

Bernie Fechtel of Jefferson City, Missouri. A successful businessman in central Missouri, Mr. Fechtel served as the Chairman of the Board for the Jefferson City Chamber of Commerce in 2007.

During his time as Chairman, the local Chamber was awarded the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry's "Chamber of the Year" award in recognition of the Chamber's effectiveness and efficiency in implementing its economic goals. Jefferson City is the fifth city in history to receive this distinguished award.

Mr. Fechtel will continue to serve the Jefferson City Chamber of Commerce in 2008 as its Chairman-Emeritus. I trust that Members of the House will join me in thanking Bernie Fechtel for his outstanding leadership and vision.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARGARET
BEULAH COLVERT ALLEN

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of America's most deserving citizens, Mrs. Margaret Beulah Colvert Allen, who will be celebrating her 100th Birthday on August 2, 2008. Although Mrs. Allen was born in Statesville, NC, she presently resides in Congressman Bobby Scott's Congressional District, so we are both equally pleased and proud to share her as our friend and constituent.

Over the years, Mrs. Allen has assumed many different roles. She was a dedicated homemaker and was also employed for several years as a substitute teacher, seamstress, supervisor of arts and crafts at her area community recreation center, and a food service worker at the Veterans Administration Hospital.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Allen has dedicated 75-faithful years of her life as a member of the Saint Paul A.M.E. Church. She has served as steward and stewardess and on several different committees including the Committee of Concern, which she chaired for many years. Mrs. Allen was also very involved in her community's Y.W.C.A. and the elementary and high school Parent Teacher Association.

By all accounts, Mrs. Allen is a "wonderful mother." Due to her husband's early death, Mrs. Allen was forced to rear five children as a single parent. Marion A. Christian, John C. Allen, III, Charles C. Allen, Beverly A. Henderson and Lynne C. Allen are the Allen children. All of the Allen children completed college and have reared successful children of their own.

Madam Speaker, over her lifetime, Mrs. Allen has lived through some of the most significant historical periods of our time. Like so many of the great historical monuments she has stood the test of time and has survived Reconstruction; lynching; World War I; the Great Depression; World War II; the period of segregation; the Civil Rights Movement; Voting Rights Movement; School Desegregation and other momentous times. She is indeed a walking history reference and we take great pride in recognizing her for being blessed with such longevity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on December 17, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my votes for rollcall Nos. 1163–1173.

Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 1163—"yes"—Expresses heartfelt sympathy for the victims and families of the shootings in Omaha, Nebraska, on Wednesday, December 5, 2007.

Rollcall No. 1164—"yes"—Honoring local and State first responders, and the citizens of the Pacific Northwest in facing the severe winter storm of December 2 and 3, 2007.

Rollcall No. 1165—"yes"—Same Day Rule.

Rollcall No. 1166—"yes"—Same Day Rule.

Rollcall No. 1167—"yes"—Sine Die Adjournment resolution of the 1st Session of the 110th Congress.

Rollcall No. 1168—"yes"—Providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2764, State, foreign operations appropriations, FY 2008.

Rollcall No. 1169—"yes"—Providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2764, State, foreign operations appropriations, FY 2008.

Rollcall No. 1170—"yes"—To award a congressional gold medal to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in recognition of her courageous and unwavering commitment to peace, nonviolence, human rights, and democracy in Burma.

Rollcall No. 1171—"yes"—Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations for FY 2008—Amendment No. 1.

Rollcall No. 1172—"no"—Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations for FY 2008—Amendment No. 2.

Rollcall No. 1173—"yes"—Recognizing and celebrating the centennial of Oklahoma statehood.

IN TRIBUTE TO ANGIE MARKHAM

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Angie Markham, a great American who serves as the Executive Director of the Federation of Italian-American Organizations of Queens, Inc. Angie Markham is devoted to her family and her community. In recognition of her selfless dedication to the well-being of others, she was honored by the Taminent Regular Democratic Club of the Borough of Queens in New York City at its 76th Annual Dinner Dance.

Next year will mark two full decades of distinguished service by Angie Markham as Executive Director of the Federation of Italian-American Organizations of Queens, Inc. As the leader of the Federation, Angie Markham has developed and managed countless worthwhile initiatives that have provided essential services to the community. These include an annual Columbus Day Parade in Queens; a

surplus food distribution program; an annual 5-Kilometer Run to Help Fight Drug Abuse; Italian Heritage Cultural Month festivities coordinated with the office of the Queens Borough President, St. John's University, and several other community-based organizations; soccer camps, clinics, and tournaments for area youth; weekly cultural and entertainment events every summer in Athens Square Park in Astoria; classes in Italian language and culture, English as a second language, and civics. While devoting her time and attention to this incredible range of activities, Angie Markham has also remained devoted to her family as a beloved wife and mother.

In recognition of her many outstanding contributions to the community, Angie Markham has been honored by numerous organizations and leaders. She has been honored by the Queens Borough President's office, by State Senator George Onorato, by State Assemblyman Michael Gianaris, and by New York City Councilman Peter Vallone, Jr., as well by numerous government agencies and civic associations.

In being honored by the Taminent Regular Democratic Club, Angie Markham's achievements were recognized by one of the largest and most vibrant political and civic organizations in our nation's greatest city. The Taminent Club represents voters in the neighborhoods of Astoria and Long Island City in the New York State Assembly's 36th District and is led by its able District Leaders, the Honorable Gloria DeMarco Aloise and the Honorable George Onorato. The Taminent Club proudly carries the banner of the world's oldest political party in one of the most diverse counties in the United States of America. Borough of Queens.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the outstanding contributions to our cultural and civic life made by Angie Markham.

HONORING THE BISHOP LUDDEN
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Bishop Ludden High School Football Team, 2007 Mass C New York State Football Champions. The Bishop Ludden Gaelic Knights defeated the Dobbs Ferry Eagles by a score of 21–16, earning Bishop Ludden's first state football championship title.

On behalf of the people of New York's 25th Congressional District, I congratulate these young men on their outstanding athletic achievement and praise head coach John Cosgrove, and Assistant Coaches Mike Rogers and Bill Cloonan on their team's success. I look forward to another exciting year when the Gaelic Knights take the field to defend their title in 2008.

Steven Barrett, Eric Beauford, James Braithwaite, Connor Brown, Casey Christo, Conor Cosgrove, Christopher Davis, Mark Deangelis, Yaroslav Fentsor, Nicholas Ferrante, Daquan Grobsmith, Christopher Harding, Michael Hogan, Eugene Law, Jiyhouh Ly, William McGrath, Julio Ortiz, Omar

Osbourne, Joseph Rathbun, John Rooney, Patrick Rosanio, Benjamin Searle, Nathaniel Stewart, Connor Sweeney, Jake Szelewski, Devin White, Wendall Williams, Jeevon Works

MOURNING THE DEATH OF
FORMER CONGRESSMAN AUGUSTUS
FREEMAN "GUS" HAWKINS

ARTHUR I. JACKNOWITZ, PROFESSOR AND DISTINGUISHED CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL PHARMACY CONCERNED ABOUT CMS COMPOUNDING POLICY

THE MEDIA OWNERSHIP ACT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, as much of America now knows, yesterday in a split decision, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted to approve new media ownership rules that in many ways are far worse for the public interest than anything previously revealed by FCC Chairman Martin.

Prior to yesterday's vote. Chairman Martin had attempted to portray his proposal as a "moderate compromise" that would allow one company to own both a daily newspaper and a low-rated broadcast TV station in only the 20 largest media markets. But research from Free Press—collected in the Devil in the Details report—exposed how the loose and ambiguous "waiver" standards in the proposal left a giant loophole for companies to sidestep the ban in any market and for any station.

The final rule, rewritten in the middle of the night before the hearing, retains all of the original loopholes and adds additional loopholes that appear to allow cross-ownership mergers in virtually any market.

While I had held out hope that the FCC would delay this vote given the outpouring of public commentary opposing the rule changes, it is clear that the Chairman of the FCC is not listening. I see no other choice than to push for congressional action, and to that end, yesterday I introduced H.R. 4835, the Media Ownership Act of 2007, in the House to stop these new cross-ownership rules from going forward.

I am pleased to have been joined by my Washington State colleague Representative DAVE REICHERT in this bipartisan effort, and it is my hope that we can move swiftly to prevent these new rules from going into effect. This effort is the companion to work being done in the Senate Commerce Committee where a bipartisan group of Senators have led the effort against these changes.

When Chairman Martin was before the Energy and Commerce Committee earlier this month, I asked him how he could ignore the public outcry he heard when he visited Seattle, Washington, where—despite less than 5 days notice—thousands turned out and stayed until 1 a.m. on a Friday night to voice their concerns. I asked him how we could believe that he had thoughtfully considered the public's concerns, when less than 3 days later, the Chairman published an op-ed in the New York Times outlining his plan for media consolidation.

Clearly, Chairman Martin is not listening to the American people, and now we need to step up and ensure that their voices are heard. I hope my colleagues here in Congress will join me in this effort, and I hope this legislation moves swiftly.

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I wish to mourn the passing of former Congressman Augustus Freeman "Gus" Hawkins, a committed public servant and civil rights leader, who died on November 10, 2007. Congressman Hawkins was born on August 31, 1907, in Shreveport, LA. He later moved to California where he would eventually serve 14 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, advocating for his constituents in South Los Angeles. Prior to his passing, he was the oldest living former member of the House of Representatives at the age of 100.

In his youth, Mr. Hawkins was a scholar and civil rights activist. In 1931, he received his undergraduate degree in Economics from the University of California, Los Angeles. One year later, he continued his academic pursuits and studied political science at the University of Southern California. In addition to his intellectual skills and political savvy, Mr. Hawkins was a primary leader in progressive and civil rights campaigns in the urban areas of Los Angeles. His desire to eliminate injustice in his community propelled him to challenge a Republican incumbent in the California State Assembly. He defeated his opponent and quickly became the 62nd district's voice for civil rights and equality regardless of race, creed, or color. He remained in the California State Assembly from 1935 to 1963.

In 1963, Mr. Hawkins was elected to serve California's 21st Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, making him the first African American elected from the State of California. He firmly demonstrated his commitment to public service by supporting legislation that would improve housing standards, labor, education, and conditions for the working poor. He made history by sponsoring the equal employment section of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that created the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. In addition, he fought consistently to raise the minimum wage and he and Senator Hubert Humphrey (D-Minnesota) crafted the Humphrey-Hawkins Act of 1978, which was designed to combat unemployment and inflation. During his 28 years in the House, he served as the chairman of the Committee on Education and Labor, and the chairman of the Committee on Administration. He was also one of the founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus, which was founded in 1971. When he retired in 1991, he had created over half a century's worth of landmark legislation on both the State and Federal level.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to remember the legacy and mourn the passing of former Congressman Augustus Freeman Hawkins.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I would like to call my colleagues' attention to a compelling letter written by Arthur I. Jackowitz, Pharm. D, Professor and Distinguished Chair in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy at West Virginia University's School of Pharmacy at the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center in Morgantown, WV. Writing on behalf of more than 650 pharmacies and 359,000 Medicare beneficiaries in West Virginia, Professor Jackowitz expressed his deep concern over the adverse impact that CMS's new policy excluding compounded inhalation medications from Medicare beneficiaries would have in West Virginia and across the Nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to enter Professor Jackowitz's letter into the RECORD.

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY,
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY,
Morgantown, WV, October 30, 2007.

KERRY WEEMS, ADMINISTRATOR,
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, 200
Independence Avenue, SW, Room 314 G,
Washington, DC.

DEAR ADMINISTRATOR WEEMS: Compounding pharmacists play an essential role in many patients' lives by enabling physicians to prescribe customized medication therapy to best meet their needs. Indeed, for the growing number of people with unique therapeutic requirements that cannot be addressed with commercially available products, a compounded product may be the only viable treatment option.

Compounding of medications for patient use has been a significant component of the practice of pharmacy and medicine since the beginnings of our profession. Virtually all practicing pharmacists will be involved with compounding activities at some point during their career. In fact, it is estimated that the 30 to 40 million prescriptions are compounded each year. Pharmacists are the only health care professionals that have studied chemical compatibilities and can prepare alternate dosage forms. In fact, each state requires that pharmacy schools must, as part of their core curriculum, instruct students on the compounding of pharmaceutical ingredients. Compounding pharmacies are licensed and regulated by their respective state boards of pharmacy, rather than the FDA.

With this mind, I am writing to you as a Professor of Pharmacy and on behalf of more than 650 pharmacies and 359,000 Medicare beneficiaries they serve in our state of West Virginia to express my concern about the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) new policy excluding compounded inhalation medications from Medicare beneficiaries. CMS issued this new policy without explanation or medical rationale driven by the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) posture and legal position regarding compounding. It is a reversal of your agency's long-standing policy on inhalation medications. By excluding compounded inhalation medications for Medicare beneficiaries stating that they are no longer medically necessary you are discriminating