

Twenty four percent of veterans who have received care in a Medical Foster Home qualify for VA's highest priority group due to having disabilities rated 50% or more service connected or having otherwise been found unemployable due to service connected conditions. Given that many of the veterans who are benefitting from this individualized, non-institutional care are disabled, afflicted with chronic disease, often elderly, and frequently 70% or more service connected, placing the entire cost burden for adult foster homes on their backs is no way to thank them for their valiant years in service. What's more, it creates an inequity of benefits between those who can afford to pay for such care and those that cannot.

The legislation I am introducing today would give VA the authority to enter into a contract with a certified adult foster home to pay for care for certain veterans already eligible for VA paid nursing home care. By doing so, it would ensure more veterans have the option to choose a treatment setting that best suits their needs free of financial constraints.

Our veterans in need of life-long care have earned the right to decide which long-term care environment would make them feel most at home. And, I encourage my colleagues to join with me in cosponsoring this legislation to make that decision easier.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ADVOCATES FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, the Advocates for Self-Government, one of the freedom movement's leading organizations, is celebrating their 25th anniversary this year. I am pleased to take this opportunity to congratulate the Advocates on this anniversary and wish them continued success in promoting liberty.

The Advocates were founded by my friend, the late Marshall Fritz. Marshall saw that the growth of the freedom movement was handicapped by the lack of an organization to help activists better communicate the freedom philosophy to the general public. In order to remedy this situation, Marshall rallied a group of activists and donors and founded the Advocates in order to teach libertarians how to effectively communicate their principles.

Under the leadership of Marshall from 1985 until 1991; Carole Ann Rand from 1991 until 1995; and Sharon Harris since 1995; the Advocates has helped countless libertarians by providing them with the intellectual resources necessary to effectively battle for a free society.

Without a doubt, the Advocates are best known for the "World's Smallest Political Quiz." Created by Marshall and based on an original idea by David Nolan, this quiz graphs an individual's political philosophy based on responses to a series of ten questions that measure one's commitment to economic and personal liberty.

Under Marshall's leadership, the Advocates undertook an aggressive program of promoting the quiz, distributing millions of copies of the quiz to libertarian activists. They also

generously provide free copies of the quiz, as well as libertarian literature and other outreach materials, free of charge to liberty-minded groups such as the Republican Liberty Caucus and Young Americans for Liberty.

The quiz has been taken over 15 million times online, has been reprinted in dozens of newspapers and magazine, is referenced by major high school and college textbooks, and is used by educators in classrooms across America. The quiz is responsible for many people's first contact with libertarian ideas. While traveling around the country, I have often heard people say, "I never knew I was a libertarian until I took the quiz."

The Advocates also recently revamped their Libertarianism.com web site, featuring commentary on the libertarian position on a variety of issues from notables in the freedom movement. I was honored when the Advocates asked me to participate in this project.

As they prepare to celebrate their 25th anniversary, it is a pleasure to thank the founder, the staff and the donors of the Advocates for Self-Government for all they have done for the cause of liberty. I wish them continued success.

CALLING FOR RELEASE OF ISRAELI SOLDIER BY HAMAS

SPEECH OF

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1359, calling for Hamas to unconditionally release captured Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit. On June 25, 2006, Hamas terrorists illegally crossed into Israel from the Gaza strip, killed two Israeli soldiers, and kidnapped Corporal Gilad Shalit. Tomorrow marks the fourth year Gilad Shalit continues to be held captive by Hamas. He has been held in violation of international humanitarian law, without access to proper medical care, without access to his loved ones, and without access to the International Committee of the Red Cross, despite that organization's repeated requests to visit him.

I also rise today to strongly reaffirm America's unwavering commitment to the safety and security of the Jewish State of Israel. Israel and America's shared goal of a peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict can only be achieved when Hamas renounces acts of terrorism such as rocket attacks against civilian populations, suicide bombings in civilian areas, and the extortionist capture and detention of Israeli soldiers.

We continue to stand with the Shalit family in this very difficult time, and are praying for the safe and timely release of their courageous son.

TRIBUTE TO TRISH LOWREY HOOPER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of a distin-

guished Californian, Trish Lowrey Hooper, a longtime resident of the 14th Congressional District, who died after a fall on Thursday, June 3, 2010. She lived 87 full, productive, and compassion-filled years.

Trish Hooper was a devoted wife, a loving mother, intrepid traveler, painter, writer, and passionate American who worked tirelessly for justice, women's rights, and democratic values. As a child she lived in New Jersey, California, and Hawaii, and was a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College.

Trish Hooper had a great sense of *joie de vivre*. She was fascinated by everything and fascinating to be with. She married John Hooper, an attorney, and they spent the years of World War II on military bases. On returning to San Francisco, John Hooper practiced law and Trish raised their four children. In a characteristic action, she, John, and the children traveled by freighter to France in 1957, where they spent ten years with John working with NATO and she coping with the challenges of raising children in houses in Paris, Switzerland and Italy. She wrote charmingly of these European years in her memoirs.

In 1967, Trish and John Hooper moved to Woodside and immersed themselves in local issues. They worked tirelessly with the candidate who would later be their son-in-law, Paul N. "Pete" McCloskey, in his successful campaign to represent the people of the Mid-Peninsula area in the United States Congress.

Trish Hooper could prick the conscience of a community with her powerful thoughts and her pen. She had a conscience, she had integrity, and she had a magnificent mind. She went toe-to-toe with people and their ideas, always maintaining a level of civility and dignity while doing so. She always had the last word because her words were so powerful. She could move an individual with a paragraph, writing scores of powerful Letters to the Editors of newspapers and magazines across the country. Her work improved the editorial pages of local papers as well as the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Time, and Newsweek. She wrote three volumes of memoirs and illustrated them with her own paintings. Her watercolors helped raise money for causes she loved, including animal welfare, death with dignity, and freedom of choice for women.

One of her most recent letters was published in the Almanac, a venerable weekly published on the San Francisco Peninsula, on May 12, 2010. In this letter she excoriated Arizona's new immigration law. She wrote that "this new law increases the underlying racism which seems to have replaced the message held with such pride by the Statue of Liberty, a gift from France: 'give me your tired, you poor, your huddled masses yearning to be free . . . I lift my lamp beside the golden door.'"

The message of 'freedom, democracy, and international friendship' is put aside as this vaunted compassionate country loses its bearings. Urged on by hate-mongers and the shrill voice of 'Gotcha!' plus cries of 'down with government,' we're teetering on the brink of a new brand of isolationism."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest sympathies to Trish Hooper's daughters Margo Hooper and Helen Hooper McCloskey, her sons John C. Hooper and Lawrence Hooper, her sister Helen Virginia Brown, her brother Charles F.

Lowrey, and her five grandchildren. We honor the memory of Trish Hooper for the life she lived so well and for her extraordinary service to our Nation. She was a force of nature and will be sorely missed and never forgotten by anyone who was privileged to know her. Trish made our community better and our country stronger. Her brand of citizenship stands as the highest standard for all of us to emulate.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF DR. WALTER LEAR

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Dr. Walter Lear. Dr. Lear was a committed physician, outspoken health advocate for gay and lesbian people, and a great Philadelphian. A native of Brooklyn, New York, he was born in 1923 and went on to receive degrees from Harvard College (B.S.), Long Island College of Medicine (M.D.), and Columbia University (M.S.). In the 1960s, Dr. Lear left New York to become the Philadelphia health commissioner and later became the executive director of Philadelphia General Hospital and then the regional health commissioner for the Pennsylvania Department of Health. As one of few "out" gay public officials, Dr. Lear was a leading advocate for the inclusion of sexual orientation in civil rights provisions barring discrimination. Additionally, he was influential in ensuring the passage of the Philadelphia Gay Rights Bill in 1982.

Throughout his career, Lear sought to improve the lives of ordinary people by broadening access to quality healthcare, especially to those who were marginalized in society because of their sexuality. In 1979, Lear and a small group of others founded Lavender Health, which would become the first health center in Philadelphia dedicated to meeting the unique needs of the city's gay and lesbian community. Lavender Health, now known as the Mazzoni Center, continues to provide a much needed resource in Philadelphia as it is the only organization to provide comprehensive health and wellness to LGBT people. Furthermore, the Mazzoni Center is the oldest AIDS organization in Pennsylvania and the fourth oldest in the nation.

Lear's determination to help others was truly unmatched and the extent of his work is far reaching. He helped found the Gay and Lesbian Community Center (now the William Way Center), the Philadelphia AIDS Task Force, and the Maternity Care Coalition of Greater Philadelphia. In addition, he also convened the first national conference on AIDS in the 1980s before the disease received any widespread attention from the media or government. In the 1970s, he was a part of a small group that helped to desegregate medical schools in Philadelphia. Moreover, Lear was visionary in his advocacy for expanded access to healthcare beyond gays and lesbians, to include communities of color facing similar barriers to care. Toward the end of his life, his research interests included documenting the 100+ year struggle to obtain universal healthcare.

Lear was not only an advocate for LGBT issues, but also vocal in his support for the

wellbeing of all Pennsylvanians. As an active member in the American Public Health Association (APHA) for over 50 years, Lear championed a number of causes involving minority health, social justice, and health issues facing lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. The APHA recognized Lear's vast work and activism at their 134th annual meeting where they awarded him the Helen Rodriguez-Trias Award for Social Justice. Sadly, Dr. Lear died on May 29, 2010. He is survived by his loving partner of over 50 years, James F. Payne, his former wife, Evelyn Lear; a son, Jon Stewart, and a daughter, Bonnie Stewart. I express my sincere condolences to his family and friends, and honor the great work he has done for the City of Philadelphia and the Nation.

REPUBLICAN YOU-CUT PROPOSAL

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with Americans who are telling this Congress to stop spending.

More than a million votes have been cast this week as part of the You-Cut initiative, which gives Americans the chance to say what spending we need to eliminate.

This week, the American people said we need to stop paying federal workers to conduct union activities.

These are bureaucrats who are paid by taxpayers but spend 100 percent of their time helping their unions. Their salaries should be paid for by union leaders—not hard-working American families.

These workers cost taxpayers \$1.2 billion

This is not the ethical government the American people were promised, and today, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote to stop this unfair funding.

INTRODUCING THE END BIG OIL
TAX SUBSIDIES ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to introduce the End Big Oil Tax Subsidies Act, legislation that will end the expensive and unnecessary subsidies that the American people provide to the world's largest and most profitable companies. The legislation leaves untouched the tax treatment for small, independent companies.

Every year, Americans file their tax forms, contributing to our nation's defense, education, and infrastructure. Yet the biggest oil companies retain staggering tax benefits that shield these companies from their tax burdens. These benefits may have made sense decades ago for a fledgling industry, but today there is no need to protect the largest and most profitable companies in the world from burdens that every other taxpayer faces.

In 2008, the top five oil companies made a combined profit of \$100 billion. In 2009, ExxonMobil hit an all-time record \$45.2 billion

in profits, yet paid no U.S. federal income taxes. In fact, they received a \$156 million tax refund. To be sure, these companies face other tax liabilities. But the cornerstone of financing the federal government is the federal income tax and here Big Oil can largely offset its income with these tax subsidies. It is patently unfair that ordinary Americans must pay into a system that subsidizes this mature industry.

At time when we are working to rebuild our economy and curb the deficit, America cannot and should not subsidize the most profitable corporations in the world. President Obama's FY 2011 Budget proposed ending many of these tax breaks, which could reduce the deficit and fund national priorities from education to clean energy. At the recent G-20 Summit in Pittsburgh, the administration agreed with the other G-20 nations to eliminate these subsidies.

The unique tax breaks enjoyed by the oil industry provide unnecessary and harmful incentives for exploration, drilling, and refining activities that keep America anchored to oil, a threat to our environment and our national security. The United States consumes 25 percent of the world's oil but has less than 3 percent of the proven reserves.

By continuing to artificially subsidize fossil fuels, we undermine investments that will guarantee our energy dependence. It is time for our country to shift gears, end the billion dollar carve-outs for the largest oil companies, and start investing our limited taxpayer dollars in America's future rather than America's past.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2194,
COMPREHENSIVE IRAN SANCTIONS,
ACCOUNTABILITY, AND
DIVESTMENT ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Conference Report for The Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010.

I can think of nothing more pressing to our national security than putting a stop to Iran's nuclear plans. Today, Iran learned that the United States Congress will not stop until we end the tyranny Iran's leadership is promoting.

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operations, I spend a great deal of time focused on preventing Iran from developing an enrichment program that leads to nuclear weapons. Their current leadership is unstable, provocative, and would be a danger to the entire region armed with nuclear weapons.

Non-military options—including activities to disrupt Iranian research—are similarly problematic. This then leads us to consider military options. Here, all we need to do is look at Iraq to understand the difficulties of a military response in Iran.

In fact, during an unofficial "war-game" on Iran, former National Security Council official Ken Pollack said, "Compared with Iraq, Iran has three times the population, four times the land area, and five times the problems."

Some suggest precision strikes at Iran's nuclear facilities, as the Israelis did when they