

HONORING MR. HAROLD Y. PYON

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 28, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Harold Y. Pyon upon receiving the honorable Suk Ryu Award from the Republic of Korea.

The Honorable Suk Ryu Award is presented from the Office of the President Roh Moo-hyun to an individual who through community service and outreach most helps in the assimilation of Korean Americans into the mainstream population of the United States. It is given annually to a Korean American demonstrating this type of dedication to his community.

Mr. Pyon has a long and distinguished career of service to his community, the Republican Party, and the United States. Mr. Pyon started his career as a medic and medical laboratory specialist in the 15th Combat Support Hospital in Ft. Belvoir, Virginia. After that, he went on to receive his B.S. in chemistry from Virginia Commonwealth University and completed his M.S. in chemical engineering from the University of Virginia. After a stint in the private sector as a technical services manager and Vice President of a real estate company, Mr. Pyon moved on to work in the public sector as a supervisory examiner in the Patent and Trademark Office. Currently, he is detailed to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Technology Administration as a senior advisor to the Under Secretary.

Outside of his professional role, he has a long record of public service. Mr. Pyon has served on the Board of Directors of the Fairfax County Economic Recovery Commission, the Annandale Chamber of Commerce, the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, the Fairfax County Small Business Commission and as a member of the American Heart Association. Also, he has been active in fundraising efforts on behalf of the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the American Heart Association, the American Leukemia Association, the Korean American Community Service Center, and the Korean American Foundation.

Additionally, Mr. Pyon has been active in supporting the Republican Party through his roles as chairman of the Korean American Republican Party, chairman of the Springfield district for the Fairfax County Republican Party, and vice chair of the Fairfax County Republican Party.

A further demonstration of his commitment to the Korean community was shown through his efforts encouraging the passage of H. Res. 487 and S. Res. 283 supporting the designation of a Korean American Day.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend and congratulate Mr. Harold Y. Pyon for being awarded the Honorable Suk Ryu Award in recognition of these numerous efforts. I call upon my colleagues to join me in the applauding Harold for his tireless work for the Korean American community.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD H. LINSDAY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 28, 2007

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor my good friend, Richard Lindsay, who is being recognized this week at the American Heart Association's Ventura County Gala as its 2007 Honoree.

Richard Lindsay is a retired U.S. Marine Corps major who incorporates the Marine attitude of the impossible only takes a little longer in everything he does. He has helped the American Heart Association with that attitude for more than twenty years. Over the years he has chaired many Heart Association committees in Ventura and Los Angeles Counties and currently serves as a member of the Association's Ventura County Division Board of Directors.

It is appropriate that Richard is being honored by the American Heart Association at its Ventura County Gala, which has been described as an event dedicated to the "celebration of life," because Richard is the epitome of the celebration of life.

In addition to his service in the Marines, Richard has built a successful career in the financial services industry, including positions as executive vice president and general manager of major financial companies. He has since opened his own firm, Planned Estate Services, based in my congressional district.

Richard is an adjunct professor of finance at California State University, Northridge, and sits on the Board of Advisors to the university's School of Business. In addition to receiving numerous professional awards, he has authored two books.

Aside from his dedication to the American Heart Association, Richard donates his time, energy, and resources to many other nonprofit organizations, including one founded by a fellow Marine officer, Devil Pups.

At the same time he is a loving and devoted husband to his wife of twenty-seven years, Laura, and their children, Heather and Brandon.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join the American Heart Association and me in honoring Richard H. Lindsay for his dedication and contributions to his community and nation through his tireless efforts and can-do attitude.

HONORING DR. LINDA CUNNINGHAM

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 28, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Linda Cunningham as the Fort Worth/Tarrant County Minority Leaders and Citizens Council Outstanding Woman of the Year.

In light of Women's History Month, Dr. Cunningham will be honored at a reception in Fort Worth for her many accomplishments and selfless dedication to the Health Science Center at the University of North Texas. She will also be presenting the Hattitude: Hats Off to

Women 2007 keynote address, A Mile in Her Shoes, at the Fort Worth Central Library Theatre. As the adjunct assistant professor of pathology and anatomy, her intelligence and devotion to the field of science and medicine has proven her to be an outstanding professor and mentor.

Hattitude began in 2001 as a Fort Worth Public Library event and has grown into a city-wide celebration every March in honor of Women's History Month. The mission of Hattitude is "to celebrate Women's History Month with a tip of the hat to women for all the roles they play, their accomplishments, and their invincible spirit," and I am very pleased that Dr. Cunningham will be recognized at this event for her community leadership and service.

As a University of North Texas alumnus, it is with great honor that I am able to congratulate Dr. Linda Cunningham on her exceptional honor as Outstanding Women of the Year. She is an inspiration and a role model to many, and I am proud to represent her in Congress.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RAFAEL A. LANTIGUA

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 28, 2007

Mr. SERRANO. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise in recognition of a giant in the Dominican community of New York—and, I am proud to say—a close personal friend of many years, Dr. Rafael A. Lantigua. Both admired for the brilliance he has demonstrated as a medical professional, and deeply respected for his lasting dedication to empowering minority communities, Dr. Lantigua's career exemplifies the manner in which members of the Dominican community are strengthening the social fabric of our Nation.

Dr. Lantigua emigrated to the U.S. in 1972, upon graduation from the Medical School of Santo Domingo's Universidad Autonoma. Arriving in New York, Dr. Lantigua trained in Internal Medicine and Endocrinology from 1973 to 1979, first at Lincoln Hospital in the Bronx—where he was named Chief Medical Resident in 1976—and later, at the School of Medicine at the University of Rochester. Returning to New York City in 1980, Dr. Lantigua accepted appointments as Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, as well as Assistant Attending Physician at Columbia-Presbyterian Hospital.

In 1993, Dr. Lantigua became Director of the General Medicine Outpatient Services division of New York Presbyterian Hospital; and in 1994, he rose to the rank of Professor of Clinical Medicine at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons—appointments Dr. Lantigua has retained to this day. In all, Dr. Lantigua has held nearly three dozen academic, hospital and committee appointments since 1975, and has been the recipient of well over a dozen honors from medical institutions, universities, community organizations and elected officials both here in the United States as well as in the Dominican Republic.

Frequently invited to speak on health topics affecting minority communities, and able to

claim both publication and research resumes that are quite extensive, Dr. Lantigua has struck a remarkable balance between his professional and civic life—this perhaps best evidenced by the numerous board memberships he has maintained over the years. Dr. Lantigua is cofounder and board chair of Alianza Dominicana, Inc., as well as board chair of the Northern Manhattan Coalition for Immigrant Rights. In addition, he has served on the boards of such organizations as the Puerto Rican Legal Defense Fund, the Latino Commission on AIDS, the Puerto Rican/Hispanic Institute for the Elderly, the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, and The Dorothy Blumberg Community Fund—just to name a few.

Madam Speaker, I stand before you in recognition of a coalition builder in our community; a man whom I have known and held in high regard for over three decades. In asking that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to a true humanitarian in Dr. Rafael A. Lantigua, I do so not only on behalf of myself, but also on behalf of countless Latinos both in New York and in the Dominican Republic—women, men, and children whose lives Dr. Lantigua has in some way touched—and who look upon his career as a shining illustration of the myriad ways that Dominicans have enriched us all and become integral to American society.

INTRODUCTION OF KIDNEY DISEASE EDUCATION BENEFITS ACT

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 28, 2007

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today, I am introducing the Kidney Disease Education Benefits Act. As co-Chairman of the Congressional Kidney Caucus, I am proud to join with my fellow Kidney Caucus co-Chairman, Congressman JIM McDERMOTT (D-WA) to introduce this important initiative.

Each year, some 80,000 people are diagnosed with End-Stage Renal Disease. This stage of kidney disease occurs when the kidneys function at less than 10 percent and, as a result, are no longer able to maintain life. Patients with kidney disease require regular kidney dialysis treatments or a transplant to survive. Medicare pays for most renal patients at the cost of \$20 billion a year, nearly 7 percent of all Medicare expenditures, despite the fact that the kidney disease population represents just 1.1 percent of all Medicare patients.

Complications associated with kidney disease are common, but can be reduced if appropriate education is provided prior to the onset of renal failure. There are a number of steps chronic kidney disease patients can take to reduce renal failure and better prepare themselves for dialysis, including making lifestyle changes, learning about renal replacement options, and seeking a compatible kidney donor. Medicare, however, does not provide coverage for education on nutrition, treatment options, venous access, or transplant coordination until after the patient has experienced kidney failure and is already undergoing dialysis.

To remedy this situation, we are introducing the Kidney Disease Education Benefits Act of

2007 to make counseling available to patients before they begin dialysis. This is a top National Kidney Foundation legislative priority. Our bill would provide reimbursement for an estimated \$10 million per year for up to six educational sessions for Medicare patients. These sessions would be offered 1 year prior to kidney failure to help prevent renal failure, better prepare these patients for dialysis, and save Medicare costs that can be associated with complications resulting from renal failure.

Kidney disease cannot be reversed, but, with appropriate education, its effects can be slowed, improving the quality of life for renal patients and reducing costs to taxpayers. I would like to thank Congressman McDERMOTT for joining me in the fight against kidney disease. I look forward to working with him and my other colleagues on this important initiative.

HONORING GEORGE BARNES

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 28, 2007

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, March 3rd, the Knox County Republican Executive Committee will honor George Barnes, one of its greatest leaders.

George was born on September 21, 1923, in Sevier County, Tennessee, and graduated from Sevier County High School.

He then graduated from the University of Tennessee and had a distinguished career at Robertshaw Controls Corp. for almost 40 years.

He was active in the Society for the Advancement of Management and the South Knoxville Optimist Club. He has been a member of Meridian Baptist Church for over 50 years.

He has been a longtime member of the Knox County Republican Executive Committee and was president of the South Knoxville Republican Club and chairman of the 27th Precinct.

Senator Ben Atchley has credited George Barnes as being the person who talked him into staying in the legislature as long as he did.

Some people get into politics only for themselves. George Barnes has unselfishly worked for almost all Republican candidates and office holders over his active career.

Working alongside him and supporting him in every way has been his wife, Flo. They are the proud parents of two daughters, Elizabeth, a speech pathologist for the Oak Ridge Schools, and Jean, a lawyer in Brentwood.

George Barnes is honest, ethical, hard-working, patriotic, and above all else, kind. He has touched thousands of lives in good and positive ways.

He is a truly great American and this Nation is a better place because of the life he has led.

COMMENDING THE PASSING OF
H.R. 556

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 28, 2007

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, today, the U.S. House of Representatives unanimously passed H.R. 556, which reforms and modernizes the process by which the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States reviews national security issues pertaining to foreign acquisitions.

I commend the bipartisan House Financial Services Committee for putting together a strong bill that encourages and respects a general policy of openness toward foreign investment, but also protects our national security from new threats in a post 9-11 world.

This legislation makes clear that in reviewing foreign government acquisitions of critical U.S. energy infrastructure, such as pipelines and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facilities, the United States will not turn a blind eye to foreign governments that use energy assets as a political, economic or foreign policy weapon.

As the Committee's report states, we expect "... that acquisitions of U.S. energy companies or assets by foreign governments or companies controlled by foreign governments—including any instance in which such foreign government has used energy assets to interfere with or influence policies or economic conditions in other countries in ways that threaten the national security of those countries—will be reviewed closely for their national security impact. If such acquisitions raise legitimate concerns about threats to U.S. national security, appropriate protections as set forth in the statute should be instituted including potentially the prohibition of the transaction."

Unfortunately, recent actions on the part of the government of Russia demonstrate why such protections are needed. One need only ask officials in the Ukraine, Lithuania, Belarus, Georgia and many countries throughout Europe whether the Russian government—through its state-owned oil monopoly, Rosneft, and gas monopoly, Gazprom—uses its energy assets to "interfere with or influence policies or economic conditions" in their countries. If Gazprom or Rosneft tries to acquire critical energy infrastructure here in the United States, the CFIUS review process should carefully review the acquisition in order to determine the impact on our own national security, and I commend the bipartisan authors of this legislation for demanding nothing less.

I commend the Financial Services Committee for recognizing that the reforms and procedures detailed in H.R. 556 "stand in stark contrast to actions taken by some foreign governments, where expropriations of assets, often in the energy sector, have occurred arbitrarily, without justification, and without compensation for U.S. investors."

As many of my colleagues know, U.S. investors throughout the country lost approximately \$6 billion when the Russian government effectively re-nationalized Russia's largest privately-owned energy company, Yukos, and expropriated its assets without compensation to its owners or shareholders.

Now, for the first time since the Russian government's expropriation without compensation of Yukos, and President Vladimir Putin's