

drug coverage that competes on a financially fair basis with the private plans. And it should end the subsidy to Medicare Advantage, forcing H.M.O.'s to engage in fair competition with traditional Medicare.

Conservatives will fight fiercely against these moves. They say they believe in competition—but they're against competition that might show the public sector doing a better job than the private sector. Progressives should support these moves for the same reason. Ending the subsidies to middlemen, in addition to saving a lot of money, would point the way to broader health care reform.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND UNITED STATES TERRITORIES CIRCULATING QUARTER DOLLAR PROGRAM ACT

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 10, 2007*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, for the fourth time, the House has passed a bill to afford five insular areas and the District of Columbia a quarter bearing a design of their choice on the reverse side. Inadvertently, these Americans were excluded from the 50-State bill affording this same right to the States in 1998.

We owe very special thanks to the successive committee and subcommittee chairs and ranking members on the Financial Services Committee. We especially appreciate the new Chairman BARNEY FRANK who reached out to us to put this bill for consideration by the House on the suspension calendar.

Forty States have had their State design on the reverse side of the quarter with four more States to be added before this year is ended. All the coins are minted according to the year each State ratified the Constitution of the United States or were admitted into the Union. Although States have appropriate latitude, there are limitations as to what can be used as a design. According to Public Law 105-124, the Secretary of the Treasury has the final approval of each design. The law gives clear guidance as to what is an acceptable design concept. Suitable design concepts include State landmarks, landscapes, historically significant buildings, symbols of State resources or industries, official State flora and fauna, State icons, and outlines of States. Among the examples of suitable coins already in circulation are, New York's Statue of Liberty, Missouri's depiction of Lewis and Clark as they paddled down the Missouri River with the Gateway Arch in the background and North Carolina's design depicting the first successful airplane flight. We look forward to the day when the residents of the District of Columbia and of the insular areas can see similar symbols of their jurisdictions and of their American citizenship appear on coins as well.

This bill points out the importance of including all Americans in the symbols of American citizenship. The residents of the District and of the insular areas are full and equal American citizens. To leave them out of mere exercises of citizenship is to seem to deny the citizenship they revere and share with other Americans. The Americans who live in these districts have fought and died in our country's

wars and have extraordinary records of service in the Armed Forces in considerably larger numbers than many States. District citizens, in addition, pay Federal income taxes.

We in the Congress all represent proud Americans. There are, of course, significant differences between the States and the jurisdictions covered by this bill. However, qualification to be part of a program of quarter coins to commemorate congressional districts is not one of them. Under the Constitution, all Americans are equal, notwithstanding important differences in form, structure and other significant distinctions. Today, by including all Americans, Congress avoids any appearance of differential or discriminatory treatment and any implication that these areas are colonies, never the intention when the five jurisdictions were not included in the original bill in 1998, as the House has made clear by repeatedly bringing this bill to the floor.

Today, when our country is at war and faces unparalleled dangers, this bill is yet another example of our unity as Americans and our indivisibility in honoring all of our country's citizens. By repeatedly passing this measure, the House has made it abundantly clear that we are one country and that our hope is that the Senate will join us.

RECOGNIZING PETER FEHNER FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 10, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Peter Fehner, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Peter has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Peter has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Peter Fehner for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout. I am honored to represent Peter in the United States House of Representatives.

LET THE BULLET SPEAK

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 10, 2007*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, A bullet tells a story . . . Tells lawmen the gun it belongs to, identifies the outlaw that fired it. In Jefferson County, Texas, it proves an attempted capital murder.

Gang thugs—with disregard to the property of others—robbed a used-car lot in Port Arthur, TX. When the owner appeared, a coward amid the cloak of darkness fired his pistol.

Unaware he was an expert marksman, the wounded owner was able to return fire, striking the hidden gunman.

The bullet, pointing to the triggerman, now lays embedded in the suspect's forehead.

Refusing its removal, search warrants were issued ordering doctors to extract it.

Doctors backed down and have ignored the Judge's order. The excuse by the doctors: the removal would require the suspect to undergo surgery.

These doctors are confused who the real victim is. Not the outlaw with the mark of Cain, but the valiant survivor who took on his would-be assassin.

In direct defiance of a judge's order, citing the criminal's alleged right to deny treatment, these doctors have thumbed their noses, like insolent children, at our Nation's criminal justice system.

Madam Speaker, this ought not to be. Justice must be served . . . the bullet must tell its story.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING BRANDON HOCHSTEDLER FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 10, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brandon Hochstedler, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 98, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brandon has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Brandon has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brandon Hochstedler for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout. I am honored to represent Brandon in the United States House of Representatives.

THE LIFE OF DR. MARY T. CHRISTIAN

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 10, 2007*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of a citizen of the City of Hampton, who has dedicated her life to making her city and the Commonwealth of Virginia a better place to live and learn. I would like to pay tribute to the contributions of retired Delegate Dr. Mary T. Christian.

In 1955, Dr. Christian graduated with highest honors from Hampton Institute, now Hampton University, with a B.S. in Elementary Education. From there she received a Master's Degree from Columbia University in

1960, and her Ph.D. from Michigan State University in 1967.

Dr. Christian began her civic service as a teacher at Aberdeen Elementary School in 1960 and held this position for 6 years before moving on to Hampton University. At Hampton, she started as an Instructor in the Education Department before becoming a Professor, then rose to Chair the Education Department in 1970, followed by becoming Dean of the School of Education in 1980, and in 1987 she became Professor Emeritus. Dr. Christian has been appointed to several committees with the Virginia Department of Education throughout her career.

Dr. Christian's educational career alone is worthy of celebration. But outside of the classroom, Dr. Christian was an effective state legislator, representing the 92nd District in the Virginia House of Delegates from 1986–2004. She served ably on the Appropriations, Education, and Rules Standing Committees, and was the Co-chair of the Militia and Police Committee. Dr. Christian was also selected to be a member of various General Assembly Commissions including the Joint Commission on Technology and Science, the Hampton Roads Third Crossing Bridge Tunnel Commission, and the Commission on Access and Diversity. Before I came to Congress, I had the pleasure to serve with Dr. Christian in the General Assembly and I know her to be a skilled public servant who keeps the needs of her constituents paramount in her mind while making decisions in Richmond.

Dr. Christian has received many awards and accolades throughout her career. She has been inducted into the Alpha Kappa Mu, Kappa Delta Pi, and Phi Beta Theta honor societies. She is an Honorary Board Member of the National Patient Advocate Foundation. She has received both the Merit Award for Community Service and the Award for Service to Youth from the NAACP. In 2002, Thomas Nelson Community College named the Mary T. Christian Auditorium after her. Dr. Christian is a member of First Baptist Church of Hampton and its Fellowship Choir, and is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., as well as a life member of the NAACP.

Locally, Dr. Christian was founder and leader of several civic and community organizations: Groups Representing Organizations United for Progress (GROUP); Leadership Development Caucus (LDC); Coalition for Community Pride and Progress (CCPP); Association for Restoration of Historic Cemeteries (ARHC); and Co-Chair of the Coalition for Preservation of the Virginia School for the Deaf, Blind and Multi-Disabled at Hampton.

On January 14, 2007, the Hampton Roads Community will come together and pay tribute to Dr. Christian for her many years of service. Proceeds from this tribute event will be used to establish the Dr. Mary T. Christian Scholarship Fund at Hampton University. I would like to congratulate Dr. Christian on her distinguished career of service to the citizens of Hampton Roads and the Commonwealth of Virginia and wish her well in her retirement.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD T.  
STILLWELL

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Stillwell, who, after spending the past 56 years as a firefighter in Pacific Grove, California, has finally decided to retire at the age of 76.

Richard grew up in Pacific Grove, and upon graduating from high school he submitted his application to the Pacific Grove Volunteer Fire Department. The following year he was promoted to a paid position as Fire Engineer. He worked as a paid firefighter for 11 years. In 1962, he resigned from the paid staff to pursue another career, but remained a vital member of the Volunteer Department. Richard was promoted to Volunteer Assistant Chief in 1995, and will hold the title of Honorary Volunteer Fire Chief upon his retirement. No other person in the history of the town has achieved this honorable rank.

Richard is known around town as "Mr. P.G.," and for good reason. He is involved in many community organizations and sponsors several scholarships for students at his alma mater, Pacific Grove High School. He is especially helpful to the young volunteer firemen and finds their enthusiasm for the service keeps him young. He was recently given the Department's highest honor, the Medal of Valor for his meritorious service. Special recognition must be given to his wife, Bev, and their family, for supporting him throughout his career. Over the years, there is no way to count how many birthday parties, Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners, and nights of sleep Richard missed while serving his town.

Madam Speaker, I would like to honor Richard Stillwell for the many years that he spent serving and protecting Pacific Grove.

### MOURNING THE PASSING OF PRESIDENT GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

SPEECH OF

### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my colleague and fellow Michigander, President Gerald R. Ford. I had the privilege of serving alongside then Congressman Ford in the United States House of Representatives for nearly a decade, and was able to observe firsthand the character and integrity of this "congressman's congressman." Congressman Ford's exemplary service was confirmed by the support of the people of Grand Rapids, Michigan, whose love for him endures to this day. As minority leader of this body, President Ford demonstrated the collegiality and uprightness he would draw upon to lead our Nation through a dark time in our history.

I disagreed with some of President Ford's decisions. Along with most of the American public at that time, I disapproved of the way he pardoned his predecessor before trial pro-

ceedings had been initiated. I also disagreed with many of his policy positions. However, time has shown that the man some have called the "accidental president" was the right person to take the highest office in the land at a critical time for our Nation.

Gerald Ford's honor and integrity were the qualities we needed to restore trust and openness to a damaged Presidency. His humble and steady leadership brought our democracy back from the brink of a constitutional crisis. The citizens of the state of Michigan and of our great Nation will not soon forget the important contributions of this man of integrity and honor.

### CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF HIGHER AND POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2007

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Center for the Study of Higher and Postsecondary Education, founded 50 years ago by Dr. Algo Henderson at the University of Michigan with a grant from the Carnegie Foundation. Located in my district, the University of Michigan (UM) is a national leader in higher education and in cutting-edge research, equipping young minds with the best tools to confront the world's problems. Among the best at UM, the Center for the Study of Higher and Postsecondary Education is recognized as an innovator and emulated by higher education institutions across the Nation. Faculty at the Center seek to improve higher and postsecondary education from the perspectives of organizational behavior and management, public policy, academic affairs, student development, assessment, and evaluation. Today, the Center is headed by alumnus Dr. Deborah Faye Carter and staffed by scholars with expertise that spans a wide range of fields in the study.

The Center's faculty members provide valuable leadership to both the graduate students they teach and their colleagues in the field. Thanks to the contributions of the faculty, the Center's research continues to facilitate major initiatives in the field of higher education that respond to the evolving needs of our country.

Graduates of the Center continue into the world providing leadership as administrators and faculty in higher education institutions, as policymakers in governmental and policy agencies, as heads of professional associations, and as researchers in the field.

Current students at the Center are actively engaged in their academic work which is enriched by their many years of experience at liberal arts colleges, State and private universities and community colleges working as admissions directors and professionals in financial aid and faculty and student affairs. Many have served in State and Federal Government agencies and professional higher education associations as institutional researchers, policy analysts and planners. Their experiences at the Center will allow them to contribute to the study of higher education in the same outstanding manner as their faculty and those who have graduated before them.