a 5% increase in the FY 2007 budget for NIH funding for juvenile diabetes research so that we may all reap the benefits of diabetes research.

Needless to say, we must dedicate more resources to fighting this disease—for the children and adults who suffer today and the millions who will suffer tomorrow. I believe that with sufficient funding of research initiatives, we come closer to finding a cure, and at the very least lessen the suffering. I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, one other area I would like to discuss is the longer survivability and quality of life of all diabetics. Due to technological advancements, insulin injections have come a long way since the needle and syringe method.

In fact, in the early 1990's, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved an insulin pump, which delivers insulin to the blood stream in small intervals throughout the day through a tiny needle stuck under the skin on the left side of the abdomen. Insulin pumps have been proven to aid in stabilizing glucose control and reduce episodes of hypoglycemia.

Recently, continuous glucose meters have been developed to provide diabetics instantaneous access to testing blood glucose levels. Recent studies have proven that individuals who utilize continuous glucose meters spend more time in the normal glucose range compared with patients using conventional finger stick blood glucose methods.

Presently, medical researchers are working on fusing these two devices to create an artificial pancreas that would regulate glucose levels in the body of someone with diabetes by continuously measuring the level of glucose and dispensing doses based on those measurements. Again, if developed, this device would contribute in augmenting the quality of life for Type I and Type II diabetics.

Mr. Speaker, these life-altering inventions only come through research. That is why, again, I support the 5% increase in NIH funding for the FY 07 budget and I encourage my colleagues to join me in this effort. America's youth is our future and it is up to us to invest in their health and education in order to cul-

tivate steadfast leaders of tomorrow—rich in knowledge, morals, and wellness.

#### HONORING JOEL M. CARP

#### HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the long and distinguished career of Joel M. Carp, one of the leaders in the Chicago nonprofit community. Mr. Carp will retire next month from the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago after almost thirty years of service.

Mr. Carp has dedicated his career to creating public policies and sustaining quality, comprehensive health and human services for all people, including refugees and immigrants. For the last 28 years, he has been working towards these goals at the Jewish Federation/Jewish United Fund, most recently as Senior Vice President for Community Services and Government Relations.

His dedicated service includes managing the Government Affairs Program, planning and budgeting for the Federation's numerous social welfare programs and services, and supervising State of Illinois programs for immigrants, refugees and the homeless.

In addition to his work at the Jewish Foundation, Mr. Carp has served on numerous important task forces tackling welfare reform, hunger, housing, and emergency food and shelter for both the City of Chicago and the State of Illinois. Mr. Carp has also taken the time to write and publish many articles on the topics about which he is most passionate, sharing his invaluable perspectives with all who work in this important field.

In recognition of Joel Carp's hard work and tireless dedication, he has received the Melvin A. Block Award for Professional Distinction from the Associated YMYWHAs of Greater N.Y., the City of Chicago's Commission on Human Relations Award, and a special award from the YMCA of the USA for helping to restore Agency for International Development funding for human services in Lebanon.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois, I thank Joel Carp for his many outstanding contributions to our social service network and to the Chicago area Jewish Community. His efforts have had a profound impact on the lives of his co-workers, friends, family, and countless other individuals. I wish him continued happiness in all his future endeavors.

#### HONORING MR. ANDERSON KAMBELA MAZOKA

#### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Mr. Anderson Kambela Mazoka of Zambia who passed away yesterday at age 56 in the Morning Side Clinic in Johannesburg, South Africa. News of this great leader's death has come to us as a shock and a surprise.

Mr. Mazoka was born on March 22, 1943 in southern Zambia to Mr. Juda Mazoka and Mrs. Bertha Mazoka. His parents were teachers. They encouraged their son to excel in school, and excel he did. He was among one of the first graduates of the University of Zambia, which was founded in 1966. He worked briefly in Zambia, before he moved to the United States, where he both worked and studied.

In the early 1970s he returned to Zambia to work for Zambia Railways. In the period of 2 years he was promoted to general manager by the former president Kenneth Kaunda. His distinguished career also included acting as the managing director of South Africa's mining giant, Anglo American Corporation.

Perhaps Mr. Mazoka's greatest legacy though, was his active political life in which he fought for democratic causes and improving the lives of the poor in Zambia. As a charming and self confident man, he incited support and excitement from his followers who want so badly to see change in their country.

He ran for president of Zambia in 2001 on the platform of providing free education, free medical services and addressing poverty. Although he narrowly lost the election, he continued fighting for these causes.

Mr. Mazoka dominated opposition politics. After his narrow loss for president he remained the greatest challenger to the parliamentary majority in Zambia, the Movement for Multiparty Democracy (MMD).

He was the president of the United Party for National Development (UPND), the strongest opposition party in Zambia, which aligned with two other parties to create United Democratic Alliance (UDA). His sudden death has left a vacuum in his party and in the Democratic Alliance, a difficult blow to their cause in year where they face the first general elections since 2001.

Congresswoman BARBARA LEE's niece's father, Mr. Mazoka, envisioned a better Zambia for all. As members of Congress, let us honor this man who fought for democratic causes in one of our most beautiful countries in Africa.

We offer our deepest condolences to his family. Mr. Mazoka is survived by his wife Mutinta and his three children. I join his family, friends and loved ones in saluting Mr. Mazoka for his lifelong commitment to public service and the positive impact his work has had on countless people.

#### MEMORIAL DAY

#### HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to all those who have fallen in the defense of our country. Each year, Memorial Day is a special time to honor the departed, support the wounded, and praise the enduring commitment of all those who serve.

In my district this weekend, the white headstones of the Los Angeles National Cemetery will be surrounded with flowers and families. Amid the bustle of West Los Angeles, this serene and mournful field honors the great sacrifice that has sustained our blessed country and the core values we cherish.

My district is also home to the West Los Angeles Veterans Administration, which is the

largest VA facility in the continental United States. The land was generously donated after the Civil War to serve as an old soldiers home and I am pleased that efforts are finally under way to move toward this goal with plans for a State Veterans Home on the property. We must continue, however, to expand other services and programs to meet veterans' needs. I remain deeply opposed to the VA's consideration of plans to divert portions of the property for commercial use. I am determined to continue working with local veterans groups, local officials, and the surrounding community to ensure that the entire property is preserved for programs that benefit and serve our veterans.

The sanctity of our battlefields, monuments, and veterans institutions is of utmost importance to preserve military history and pay respect to those who fought. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the efforts of my constituent Leon Cooper, a World War II veteran of the Pacific Theater, who has been working to raise awareness about the build-up of garbage and refuse at the site of the Battle of Red Beach on Tarawa Atoll in the remote island nation of Kiribati. Nearly 1,000 Marines were killed and over 2,000 were wounded during heavy fighting over the span of just a few days in November 1943. I applaud Mr. COOPER for his commitment.

Although Tarawa has a monument to the Marines who died on Red Beach, heavy construction in the area has spurred an effort to find a new location closer to the battle site itself. I fully support this effort, which would also create an opportunity for the 2nd Marine division to restore the beach to a more appropriate and respectable condition. I encourage our local U.S. Embassy in Fiji to work with the Government of Kiribati on sanitation and conservation projects that would provide long-term solutions for maintaining the coastline and preserving the area. It would be a tribute to our veterans and a benefit to the Kiribati people.

And while we honor generations past, we must also be keenly aware of the needs of soldiers now deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan. It is unacceptable that returning veterans are facing unreasonable delays obtaining care and benefits. The number of new enrollees waiting for their first appointment at the VA has doubled in the past year. I am deeply concerned about the inadequate screening and services for the more than 1/3 of returning troops who seek mental health care. It is imperative that we fight the budget cuts and misplaced priorities that have led to this deplorable situation.

As we observe Memorial Day, let us give thanks to all of our brave men and women who have stood in harm's way or stand there today, far from home, living at great risk, and fighting under the stars and stripes. We owe them an enduring debt of gratitude.

#### FEDERAL TELEPHONE EXCISE TAX

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say good riddance to an outdated, antiquated tax that has long outlived its usefulness—the long distance telephone tax. This tax is known to many Ameri-

cans only as another indiscernible line on their phone bill which reads as an access fee or charge for service.

But in fact, this tax began as part of the War Revenue Act of 1898 as a temporary means to finance the Spanish American War. Interestingly, this wasn't the only onerous tax in the War Revenue Act. The Act also gave us the much debated estate tax.

Back then, the excise tax was designed to be a luxury tax for people who owned telephones. Today, the war is ancient history and if you ask anyone walking down the street to join you in shouting "Remember the Maine," I'd expect you to get quizzical stares. Today, there is no specific purpose for this tax. Telephones are a virtual necessity—not a luxury—and the revenues collected by this tax flow into the general fund. But this once temporary tax remains and costs American taxpayers, our small businesses and families almost \$6 billion dollars a year.

On the tax, Gene Kimmelman, director of Consumers Union is quoted as saying, "this is the poster child for how messed up our telephone pricing system is today. It makes no sense to have to pay a tax to fight a war that was over more than 100 years ago." Well today the tax has been repealed.

Americans will soon be able to file for a refund as part of their 2006 tax return for the past three years of charges and the Treasury Department estimates that \$15 billion will be refunded to the American public.

I encourage all Americans to take advantage of this opportunity to get their returns and I call on my colleagues to set their sights on ending this tax's equally unnecessary counterpart, the local telephone excise tax. These are outdated, out-of-touch taxes and they should all be removed from the tax code.

#### COMMEND KIMBERLY BURNITZ FOR HER PARTICIPATION IN THE P3: PEOPLE, PROSPERITY, AND THE PLANET STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION

**HON. JUDY BIGGERT**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the efforts of Kimberly Burnitz, and college student from Lockport, Illinois. Earlier this month, Kimberly and her team from Eastern Illinois University, came to Washington to compete in the P3—People, Prosperity, and the Planet—Student Design Competition.

Sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency, the P3 design competition gives college-level students a chance to grow their technical and scientific skills by working on projects that address sustainability challenges faced by the developing world. After reviewing over one hundred proposals, the EPA provided grants to 41 of the most promising student projects that addressed these challenges while preserving the environment.

Among the teams chosen to develop their project, the students of Eastern Illinois University worked on a unique initiative to increase drinking water supplies in rural Haiti and other developing nations. Through extensive research and testing, Kimberly's team devised locally feasible methods for Haitians to im-

prove water cistern designs and repair cistern cracks.

While not among the final winners of the contest, their innovative project truly embodied the objectives of the competition—to find environmentally friendly ways to raise living standards and foster economic growth in the developing world.

Mr. Speaker, these are goals we can all agree on. Therefore, it is with great pleasure that I thank Kimberly for all her hard work, congratulate her team on their success, and wish them great success in all of their future endeavors.

#### URGING THE SENATE TO PASS THE STEM CELL RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT ACT

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2006*

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, one year ago the House passed the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act, by a vote of 238-194. I was pleased to see this Chamber put science before ideology. The promise of finding cures for a whole host of debilitating diseases seemed bright.

But the year has come and gone, and the Senate has yet to take up its version of the legislation. Further delay is unacceptable. Today, I join my colleagues in the House to urge the Senate to schedule a vote on this critical, life-saving, and life-affirming measure.

This bill takes an ethical and moral approach to a challenging subject while respecting the value of life. It allows for federal funds to support research on stem cell lines derived from the surplus embryos of fertility treatments. Fertility clinics do not need these embryos and they would otherwise be discarded, not implanted. It requires explicit written donor consent, and it does not allow stem cells to be sold for profit.

Many Members of Congress like to talk about "values." Today, I say to them: using discarded embryos to find life-saving cures is our moral obligation. Saving lives is precisely what we should all care about.

Parkinson's disease, cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, spinal cord injuries, and juvenile diabetes do not discriminate—every one of us has had a family member or friend whose life has been changed by one of these debilitating conditions. This is not and should not be a partisan or ideological issue. People from both ends of the political spectrum—from Nancy Reagan to the late Christopher Reeve—have embraced the promise of stem cell research. It is my hope that the United States Senate will follow their lead.

Cures for many serious ailments may lie in stem cell research. We owe it to generations of Americans and their families to help find treatments that could lead to an improved quality of life. I urge my colleagues in the Senate to pass the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act.