voted to reach millions more uninsured children in low-income, working families.

This week, Senators can stand up for kids again.

I know that there is pressure from the White House. The White House is asking Senators to turn away this time.

But the President is endangering children when he distorts what this bill does. The President is endangering children when he repeats his veto threats.

Moreover, the agreement does exactly what the President says it should.

The agreement will target the Children's Health Insurance Program toward the lowest-income eligible children. It will give States bonus funding for enrolling the poorest kids for health care. And it will reduce Federal funding for children in higher-income families.

The agreement will not raise the eligibility level for CHIP. That will still be for the administration and the States to decide. That is how the CHIP law was written in 1997, by a Republican-led Congress. We do not change that.

Our goal is to reach more of the low-income, uninsured children who are already eligible for CHIP today. Our goal is to keep the program for kids.

That is why our agreement will curb coverage of adults in CHIP.

It will improve the kids' coverage in so many ways, from outreach for minority communities to dental care for every child who enrolls.

In addition, a straight extension of CHIP at current funding, or at the President's cut-rate budget proposal, will cause thousands, even millions of children to lose their health coverage.

Many families would have no choice at all to get health care for their kids. They would have no way to pay the doctor. They would have no way to buy the medicine.

But CHIP can get kids in working families the doctor's visits and medicines that they need when they're sick. CHIP can get them the checkups that they need to stay well.

In 10 years, the Children's Health Insurance Program has reduced the number of low-income children living without health insurance by one-third.

And 82 percent of Americans want Congress to cover more low-income, uninsured kids with CHIP.

This week, Congress is heeding the call. This week, we will choose to do right by America's kids.

The President should look beyond politics. The President should look to the faces of America's uninsured children.

The President should see that the time is ripe for him to do right, as well.

I thank my colleagues, and urge their support for America's children this week.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

STAFF SERGEANT ROBB ROLFING

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to SSG Robb Rolfing and his heroic service to our country. He was killed in action on June 30, 2007, by enemy small arms fire while on a mission near Baghdad. Robb was a member of the elite Green Berets as a special forces engineer to Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group, Airborne, in Fort Carson, CO. Robb was on his second tour of duty when he was killed.

Robb Lura Rolfing was born on December 4, 1977, to Rex and Margie Rolfing in Sioux Falls, SD. He grew up admiring ''MacGyver,'' prompting him to start carrying duct tape everywhere he went.

Before Robb became a soldier, he attended Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, NY, majored in physics and astronomy, and played soccer. During his time as captain on the Vassar soccer team, he took the team to Vassar's first ever NCAA tournament postseason playoff, in any sport, where he scored the winning goal in the first round of games. To further demonstrate his talent as a soccer player, he was named to the NSCAA/Adidas All-Region Team and the All–New York Team. A Vassar basketball coach told the Rolfing family that he would often see Robb practicing soccer out on the field by himself in the morning and after regular scheduled practices. The coach said, ''If I had 5 Robb's we would win every game because of the determination and focus he showed.'' After college, he went to work in field management at Rollins College in Winter Park, FL, and then moved on to coach soccer at Currey College in Boston.

Robb's mom Margie says that she has started a list called ''Amazing Robb.'' This list is a compilation of stories, thoughts, and recollections that the family has gathered from family and friends of Robb. Margie recalls one particular moment when Robb's sister, Tiffany, was about to graduate from high school. The family thought that he was still overseas during his first tour, but he showed up at home wearing a blanket of Tiffany's college over his head just standing at the door. The only way Tiffany recognized it was Robb was because of his shoes—he had them duct taped because he refused to buy new shoes as the ones with duct tape were far too comfortable to throw away.

Robb always wanted something more out of the life he was given. After the events of September 11, 2001, Robb's calling to help serve his country was jolted into action and he joined the Army in January of 2003. He completed his basic training at Fort Benning, GA, and was assigned to the 101st Airborne at Fort Campbell, KY. Shortly after returning from his first tour, he qualified and was accepted into the special forces unit where he became a Green Beret.

Robb's good will and service touched the lives of many people. Although his life was cut short, he continues to inspire all those who knew him. Our Nation owes him a debt of gratitude, and the best way to honor his life is to emulate his commitment to our country.

Mr. President, I join with all South Dakotans in expressing my deepest sympathy to the family of SSG Robb Rolfing. He will be missed, but his service to our Nation will never be forgotten.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

2007 DAVIDSON FELLOWS AWARD

• Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, it is with great admiration that today I recognize some of the most intelligent, driven young minds in this country. I would like to acknowledge the 17 recipients of the 2007 Davidson Fellows Award, a scholarship awarded to exceptional students to assist them in furthering their education. These scholarships are given by the Davidson Institute for Talent Development to inspiring individuals under the age of 18 who have completed academically rigorous projects that demonstrate a potential to make a significant, positive contribution to society. This year's recipients achieved academic excellence in the areas of science, literature, mathematics, technology, and music. As I read through the accomplishments these young minds have achieved, I can assure you that this year's recipients are more than deserving of such an honor. I would like to take a few moments to describe what each recipient has accomplished.

Richard Alt II, a 17-year-old from Fredericksburg, VA, has compared three weather forecasting methods to formulate a brandnew forecasting method. He has done this through detailed interpretation and analysis of varying aspects of climatology. Through his findings, Richard has created a universal process that allows meteorologists to compile more accurate forecast data and help public officials prepare seasonal response plans for various weather patterns.

Another 17-year-old from Vienna, VA, Christina Beasley has explored human perception and beauty in her portfolio, ''An Experiment in Free Speech.'' This young lady has compared emotion in famous literary works to her own pieces of writing to reveal the tucked away beauty of common occurrences. She has realized through careful research and interpretation that a person must make the connection between emotion and rationality to fully understand the intricacies of the human mind.

Sixteen-year-old Nate Bottman of Seattle, WA has found an array of solutions to the Nonlinear Schrodinger Equation, NLS, that shows the pattern of waves in fluids and plasmas that have sharp boundaries and dissipation. Nate has developed a method of finding

solutions to integrable equations and has discovered that stationary solutions of the NLS are spectrally stable. His work will help in many areas of math and science, including but not limited to the study of Bose-Einstein condensates and plasma physics.

A young woman from Davis, CA, Alexandra Courtis, has developed an innovative method used in areas such as cancer research to track different biological functions via luminescent silicon nanorods and quantum dots. At just 17, she has developed a less expensive method of using sodium silicide and ammonium bromide that has made it possible to produce silicon nanoparticles on a larger scale. Alexandra's accomplishment is a significant advancement in targeting cancerous tumors and individual cells.

Billy Dorminy, a 15-year-old from McDonough, GA, has invented a secure method of message encryption using reduced redundancy representations of improper fractional bases. This new method of encryption takes up far less computer memory while also utilizing confusion and diffusion to keep a message hidden. Billy's method allows for the placement of a second undetectable encrypted message in the body of the first, opening the door for further advancement in the area of message encryption.

Another 15-year-old, Yale Fan, from Beaverton, OR, has furthered the binary quantum computational Deutsch-Jozsa and Grover algorithms to create multivalued logic problems. These two algorithms were among the first in the creation of a quantum computer. His work is relevant in many areas including the vision systems in computers, various economic issues, and aspects related to space, including transportation, scheduling, and manufacturing.

Madhavi Gavini, a 17-year-old from Starkville, MS, has developed an innovative method to restrict the augmentation of biofilm-forming pathogens. For example, Pseudomonas, a pathogen that is resistant to many drugs, produces a biofilm that protects it from antibiotics. This young woman's progress was done through the combination of traditional Indian medicine and molecular biology that will be used to treat millions dealing with Pseudomonas infections.

A 17-year-old from Bridgewater, NJ, Michael Harwick wrote a piece entitled ''Highways: The Road as Existence'' that utilized prose, poetry, and dialogue to depict relationships that oscillate between isolation and connection. Michael consistently astounds the reader with a unique voice filled with streams of symbolic and linguistic meaning. Through his choice of short dialog and extravagant descriptions of a visual world, he has shown the lack of dialog in a world filled with noise.

Todd Kramer, a 17-year-old from Port Jefferson, NY, produced a portfolio that followed his growth as a composer since he was 12 entitled ''Finding My Voice Through Music.'' He believes that each generation needs its musicians, composers, and performers that create artistic conventions that grow and mature with the times. This young man just graduated from the Juilliard Pre-College Division and is a student at the Perlman Music Program. He has performed in such prestigious places as Carnegie Hall in New York and the Kennedy Center right here in Washington, DC.

Fifteen-year-old Shannon Lee of Plano, TX, is another very talented musician who believes that music is a cornerstone of communication, which she has shown through her violin portfolio, ''Creating a Musical Bond.'' Shannon specifically enjoys keeping tradition alive by playing a variety of distinguished composers to captivate her audiences. She earned the silver medal at the Stulberg International String Competition, and she received a scholarship from the Texas Commission on the Arts, where she also performed as a soloist in the Dallas Symphony.

Danielle Lent, a 17-year-old from Cedarhurst, NY, has developed an innovative, cost-effective, and earth-friendly method of recycling plastics. Her process involves the exposure of plastic polymers to supercritical carbon dioxide, creating a plastic that has equal or superior properties in comparison to the original. Miss Lent's discovery has allowed for this entire process to occur without releasing harmful toxins while also reducing carbon dioxide emissions.

A seventeen-year-old young woman from Wesley Chapel, FL, Celeste Lipkes, has transfixed her readers by exploring themes of disease, discovery, and faith in, ''Room to Pace.'' Her portfolio includes the juxtaposition of poetry that is amusing, intense, uplifting, and downright enjoyable with personal essays on physical loss and the oddities of the human family, and finally critical essays analyzing other poetry. Through her work, Celeste wants to inspire her audience to take notice of the details of life.

Yuqing Meng, a 16-year-old from Madison, NJ, feels privileged to contribute to the art of classical music, which he has shown through his piano portfolio, ''Reviving Classical Music Through Individualism.'' When he was just 7 years old, Yuqing was one of the youngest candidates ever to be accepted to the Juilliard School Pre-College Division, where he later went on to win the Junior and Senior Concerto Competitions. In 2007, he also received the Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist award.

Katherine Orazem, a 17-year-old from Ames, in my home State of Iowa, has written a collection of sonnets, short stories, and essays entitled ''After Elegies'' that delves into the human issue of death and examines those who have gone through loss. She looks at these issues from many perspectives, including the loss a widow must face, the denial of his wife's death by a husband, and the pain an apostate feels who has lost her faith. Through her work, we have come to understand the human condition and its variety of responses to death and loss.

A 15-year-old from Norristown, PA, Janet Song has created a urine test to detect the early signs of cancer. She has been able to isolate short circulatory DNA found in urine to identify tumor sites. Janet's new method has made cancer screening less unpleasant, less invasive, and cheaper than current methods.

Columbia, SC, native Graham Van Schaik has researched pyrethroids that are found in common household and garden pesticides. He even discovered that pyrethroids are used in over 30 commercial crops and have had the effect of cellular proliferation in breast cells, a sign of cancer and neurite retractions in neurons which is a sign of neurodegenerative disease.

Nora Xu, a 17-year-old from Naperville, IL, has developed a different method of determining the crystal structure of nanocrystalline superlattice thin films. Using a three dimensional model of the nanocrystalline superlattice, she found that x-ray scattering pattern intensities can be applied to molecules and atoms. Her work has potential in the area of optical and electron microscopes and the ability to deliver drugs to cancerous tumors.

Mr. President, these are 17 very talented, hard-working, motivated young men and women who are making advances in music, science, literature, mathematics, and technology for the betterment of society. I would like to thank all these young people for their willingness to seek out new horizons and make the world a better place. I would also like to personally thank the Davidson Institute for their support of these young individuals. In an ever-changing world, it is the young who show hope for the future. I can honestly say, after learning about every one of these kids, that I have great hope for the future.●

THE DEATH OF DR. ALVIN SMITH

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask to have printed in the RECORD an article on the death of Dr. Alvin Smith, who passed away last week at the age of 75. The son of sharecroppers, he went on to become a noted physician who worked throughout his life to increase access to the health care system, an issue that is near and dear to my heart. My condolences go out to his wife Ann, his three son, and his six grandchildren.

The article follows.

[From newsjournalonline.com, Sept. 19, 2007]

NOTED AREA PHYSICIAN DIES WITH FAMILY AT SIDE

(By Anne Geggis)

Dr. Alvin Smith devoted his life to saving the lives of his patients and curing the ills of the health-care system.

Smith, 75, died Tuesday morning at his Ormond Beach home. His family was at his side.

The son of Alabama sharecroppers overcame meager beginnings to become one of the most respected physicians in the area.