

blocking women financially from obtaining proper health care coverage. Furthermore, this act will prevent insurers in the individual market from either denying or limiting coverage based on a current or past pregnancy as well as method of delivery. This bill will eliminate the insurers from punishing women who are either pregnant or have been in the past. The bill will also require individual market insurers to provide comprehensive maternity coverage. This legislation will not only save the insurer money, but I believe it will improve the health outcomes of both the mother and the child.

To ensure that individual market insurers enforce these regulations, this bill will provide the Secretary of Health and Human Services with the authority to monitor compliance with this act. The Secretary will be able to assess fines of at least \$10,000 against any health insurance company that fails to submit the required data. The act will also require the Government Accountability Office to issue a report by December 31, 2010. This report will address any remaining problems for women on the individual insurance market throughout the entire country.

This bill will grant more women access to affordable health insurance that will meet their health needs. No longer will women be punished for their gender. I urge my colleagues to support my legislation to prevent this type of gender discrimination in the health insurance market.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DAVID JENNINGS BROWN, SR.

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of David Jennings Brown, Sr., whose business acumen, community service and family dedication are inspirational.

Acclaimed as a pioneer developer of Silicon Valley and San Francisco Bay Area business parks, David J. Brown is a man of vision, compassion and energy. David began his business career developing and managing commercial and industrial income properties for Newhall Land & Farming Company and Holvick deRegt & Koering. He then became the Regional Vice President of Boise Cascade Building, where he completed the acquisition and commenced the development and management of four major Bay Area Business Parks.

With a vision to create a commercial and industrial real estate development and management company offering the utmost level of integrity and service, David founded Orchard Properties in San Jose, California in 1973. During its 32 years of operations, Orchard Properties developed over 1,400 acres and 7 million square feet of commercial/industrial property in Santa Clara, San Mateo, Alameda, and Sacramento Counties. Through the teamwork of over 200 individuals, Orchard Properties earned numerous awards and special recognitions over the years, including being named Developer of the Year four times. And, as a result, David is being inducted into the "Developer Hall of Fame" by the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP) in May 2009.

Beginning in 2007 NAIOP Silicon Valley felt that it was important to take a moment to reflect upon the significant role that very few individuals have had in shaping the look and feel of Silicon Valley and the role Silicon Valley's Commercial Real Estate community has played in the international business community. Silicon Valley, as we know it today, is the result of the efforts of a few developers who did big things in the 60's and 70's, including building speculative, flexible buildings that allowed high tech companies to expand, contract and change creatively, a visionary concept from the 1960's. It was considered to be very, very risky and was not often attempted. Yet, the NAIOP Developer Hall of Fame honorees were pioneers who took risks, had vision and worked tirelessly building an industry providing a foundation of the entrepreneurial economy that today is replicated around the world.

In 1995, David acquired a ranch located in Wolf Creek Valley outside of Pagosa Springs, Colorado where his family built BootJack Ranch, which has become one of David's true passions. BootJack Ranch is a one-of-a-kind world-class family compound and retreat. The ranch is considered to be one of the finest and most beautiful recreational and fly fishing ranches in the country. The Brown Family enjoys using BootJack Ranch as a tranquil retreat to provide rest, renewal and introspection for their family, Christian ministry leaders, executives and others in need of a place of silence and solitude.

BootJack Ranch is also the backdrop numerous philanthropic events including the annual Music in the Mountains Festival. The Browns also founded the Pagosa Springs affiliate of the Durango festival of the same name in 2001. Music in the Mountains, Pagosa is a world class music festival featuring a wonderful variety of composers, artists and styles from classical to country and Celtic showcased in the beautiful mountain scenery.

David has 3 daughters, 2 sons and 11 grandchildren. He and his wife recently relocated to Paradise Valley, Arizona where David is currently the Vice Chairman of the Mayo Clinic Arizona Leadership Advisory Council.

I would like to thank David for his contributions to the community and commend him on his meaningful and productive career.

TRIBUTE TO RICK MUTH

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Orange County, California are exceptional. Orange County has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Rick Muth is one of these individuals and he is also one of my closest friends. On April 17, 2009, Rick celebrated his 60th birthday with friends and family.

Rick's success in life began with the positive influence from a special teacher at Mater Dei High School. Henry Enriquez encouraged Rick

to join the track team where Rick discovered a talent that he never knew he possessed. Track built Rick's confidence and steered him in the right direction: towards college. Rick attended Santa Ana College where he became the Freshman Vice President and won national honors on the track team. He transferred to the University of Southern California, USC, earned his Bachelor's of Science in Marketing and still holds a spot on the track team's all-time three-mile list. Upon graduation from USC, Rick went to work for a labor relations firm, then spent two years as an administrative trainee in plant construction at Northrop Aircraft. Rick continued his education at Chapman University, where he earned a Master's Degree in Business Administration.

In 1975, Rick joined the ORCO Block Company, Inc. a family-owned business, as assistant office manager. In many ways, Rick had always been a part of the family business. Rick picked up broken pieces of block as a kid, and he repaired wooden pallets, in the summer after the fifth grade, to earn the new bike that he wanted. In his high school and college years, Rick spent his summers making deliveries, taking orders and working with customers. Rick learned the business from the bottom up, and held almost every position in the company. In 1994, Rick ascended to the position of President and currently oversees the day-to-day operations of the multi-million-dollar company. He has continued the development of its extensive product line, directed the company's aggressive expansion and helped maintain ORCO's high industry profile and leadership role.

Throughout his career at ORCO Block Company, Inc. Rick also has continued the legacy that his father established: service, leadership and community. Rick started this legacy in his own community—at ORCO's headquarters in Stanton, California. Rick's father, Pete Muth, established the Stanton Boys and Girls Club, and Rick continued to support the Club by serving as President, assisting with fundraising and guiding the increase in children from 100 to 650. Rick also serves as a Board Member of the Orange County Performing Arts Center and has helped raise approximately \$1.8 million in donations and matching funds. Rick has also contributed to his own industry by serving as former Chairman of the Board for the National Concrete Masonry Association, NCMA, and establishing the NCMA Foundation, which has raised \$6 million to support research and development. Rick and his father Pete were the first father-and-son team to both serve as NCMA Chairman.

Rick has also not forgotten to give back to the schools that gave so much to him. He was a Capital Campaign Committee Member for Mater Dei High School. Additionally, for the past 28 years, as an alumnus for Santa Ana College's Track Team, Rick has raised money, assisted with coaching and provided jobs for members of the track team. At USC, Rick has been a member of the Orange County Planning and Development Council, partial annual scholarship provider to architecture students and former co-chair for the first USC Symphony Orchestra performance in Orange County. Rick also sits on the Business School Advisory Council at Chapman University, and he and his family have donated funds to support the construction of a new library named in honor of the Muth Family and ORCO Block Company, Inc.

Rick has never expected anything in return for his community service, but his contributions have been recognized. Rick was inducted into the Santa Ana College Hall of Fame, honored as "Man of the Year" by Cypress College and awarded the Ethics in Business award by the Freedom Foundation. Rick received the California SBA Business Person of the Year in 2003. In 2001, the Orange County Business Journal and California State University Fullerton presented Rick with the prestigious Family Owned Business Award. In the spirit of the "America Way," Rick started a group called USA Owned/USA Made, to support companies whose products are made in the United States. Rick worked with Congress to pass a proclamation called "Try American Day," celebrated in conjunction with Labor Day. Many states and cities ratified this proclamation and recognized Rick's valuable contribution. However, to Rick, what is even more prestigious than awards or recognition is that in his personal life Rick is a husband of over 30 years to his wife Nancy and father to his two daughters, Veronica, 26, and Stephanie, 25. Rick also enjoys hobbies like wake boarding, snow boarding, being a private pilot and running as a master's track competitor.

Rick's tireless passion for American business and community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Orange County, California. I am proud to call Rick a fellow community member, American and close friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his work and salute him on his 60th birthday.

HONORING OUR MEDICAL HEROES AND HEROINES ON NATIONAL NURSES' RECOGNITION WEEK

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in awe of all the amazing work our nation's nurses accomplish—from the battlefield in Iraq and Afghanistan, to the late-hours in the local hospitals of our communities. These men and women on the frontlines of our health care system deserve our utmost praise, and in this week, we salute their herculean efforts. But in the coming months, as we ambitiously attempt to bolster and reform America's health care, let's keep their concerns and their voices at the forefront. Let's do right by them, as we should by the 45 million uninsured Americans who need our help.

The elimination of health disparities is a central goal of health reform. Minorities are more likely to be uninsured and often experience worse health outcomes. This is unacceptable and has been the case for far too long. If we do health reform right, we have a great opportunity to address the fundamentally inequitable health disparities that plague our nation. The first major step is to get everyone insured, but that is not enough. We must ensure that we have enough primary care, specialty doctors, and registered nurses to serve everyone. We must take steps to improve the health workforce and infrastructure so that insurance veritably translates into access to high-quality care. In addition, we must ensure that the millions of people who are Limited

English Proficient have access to culturally and linguistically appropriate providers and care.

The nearly 2.9 million registered nurses in the United States comprise our nation's largest health care profession. They are an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care for hospitalized patients, and are prepared to meet the different and emerging health care needs of our community. As a founding member of the Congressional Nursing Caucus, with a mandate to educate Congress on all aspects of the nursing profession and how nursing issues impact the delivery of safe, quality care, I will continue to advocate on behalf of these notable professionals.

I honor registered nurse's accomplishments and efforts to improve our health care system, and we should all show our appreciation for the nation's registered nurses—not just this week but at every opportunity throughout the year.

CONGRATULATING THE INDIANA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF BASEBALL TEAM, 2009 HOY CLASSIC CHAMPIONS

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the Indiana School for the Deaf Baseball Team. Last month, they were crowned the national champions at the Hoy Classic in Fremont, California.

Since the inception of this program four years ago, this was the first time that the Indiana School for the Deaf captured the championship title. I applaud the team for its exceptional performance. This was also the first time that they played on a Varsity Schedule. The team exemplified themselves at the tournament by finishing with a record of 4–1, defeating the host California School for the Deaf by 5–3.

This year's team was led by an impressive roster of talented athletes who were recognized for their outstanding sportsmanship. Pitcher Tyler Crace was named the Most Valuable Player at the event, with 16 strikeouts in nine innings. Tony Dall and Jose Mast were selected for the all-tournament team. I would also like to recognize Will Fetzer, Dylan Osbourne and Trevor Rouse as some of the top players throughout the competition.

It is important to mention that this exceptional achievement would not have been possible without the dedication of first-year Head Coach, Rusty Crace and Assistant Coach, Steve Sorse. With their unwavering support, these coaches pushed the team to reach their full potential. Additionally, the dynamic faculty, staff and student body should be recognized for their enthusiasm and pride in their team.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this outstanding baseball team, the coaching staff and the school for their marvelous achievement in winning the Hoy Classic championship title and distinguishing themselves as one of the best baseball teams in the nation.

MARISSA BAUM

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Marissa Baum who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Marissa Baum is an 8th grader at Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Marissa Baum is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Marissa Baum for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

BELATED THANK YOU TO THE MERCHANT MARINERS OF WORLD WAR II ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Merchant Mariners who served during World War II. Tasked with delivering troops, tanks, food, airplanes, fuel and other supplies to war theaters, Merchant Mariners suffered the highest casualty rate of any of the branch of the service. Their bravery for our country deserves recognition.

I am a proud cosponsor of H.R. 23, the "Belated Thank You to the Merchant Mariners of World War II Act of 2009." This legislation will provide certain honorably discharged U.S. Merchant Marine veterans with a monthly \$1,000 benefit.

With each passing year, there are fewer surviving Merchant Marine veterans. I urge my colleagues in the House and the Senate to join me in supporting H.R. 23 to give these veterans their recognition.

JOHN BADGETT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud John Badgett who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. John Badgett is a 7th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by John Badgett is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and