

within him with the members of his church community. As a firefighter, Lieutenant Allen showed humility through his willingness to sacrifice his safety and well-being for the protection of others. As a correctional officer, he served as a source of character inspiration and guidance for the inmates in his charge. And as the son of a former mayor of Tar Heel, Lieutenant Allen was born into a tradition of public service, a tradition that he would uphold and implement every day of his life.

The life of this remarkable hero was truly one dedicated to helping others and making his community a better place to live. Lieutenant Allen and 82 additional heroes who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty were honored by 5,000 people, including President George Bush and Members of Congress, during the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service on October 7, 2007.

Madam Speaker, may we never forget the goodness, humility, service, and character that defined the life of Lieutenant Allen. May God continue to bless his loved ones, the work he did, and the greatness that he inspired within all who knew him.

**A TRIBUTE TO SALLIE BALDWIN HOWARD**

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Sallie Baldwin Howard, a native and resident of Wilson, North Carolina. For many years, Mrs. Howard dedicated her life to educating and serving the people of Northeastern North Carolina. She was recently honored as the Wilson Human Relations Commission 2007 Paul Lee Stevens Humanitarian for outstanding service to her community.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Howard, who is affectionately known as "Bibi," dedicated much of her life as a teacher in the New York City Public School System during her early years, but for the past 15 years she has donated all of her time and energy to rallying youth in Wilson, challenging them to be exemplary citizens and great achievers.

Madam Speaker, high praise is due to Mrs. Howard for her success in overcoming the racial and gender prejudices of her time. Mrs. Bibi Howard was born in Wilson, North Carolina, to Narcissus and Marcellus Sims on March 23, 1916. She overcame countless challenges growing up in the Jim Crow South as the daughter of sharecroppers. Nevertheless, she was driven and focused and graduated as valedictorian from Charles H. Darden High School in 1938. Mrs. Howard attended Hunter College in New York City where she earned both her bachelor and masters degree in education.

She taught for nearly 30 years as a first grade teacher in New York. While there, she worked in the New York City American Negro Theater, which helped start the careers of Sidney Poitier, Harry Belafonte, Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee and Esther Rolle. There she honed her acting, directing and writing talent, finding a voice through her art. Her Off Broadway play *The Passing of a Dinosaur* is still performed today in local schools.

Upon her retirement, Mrs. Howard returned to Wilson to lead the Christian Education Department of the St. John AME Zion Church. Her enthusiasm for education and the church inspired many of the youth of the community. Along with many other projects, Mrs. Howard founded the Youth Enrichment Program with Dr. JoAnne Woodard in 1989, and focused the program on lasting scholarship, a commitment to the cultural heritage of African Americans, and promoting the arts. Bibi Howard's tireless work to enrich the community inspired Dr. JoAnne Howard to create the one of the first public charter schools in the state, and the only public charter school in Wilson, the Sallie B. Howard School for the Arts & Education. The school, along with the Youth Enrichment Program, has been an invaluable asset to our community.

Madam Speaker, in honor and recognition of Mrs. Sallie Baldwin Howard's diligent service as an educator and leader, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this great woman.

**HONORING THE STUDENTS OF HALF HOLLOW HILLS HIGH SCHOOL EAST**

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the students of Half Hollow Hills High School East for their thoughtful letters on the war in Iraq. I appreciated hearing their views and reading their individual letters which contained their ideas and perspectives on our involvement in Iraq.

I want to applaud their interest in this critical topic and appreciate that they took the time to share their opinions with me.

**TRIBUTE TO ERIN REED, LOIS SUZUKI AND STEVE SMITH**

**HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, on September 29, 2005, emergency flight nurses Erin Reed, Lois Suzuki and pilot Steve Smith gave their lives when their helicopter lost control in inclement weather conditions after delivering a patient to a nearby hospital. This accident, like many of the increasing number of emergency medical service (EMS) fatal crashes, occurred under so-called "Part 91" regulations, which allow an EMS crew to fly in conditions which are more dangerous than what is permitted when a patient or an organ is on board.

Since her death, Erin's family has joined a coalition of friends and family members who have lost loved ones in a medical flight. Their efforts are devoted to making air medical transports safer for the flight crew and patients who take to the skies for emergency medical care. With the support of this coalition, I am pleased to introduce bipartisan legislation today that will increase safety for all those on board an aircraft providing emergency medical services. This bill will eliminate the Part 91

regulations for certain flights and direct the Federal Aviation Administration to study and implement several other proposals to increase safety conditions for medical flights.

I would like to recognize the efforts of the many families who have responded to their losses with determination to help others. I would particularly like to thank Stacey Friedman, Erin's sister, for her tireless efforts in advocating for changes that would protect caregivers like her sister. By enacting this legislation, we will not only honor the remarkable sacrifices of those who gave their lives while trying to save others, but in their honor we will also prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

**RECENTLY INTRODUCED HEALTH CARE LEGISLATION**

**HON. JOHN M. McHUGH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss three bills I recently introduced that are designed to reduce the number of Americans who do not have access to health insurance. These three bills are designated H.R. 3515, the Health Insurance Tax Relief Act of 2007; H.R. 3516, the Affordable Health Care for Americans Act of 2007; and H.R. 3517, the Long-Term Care Tax Reduction Act of 2007.

In 2006, approximately 47 million Americans, or 15.8 percent of the population, did not have health insurance coverage for the entire year. When people lack health insurance, they often find themselves lacking real access to health care, thus unnecessarily incur illnesses, emotional and physical pain, and costs. This is particularly the case with preventable or chronic conditions. In addition, when patients cannot pay for health services, the facilities that provide those services suffer financial losses, which have been estimated to be as high as \$41 billion annually. As a result, some health care providers reduce or stop offering services while others may raise rates, thus reducing everyone's access to health care.

The average annual premium for self-only coverage in 2007 is \$4,479 with the average premium for a family of four at \$12,106. These premiums were 7.7 percent over the cost of the previous year's premiums and grew at a rate in excess of both wage gains and the growth in prices for goods and services. Nearly 60 percent of Americans receive health insurance through their employment, primarily because of the advantages available to employers and employees under our Nation's tax code.

To reduce the number of uninsured Americans, we need to help open doors for those who do not receive health insurance through their workplace and do not qualify for public programs. H.R. 3515, the Health Insurance Tax Relief Act of 2007, and H.R. 3516, the Affordable Health Care for Americans Act are both designed to provide this assistance. Specifically, H.R. 3515 would allow eligible individuals a refundable credit against income tax for the purchase of private health insurance and H.R. 3516 would permit individuals to take an above-the-line tax deduction, whether or not they itemize, for all health insurance premiums paid during a tax year.

With regard to long-term care, this challenge currently constitutes a significant component of health care spending in the United States. In fact, of the \$1.56 trillion spent on personal health care services in 2004, over \$194 million or 12.5 percent was spent on long-term care services. Of that amount, nearly \$37 billion was paid out-of-pocket by consumers.

There is no question that long-term care insurance is increasingly becoming a necessity as Americans are living longer. However, the expense of this coverage is a major obstacle to its purchase. Thus, I have introduced H.R. 3517, the Long-Term Care Tax Reduction Act of 2007, which would allow individuals to use their IRAs, as well as 401(k) and 403(b) plans, to purchase qualified long-term insurance using pre-tax dollars without penalty. If enacted, this measure may save the government money in the long run by reducing the more than \$133 billion Medicaid and Medicare spend annually, while allowing Americans to preserve more of their retirement savings and their sense of independence.

Accordingly, I ask my colleagues to carefully consider these points as they review these three bills. In addition, I ask them to work with me to enact these measures during the 110th Congress.

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ON THE DEATH OF RANDALL FORSBERG

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**HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 23, 2007*

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to mark the passing of my friend Randall Forsberg, but it is with pride, admiration, and thankfulness that I remember her enormous contributions to the cause of nuclear disarmament.

Randy Forsberg was the mother of the Nuclear Freeze movement. When she was a doctoral candidate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1980, she put forward a simple and inspired proposal: to end the “testing, production, and deployment” of all nuclear weapons everywhere. With her “Call to Halt the Nuclear Arms Race,” and her tireless advocacy for a nuclear weapons freeze, Randy galvanized a national grassroots campaign to end the threat of nuclear weapons.

I was proud to introduce the very first nuclear freeze resolution in the Congress, and to work for its successful passage on the House floor in the spring of 1983. That vote shocked many within the dusty confines of the foreign policy establishment, who simply could not comprehend that ordinary citizens understood the unique and intolerable threat of nuclear weapons and that the American public would demand a fundamentally different course be set. Randy was at the center of the Nuclear Freeze throughout the country, and was a guiding light to many who believed in the necessity of the Nuclear Freeze. While the Freeze did not pass in the Senate, the activism that this movement created led the Congress to pass other legislation to cut in half the proposed size of the MX missile force, ban anti-satellite weapons testing in space, cut funding for Star Wars missile defenses, and to propose a moratorium on underground nuclear weapons testing. Those Congressional initia-

tives, in turn, led the Reagan Administration—which came to office opposed to arms control—to sign the START and INF treaties with the Soviet Union.

In order to advance a nuclear weapons freeze, Randy founded the Institute for Defense & Disarmament Studies in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1980. Since that time, IDDS has been an important part of the arms control community in the United States and abroad. Through its numerous publications, including its World Arms Database, IDDS has provided vital information and analysis to both policy-makers and the public at large.

Randy Forsberg passed away last Friday night, ending a long battle with endometrial cancer during which she had shown incredible bravery and dignity. My thoughts and prayers are with her daughter, Katarina Lilly, her mother, Genie Watson, and her sister, Celia Seupel.

With Randy Forsberg’s death, the world has lost an eloquent and inspired advocate for nuclear disarmament. But the cause to which she devoted her life endures, and her example serves to inspire others who share her dream of a world without nuclear weapons.

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TRIBUTE TO THE KALAMAZOO PUBLIC LIBRARY

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**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 23, 2007*

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Kalamazoo Public Library on the 100th anniversary of its designation as a federal depository.

Since 1907, the Kalamazoo Public Library has safeguarded the public’s right to know by accepting, organizing, and maintaining all publications released by the U.S. Federal Government. Furthermore, the Kalamazoo Depository has provided the public of Southwest Michigan with free access to these government documents in an impartial environment along with professional research assistance.

From census records and court rulings to financial aid forms and the federal tax code, the Kalamazoo Depository has become an easily accessible resource for those seeking information relating to the federal government.

As a republic founded upon the ideals of governmental accountability and democratic participation, public access to such information is invaluable. The public’s ability to know, question, and participate is the lifeblood of a free and open society such as ours, and not something to be taken for granted.

Once again, I would like to personally recognize and thank the Kalamazoo Public Library and its staff for providing such an invaluable service to the citizens of this community. Southwest Michigan is truly a better place because of their contributions.

CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

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SPEECH OF

**HON. NANCY E. BOYDA**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 18, 2007*

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I am deeply troubled by the high-pitched rhetoric that dominated the recent SCHIP debate. Very unfortunately, the remarks of a few Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle crossed the line between civil discussion and a partisan shouting match. Not only are such comments inappropriate, but they distract from the critical issues facing America today.

I hope that, as the debate on SCHIP moves forward, Congress can move past the political rhetoric and focus on what really matters: helping low-income families who have no other way to afford health care for their kids.

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TRIBUTE TO ANNE MARGARET KELLEHER REAM

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**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 23, 2007*

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary member of my congressional staff for over 14 years, Anne Ream.

Anne was born Anne Margaret Kelleher on January 23, 1943, in Winthrop, Massachusetts, to William Joseph Kelleher and Elizabeth Tyrrell, affectionately known as Betty.

Anne graduated from Albertus Magnus College in 1964 with a B.A. in Economics and a minor in political science. She then went on to work as a securities research analyst at several stock brokerage firms in New York City and San Francisco between 1964 and 1969; as a portfolio analyst at Wells Fargo Bank between 1969 and 1971, and as a research assistant at Dataquest, Inc. between 1975–1979.

On August 10, 1968, she married the love of her life, Christopher Ream, and they had two beautiful children; Jason born in 1971 and Anita born in 1974. While raising her two young children, she attended the Santa Clara University School of Law, received her Juris Doctor degree in 1983, and was admitted to the California Bar the same year. Anne practiced law at the firm of Auchincloss and Marblestone in Redwood City between 1984 and 1989.

Anne is respected throughout our community as a real leader, volunteering with many organizations and serving as president of the Community Breast Health Project, board member of the Girls Club in East Palo Alto, executive vice president of the Palo Alto Foundation for Education, chair of the Resource Committee for Families in Transition, board chair of the Rachel Austin Foundation, board member and event co-chair for the Association for Senior Day Health, and board member of the Associates of the Institute for Research on Women and Gender.