

Require the Office the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs to directly pay service providers for personal care services and transportation to assist low-income claimants who cannot afford to cover the cost of necessary medical and transportation expenses and wait for reimbursement from the government.

Require claims examiners to provide written notice to claimants who file under either Part B or Part E of potential monetary or medical compensation for which they may be eligible.

Require DOL to provide a list of physicians qualified to perform medical and impairment screenings from independent medical associations and institutions of higher education.

Prohibit the Departments of Energy (DOE) and Labor from destroying original documents related to any DOE facility that might reasonably be expected to be used by workers in support of filing claims under EEOICPA.

And, section 11 of the bill would revise the part of the EEOICPA law that specifies which covered workers are part of what the law designates as the "Special Exposure Cohort."

The revision would extend this "special exposure cohort" status to Department of Energy employees, Department of Energy contractor employees, or atomic weapons employees—all terms defined by the current law—who worked at the Rocky Flats site, in Colorado, for at least 250 days prior to January 1, 2006.

The result would be to help provide the Act's benefits to any of those workers who contracted a radiation-linked cancer specified in the Act after beginning employment at Rocky Flats.

As the law now stands, before a Rocky Flats worker suffering from a covered cancer can receive benefits, it must be established that the cancer is as likely as not to have resulted from on-the-job exposure to radiation. That sounds like a reasonable requirement and it would be appropriate for Rocky Flats if we had adequate documentation of radiation exposures for the years when it was producing nuclear-weapons components as well as for the more recent time when DOE and its contractors have been working to clean it up and prepare it for closure.

However, in fact there were serious shortcomings in the monitoring of Rocky Flats workers' radiation exposures and in the necessary recordkeeping—to say nothing of the slowness of the current administrative process for making the required determinations concerning links between exposure and employment.

So there is a risk that a significant number of Rocky Flats workers who should be able to benefit from the Act will not obtain its benefits in a timely manner or will be denied them entirely.

The bill would prevent this miscarriage of justice, by recognizing that Rocky Flats workers have been plagued by the same kinds of administrative problems that entangled workers at some other locations—administrative problems that were addressed through inclusion in the Act of the provisions related to the "Special Exposure Cohort."

My understating of the need for this bill came from meeting with Rocky Flats workers and their representatives and by consulting experts. I have particularly benefited from the great experience and expertise of Dr. Robert Bistline. Dr. Bistline has served as Program Manager of the Energy Department's Over-

sight of Radiation Protection Program at the Rocky Flats field office and has few if any peers in terms of his understanding of the problems addressed by the bill. In particular, the bill reflects these aspects of Rocky Flats history:

Many worker exposures were unmonitored over the plant's history. For some estimated doses were assigned, and radiation exposures for many others are missing. As a result, there are at best incomplete records and many inaccuracies in the exposure records that do exist.

No lung counter for detecting and measuring plutonium and americium in the lungs existed at Rocky Flats until the late 1960's. Without this equipment the very insoluble oxide forms of plutonium cannot be detected and a large number of workers had inhalation exposures that went undetected and unmeasured.

Exposure to neutron radiation was not monitored until the late 1950's and most of those measurements through 1970 have been found to be in error. In some areas of the plant the neutron doses were as much as 2 to 10 times as great as the gamma doses received by workers but only gamma doses were recorded.

As a result of these and other shortcomings, some Rocky Flats workers have been denied compensation under the Act despite having worked with tons of plutonium and having known exposures leading to serious health effects.

Madam Speaker, since early in my tenure in Congress I have worked to make good on promises of a fairer deal for the nuclear-weapons workers who helped America win the Cold War. That was why enactment and improvement of the compensation Act has been one of my top priorities. I saw this as a very important matter for our country—and especially for many Coloradans because our State is home to the Rocky Flats site, which for decades was a key part of the nuclear-weapons complex.

Now the site's military mission has ended and the last of the Rocky Flats workers have completed the job of cleaning it up for closure. And just as they worked to take care of the site, we in Congress need to take care of them and the others who worked there in the past, and do a better job of taking care of those who have worked at other sites as well.

That was the purpose of the compensation act. I am very proud that I was able to help achieve its enactment, but I am also aware that it is not perfect. The bill being introduced today will not remedy all the shortcomings of the current law, but it will make it better.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF SIDNEY HARVEY CRAIG

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of a special man, Sidney Harvey Craig of Santa Fe, California, who recently passed away at the age of 76 years old. He leaves behind his loving wife Jenny, 5 children and 13 grandchildren.

Mr. Craig, affectionately known as Sid, was born on March 22, 1932 in Vancouver, British Columbia and was raised in Alhambra, Cali-

fornia. After attending Mt. San Antonio College, Mr. Craig transferred to Fresno State College and graduated with a major in business and psychology. While at Fresno State he taught dance classes at the Arthur Murray dance studio. Upon graduating from Fresno State he joined the Arthur Murray dance studio and before long owned several franchises and served on its board of directors.

At the age of 22 years old he was stationed in San Diego serving in the U.S. Navy. During the same time he became friends with Hal King, who introduced him to horseracing. King would later become Sid's business partner, trainer and racing manager until he died in 1991. Sid's love for horses led to him owning a number of successful thoroughbreds. In 1995 Sid and his wife Jenny purchased a 237-acre thoroughbred horse-racing stable in Rancho Santa Fe. Several of their thoroughbreds raced in the Belmont Stakes and the Kentucky Derby, and one set a Del Mar track record for 1 1/4 mile.

After moving to Australia with his wife Jenny in 1982 they started Jenny Craig International, the successful weight-loss program which went public on the New York Stock Exchange after only two years. At the height of their careers, Sid and Jenny oversaw more than 650 Jenny Craig centers in the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Twenty-three years and 4 million dieters later, they eventually sold the Jenny Craig centers to Nestle.

In 1992 Mr. Craig returned to his alma mater and made a significant donation to the Fresno State School of Business, which was renamed in his honor to the Sid Craig School of Business. In 1993, Fresno State President John Welty also gave him an honorary degree of doctorate for his contributions to the university, his commitment to others and its students. And to this day, the community of Fresno credits Sid and Jenny Craig's generosity for helping the Sid Craig School of Business become one of the top 100 business schools in the country. Mr. Craig was known for his philanthropist style with business, his generosity and for his passion for horseracing.

Sid Craig will be remembered by many for his success in business, his generous philanthropy, and for his passion for horseracing. I am honored and humbled to join his family in celebrating the life of this amazing man. His presence will be missed in our community and by many others whose lives he so graciously touched.

TRIBUTE TO LOUISE L. FRANCESCONI ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and great respect to Louise L. Francesconi, as she retires after 33 years of service to our great Nation as the President of Raytheon Missile Systems in Tucson, Arizona.

Ms. Francesconi is retiring from this position after leading the world's largest missile company, with sales of \$5B and nearly 13,000 employees, which for years has helped guarantee our Nation's security and interests worldwide. Her systems have been employed to protect

the lives of hundreds of thousands of soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines around the world.

Louise began her remarkable career in 1975 in Canoga Park, CA, as a financial analyst with Hughes Missile Systems Company. In fact, she comes from a family of "missileers." Louise credits her father, Leo Langlois, an engineer with Hughes, for getting her into the business right after her graduation from Scripps College in Claremont, CA.

After joining Hughes, Louise began her meteoric rise through the company. Louise quickly became known and had the well-deserved reputation of being able to not only structure a win-win business deal, but also help the organization think through complex issues and challenges.

In 1993 and the years that followed, she became Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer, President of Hughes Missile Systems Company and eventually, after the Hughes merger with Raytheon, President of Raytheon Missile Systems. Throughout her career, Louise has been known as an inspiring mentor, teacher and role model to all. Her mastery of business strategy enabled the Missile Company to grow over 100 percent in sales over the last 6 years rising to become southern Arizona's number one employer. Louise's dedication to the U.S. warfighter and our allies and friends around the world is legendary. From the Tomahawk Cruise Missile to the complex Missile Defense Systems that guard our homeland, she has provided for the collective defense of this great Nation.

Grounded by her strong love of family, to include her husband John, their children, her parents, in-laws and brother and sister, she has continued to provide strength and inspiration to her Raytheon family. Her long-lasting legacy will be her dedication to the people of Raytheon and her strong core values of inclusiveness, personal and professional ethics and leadership excellence.

I join with my colleagues on behalf of all the freedom loving people around the world to offer our heartfelt congratulations and thanks to a true American patriot. Louise has earned our respect and admiration as a champion for freedom and a role model for all.

APOLOGY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, during floor debate on the legislation to regulate tobacco yesterday, I made some remarks that unfairly, and inaccurately, personalized the issue, and I am here today to apologize to my friend and colleague JOHN BOEHNER.

I have the utmost respect for his professional abilities, as well as great affection for him personally. I did not intend for my remarks to be taken in any way as personal criticism. As a friend, I just did not want to see anything bad happen to him or for his family to be burdened unnecessarily in any way. Those are matters that are distinct from any legitimate disagreement over matters of public policy, and while we have indeed had disagreements, we have also been able to work together on

many matters of importance. I hope that we will continue to do so.

Again, I hope Mr. BOEHNER will accept my apology.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ROBERT K. MORGAN

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Colonel Robert K. Morgan, pilot of the B-17 Memphis Belle. Colonel Morgan served the United States of America in the Army Air Corp during World War II from 1941-1945 and the United States Air Force Reserve from 1945-1965. Colonel Morgan is being honored by the Kiwanis Club of Altoona on August 20, 2008, at which time his widow, Linda, will reflect upon the great adventures and accomplishments of her husband.

Colonel Morgan was a great serviceman who dedicated much of his life to serving our country. For his service, Colonel Morgan was awarded the distinguished Flying Cross with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters and the Air Medal with 10 Oak Leaf Clusters. On May 17, 1943 Colonel Morgan and his crew of the Memphis Belle became the first to complete twenty-five missions over Europe and return to the United States. Colonel Morgan's mission was made into a combat documentary, entitled "Memphis Belle," by Warner Brothers in 1990. Following the historic flight over Europe, Colonel Morgan and his crew departed England in June 1943 for the United States and began a thirty city public relations/war bond tour. Colonel Morgan's crew were recognized as heroes at every stop on their tour and thanked by the American public. Morgan went on to lead the first B-29 bombing raid on Tokyo in 1944, after which he served in the Air Force Reserve and retired as a full Colonel in 1965.

Colonel Morgan's heroic service and leadership in the Army Air Corps during World War II and the United States Air Force Reserve will forever be remembered. His service and dedication brought great pride to our nation, his family, and his community. Colonel Morgan's memory as an Army officer of the highest caliber will not be forgotten. His actions reflected great credit upon himself, his flight crew, and the United States Army. I would like to stand with the Kiwanis Club of Altoona to recognize the late Colonel Robert K. Morgan for all of his leadership and devotion to the United States of America.

Colonel Robert K. Morgan's wife, Linda, his family and friends, and the Kiwanis Club of Altoona are certainly proud of the Colonel's life of service and commitment to our country during a time of war both at home and abroad and it gives me great pleasure to honor his life and selfless service.

NO RECESS FOR CONGRESS

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, For years, this country has needed a national

energy policy that increases the supply of energy, promotes renewable and alternative fuels, and encourages conservation. Kansans deserve action and they need it now. Instead, we have a Democratic Congress blaming the Republican President and both parties trying to score political points in the November election.

After failing to convince my colleagues to stay and work, rather than take an August recess, I voted against Congress adjourning. Now is the time for Congress to adopt a plan to increase supplies and reduce demand. We should stay in Washington until this work is done. The price of gas at the pump, and the cost businesses and farmers face for fuel and fertilizer, tell me that it should not be business as usual in Washington, DC.

IN RECOGNITION OF ASBAREZ-ARMENIAN DAILY NEWSPAPER'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Asbarez-Armenian Daily Newspaper. Asbarez, which translates to 'arena' in English, was founded on August 14, 1908 in Fresno, California, by seven dedicated members of the Armenian-American community: Aslan Aslanian, Bedros Hagopian, Levon Hagopian, Abraham Seklemian, Hovanness Kabadayan, Avedis Tufenkjian and Arpaxat Setrakian.

Like its counterparts in other Diaspora communities, such as Hairenik in Boston and Aztag in Lebanon, Asbarez has chronicled the Armenian experience worldwide. Among other things, they have written about the dire conditions in the homeland under Imperial Russia and Ottoman Turkey, the calamity of the Armenian Genocide, the World Wars, the rise and fall of the first Republic, Soviet rule, the tragic 1988 earthquake, the Karabakh "Artsakh" liberation and the independence of the Republic of Armenia.

In the words of Edward Megerdichian, who worked at Asbarez from 1956-1963, "[Asbarez] was ninety percent voluntary, and everyone had a sense of ownership, a sense of community—that this is our paper and our lives are described in this paper."

During the 1970's Asbarez Publishing Company moved its operations from California's San Joaquin Valley to the Los Angeles basin. Since its inception, the circulation of the newspaper has grown from 1,200 copies to thousands; it has become a formidable bilingual daily newspaper and a dependable source for information in the online community.

It is my distinct honor to recognize Asbarez's unwavering commitment to inform and educate the public. I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Asbarez on their 100th anniversary.