

an important role in governing Head Start and strengthen the focus on health, mental health, and obesity prevention.

Equally important are the things this bill does not include. It prohibits further use of the National Reporting System—high stakes testing that was inappropriate for 4-year olds and was draining time and dollars from Head Start programs. It does not include block grants to the states which would have diluted Head Start's high standards and comprehensive programming. And finally, I join with faith groups in Minnesota and around the country in applauding the successful efforts to defeat a provision to allow discrimination in hiring with Head Start dollars.

I congratulate Chairman MILLER and Speaker PELOSI for making our children's education a priority for the 110th Congress. I am pleased to support H.R. 1429 and look forward to continuing to put the interests of our children and our families first.

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PAYING TRIBUTE TO KEVIN IRWIN

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 14, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Clark County Firefighter Kevin Irwin for his selfless role in saving nine of his fellow firefighter's lives.

On February 17, 2007, Clark County firefighters were dispatched to a fire in a large commercial warehouse in Las Vegas, Nevada. On this particular day, Firefighter Kevin Irwin arrived on the scene with the crew from Station 15, and served as an acting Engineer for the day. As the firefighters were battling the flames, Kevin noticed one of the exterior walls in the warehouse was giving in. In a rush to save the rest of the crew, Kevin quickly alerted the other men of their imminent danger and subsequently prevented their deaths.

Humbled about being referred to as a hero, Kevin says it is all a part of the job. He has served with the Clark County Fire Department for four years and has been under Captain Christian Grimes in Station 15 for the last two years. Kevin has been a resident of Nevada since 1991 and is married to wife Debora with two children, Jacob and Ashlyn.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Kevin Irwin for his heroism and his quick approach that saved nine fellow firefighters' lives. The service firefighters like Kevin provide, to save lives while risking their own is truly commendable. I applaud Kevin for his leadership and wish him continued success in his career.

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IN MEMORY OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE MENDEL DAVIS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 14, 2007*

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, when Mendel Davis came to Congress, he had some big shoes to fill. His namesake and predecessor, Mendel Rivers, had chaired the House Armed Services Committee at a time when committee

chairmen were powerful, and he had ruled the roost. He had secured for Charleston military installations, ranging from the Navy Yard, home port to surface ships and submarines, to Charleston Air Force Base, which boasted the first of the C-5As.

After Mendel Rivers died, Mendel Davis ran an impressive race, won a special election, and obtained a seat on the Science Committee and then on the House Armed Services Committee. He served there effectively and with distinction, and had he served long enough, he would have matched his namesake in influence and output.

Mendel Davis served ten years and never quite matched Mendel Rivers' seniority, but he worked every bit as hard, if not harder, for his constituents. From his seat on Armed Services, Mendel Davis never forgot where he came from or who sent him here, and he cared for his constituency. He helped bring the USS *Yorktown* to Patriot's Point, and with Senator Hollings' help, he helped fund and keep in place all that Mendel Rivers had brought to Charleston.

I came to Congress shortly after Mendel Davis had left, but I found that everyone who knew him remembered him and highly respected him. I did not see him often, but always enjoyed the opportunities we did encounter. Like all of his friends and acquaintances, I will long remember him and his great service to our country and to the House. His wife, Jane, and all his family have my deepest sympathy.

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IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM F. "BABE" MARCELLINO

**HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 14, 2007*

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a dear friend and former member of my staff, William F. "Babe" Marcellino. The Babe passed away on May 9, 2007, after 90 glorious years. While I am saddened by his passing, I can't help smiling when I think about his life.

Babe Marcellino was an American original in every sense. He was a well respected political sage on Beacon Hill and in Boston City Hall. He served as a close advisor to Governor Foster Furcolo, Senate President Maurice Donahue and Mayor Kevin White. He came to work for me later in life and stayed with me into his 80s. He was the essence of wisdom and quiet elegance. When constituents walked through the door to my office, the Babe would greet them with a wink and a smile. When they broke down in tears under the weight of their problems, Babe would tell them he was on their side. And he always was. He helped hundreds of constituents solve their problems with the federal government. I especially relied on Babe to help with particularly difficult constituent matters, because of his incredible ability to put people at ease.

I will never forget his mastery of policy and his generosity of spirit following a terrible fire that ravaged an entire block of businesses right across from my Medford, MA, district office in February of 1994. Together, Babe Marcellino and I worked with the Small Business Administration and others in the federal

government to bring relief to devastated business owners in Medford Square and to rebuild the downtown. Babe Marcellino was an exemplary public servant.

Babe also was a wonderful teacher. He eagerly took younger staff members under his wing to impart his wisdom. Many of those former staffers have told me over the years that their experience in public service was richer for having known and learned from the Babe.

He dearly loved his alma mater Holy Cross, and devoted a large portion of his time ensuring that Holy Cross became a national educational treasure that could be enjoyed by all students, regardless of their socio-economic condition.

Babe was blessed with an extraordinary family for which his love was strong and enduring. He was remarkable for having two wonderful marriages. With his beloved first wife Maudie, he produced six incredible children—William Marcellino Jr., James Marcellino, Mary Zuberis, Richard Marcellino, John "Jocko" Marcellino, and Sister Noella Marcellino. After Maudie passed away, the Babe married the fabulous Marie, herself a widow. He "inherited" five terrific step-children—Cathy Doran, Jane Driscoll, Stephen Doran, Mark Doran and the late Daniel Doran. Babe leaves 21 grandchildren, each with their unique and special memories of their grandfather.

Watching Babe and Marie was like watching Fred and Ginger—they made a marvelous couple full of grace, style and class.

When you were in Babe's presence, you could not help but to feed off of his optimism and his incredible inner strength. He was the quintessential gentleman. He often remarked after an enjoyable time or conversation together that the experience had been "like a chunk of heaven."

Babe, it was an honor to have known you and worked with you—and I am proud to honor your exemplary public service, your extraordinary love of family, and your unwavering faith in God and the United States of America. Your whole life was a chunk of heaven and all of us who love you will miss you dearly.

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A TRIBUTE TO SUE SARILYN WASHINGTON

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 14, 2007*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is with sadness and deep regret that many of us in this body rise to pay tribute to a wonderful lady and a close friend of mine—Mrs. Sue Sarilyn Washington. The words most often associated with her are "grace" and "compassion," and with those I wholeheartedly agree.

Just a quick glimpse of her professional life attests to her unselfish spirit. Sue Sarilyn Washington was an inspiration to those around her, and dedicated her time and spirit to many outstanding local and national organizations, including: the VA Medical Center of Dallas; Jack & Jill of America; Links, Inc. Dallas Chapter; Carousels, Dallas Chapter; Board of Trustees, Lutheran High School; the

Board of Directors, Children's Theater of Dallas; Deacon, Royal Lane Baptist Church; and the St. Marks Boy Scouts. Through these organizations, Sue touched the lives of countless individuals.

A devoted mother of three, Sue also consistently showed her love for God and others. She delicately balanced the rigors of professional life with the demands of caring for their family; yet, she still made time for friends.

Madam Speaker, it is a great honor for me to rise today to pay tribute to a lady who faithfully served her community with dedication and integrity. Sue Sarilyn Washington will be sorely missed in North Texas.

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INTRODUCTION OF THE ALS  
REGISTRY ACT OF 2007

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**HON. LEE TERRY**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 14, 2007*

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the introduction of The ALS Registry Act of 2007 by my colleague ELIOT ENGEL of New York and myself. A similar bill introduced in the 109th Congress, H.R. 4033, garnered the support of 215 of our colleagues, nearly 50 percent of the members of the House of Representatives. Today, we are joined by 80 additional original cosponsors in this effort.

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) is a fatal, progressive, neurodegenerative disease affecting motor nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. Approximately 5,600 people in the U.S. are diagnosed with ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, each year. It is estimated that as many as 30,000 Americans have the disease. The average life expectancy for a person with ALS is 2 to 5 years from the time of diagnosis. There is no known cure for ALS.

There is currently no single national patient registry which collects and stores information on the prevalence and incidence of ALS in existence in the United States. The establishment of a national registry will help identify the occurrence and frequency of ALS and other motor neuron disorders and collect data which is badly needed for ALS research, disease management and the development of standards of care in order to significantly enhance the nation's efforts to find a treatment and cure for ALS.

All diseases bring hardships on those afflicted, but ALS is particularly cruel in the quickness of the onset, the severity of the symptoms and the fatal nature of the condition. The provisions in our bill creating a nationwide registry for persons afflicted with ALS are important steps forward in strengthening the efforts to understand, treat and one day eradicate this terrible disease. I urge my colleagues to support and cosponsor the ALS Registry Act and I am proud to join my friend Mr. ENGEL in bringing forward this important legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 14, 2007*

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for Rollcall votes 337 through 341 held on Thursday, May 10, 2007, beginning with Rollcall 337.

Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have cast the following votes on H.R. 2082: to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes. On passage Passed by recorded vote: 225-197 (rollcall No. 341). I would have voted "yes."

Madam Speaker, had I been present for the motion to recommit with instructions, rollcall No. 340, I would have voted "no."

Madam Speaker, had I been present for the Schiff amendment rollcall No. 339, I would have voted "yes."

Madam Speaker, had I been present for the Rogers (MI) amendment rollcall No. 338, I would have voted "yes."

Madam Speaker, had I been present for the Hoekstra amendment rollcall No. 337, I would have voted "no."

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PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOYCE  
HOLLAND

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**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 14, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Joyce Holland, a registered nurse, who is a distinguished and devoted professional in her field.

In 1992, Joyce earned her associates degree in Nursing. She later joined the nursing staff of Boulder City Hospital as a registered nurse/medical decision support coordinator in 2000. Joyce served as RN/MDS Coordinator for 6 years before retiring in 2006. After a brief retirement, Joyce returned to Boulder City Hospital in 2007 as the long term care director, the position she holds today. Throughout her career at Boulder City Hospital, Joyce's high degree of professionalism and enduring compassion have earned her the respect of her colleagues and have made her invaluable to her patients.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Joyce Holland. Her passion and her love of nursing have improved the lives of countless patients in Las Vegas. I thank her for her dedication and commitment to the community and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

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INTRODUCTION OF THE ALS  
REGISTRY ACT OF 2007

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**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 14, 2007*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise to reintroduce the ALS Registry Act of 2007 with my

good friend, LEE TERRY of Nebraska. We are proud to have the support of over 80 other bipartisan members of Congress today as original co-sponsors of this important legislation.

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) is a fatal, progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects motor nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. While the great baseball player, Lou Gehrig, put a national face on ALS over 65 years ago, my own family was personally affected when my grandmother, Dora Engel, was diagnosed with the fatal disease and passed away when she was only in her 50s. Unfortunately, families across the Nation face the challenges and experience the suffering associated with ALS every single day. 5,600 people in the U.S. are diagnosed with ALS each year, and it is estimated that as many as 30,000 Americans have the disease at any given time. The average life expectancy for a person with ALS is two to five years from the time of diagnosis. The causes of ALS are not well understood and there is no known cure. We must provide hope to change this tragedy today.

Surprisingly, a single national patient registry which collects and stores information on the prevalence and incidence of ALS does not currently exist in the United States today. The legislation I am re-introducing with Congressman TERRY, would build on a fiscal year 2006 Congressional appropriation which directed the Centers for Disease Control to evaluate the science to guide the creation of a national ALS Registry. The Engel/Terry legislation will create an ALS registry at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and will aid in the search for a cure to this devastating disease. The registry will collect data concerning: the incidence and prevalence of ALS in the United States; the environmental and occupational factors that may contribute to the disease; the age, race or ethnicity, gender and family history of individuals diagnosed; and other information essential to the study of ALS. The information gained from the ALS registry will also strengthen a disease clearinghouse's ability to put patients in contact with scientists conducting clinical trials and scientists studying the environmental and genetic causes of ALS.

We need to provide our Nation's researchers and clinicians with the tools and information they need to make progress in the fight against ALS. The data made available by a national registry will potentially allow scientists to identify causes of the disease, and maybe even lead to the discovery of new treatment, a cure for ALS, or even a way to prevent the disease in the first place. This is good public policy.

The establishment of a registry will bring new hope to thousands of patients and their families that ALS will no longer be a death sentence. I strongly urge the swift consideration and passage of the ALS Registry Act of 2007.

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RECOGNIZING JEREMY ALLEN  
PATANIA FOR ACHIEVING THE  
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

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**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 14, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeremy Allen Patania, a