

GYNECOLOGIC CANCER EDUCATION  
AND AWARENESS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2010*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge the passage of H.R. 2941, to renew and enhance "Johanna's Law" to increase public awareness and knowledge of gynecological cancers. I am pleased to have introduced this important bill with Representatives DELAURO, ISSA, and BURTON.

Johanna's Law established a national public information campaign to educate women and health care providers about the risk factors and early warning signs of gynecologic cancers. This bill before the House carries on that important work by extending funding of Johanna's Law for 3 more years, from 2011 to 2014, and providing funds for demonstration projects to identify the most effective educational tools.

The law was named after Michigan resident Johanna Silver Gordon, a loving mother and dedicated public school teacher, who, despite visiting her doctor regularly, was blindsided by a late stage diagnosis of ovarian cancer, learning only after her diagnosis that the symptoms she had been experiencing were common symptoms of that disease. Tragically, Johanna lost her life to ovarian cancer 3½ years after being diagnosed.

Johanna's story is far too common. Although, it has been 10 years since Johanna Silver died of ovarian cancer, and 4 years since Congress passed this important legislation, each year over 71,000 women in U.S. are diagnosed with a gynecologic cancer and over 26,000 women are lost to one of these serious cancers. Many of those deaths could be prevented if more women knew and recognized the early symptoms of gynecologic cancers and received prompt treatment. For all gynecological cancers, early detection dramatically improves a woman's chance of survival. For instance, ovarian cancer causes more deaths in women than any other gynecological cancer; however, it has a 90 percent survival rate if detected in Stage One, but only a 20 percent survival rate if detected in Stage Three or Four.

Right now, awareness, education, early diagnosis, and treatment are the most effective weapons we have in our war against gynecological cancers. I urge my colleagues to support Johanna's Law so we can prevail in our battle against these terrible cancers that cut short the lives of our mothers, daughters, sisters, wives, partners and friends. I urge the House to join me in voting for this vital legislation.

GESTATIONAL DIABETES ACT OF  
2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2010*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand here today as the sponsor of the Gesta-

tional Diabetes Act and urge my colleagues to support this important bipartisan legislation.

I would like to thank my colleague and an original sponsor of the legislation, Dr. BURGESS and his staff member, James Paluskiewicz for their efforts on behalf of this legislation. I would also like to thank the Committee staff who worked tirelessly to bring this bill to the floor today. Specifically, I would like to acknowledge Anne Morris of the Energy and Commerce Committee and Emily Gibbons of the Health subcommittee who is also a former member of my staff.

Madam Speaker, every single year 135,000 women in the United States are diagnosed with gestational diabetes. And, while gestational diabetes generally goes away after pregnancy, it can have significant health impacts upon both the mother and baby. In particular, women are at much higher risk of developing Type 2 diabetes in the future, and their children are at higher risk of obesity and/or the onset of Type 2 diabetes as adults.

This is why I introduced the GEDI Act. This bill aims to lower the incidence of gestational diabetes and prevent women afflicted with this condition and their children from developing Type 2 diabetes.

We need to have a greater understanding on how to prevent and treat this condition. There is currently an insufficient system for monitoring cases of gestational diabetes to uncover trends and target at risk populations. In addition, new therapies and interventions to detect, treat and slow the disease need to be identified. The GEDI Act will help us accomplish those goals.

This legislation is supported by the American Diabetes Association, the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, American Association of Diabetes Educators, the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American Medical Women's Association, the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses, the International Community Health Services, and the Society for Women's Health Research.

The statistics surrounding diabetes are staggering, but we must always remember there is a human face behind every number, with far too many of them being pregnant women and their children.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this important legislation.

NEGLECTED INFECTIONS OF IM-  
POVERISHED AMERICANS ACT  
OF 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2010*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5986, the Neglected Infections of Impoverished Americans Act of 2010.

H.R. 5986 would require HHS to submit a report to Congress on the current state of parasitic diseases that have been overlooked among the poorest Americans.

A 2008 study by the George Washington University and Sabin Vaccine Institute identified high prevalence rates of parasitic infections in the poorest areas of the United States and along our border regions.

Scientists estimate that there may be up to 100 million infections of the neglected diseases identified in our legislation including Chagas Disease, Cysticercosis, Toxocariasis, Toxoplasmosis, and Trichomoniasis and other neglected diseases of poverty in the United States.

These diseases and other neglected diseases of poverty collectively infect up to 1.7 billion people around the world, but they disproportionately affect minority and impoverished populations across the United States, producing effects ranging from asymptomatic infection to asthma-like symptoms, seizures, and death.

This study is especially important because these neglected diseases receive less financial support than they deserve. A mere \$231,730 of research funding was allocated by NIH since 1995.

This discrepancy in funding is known as the "10/90 gap"; a mere 10 percent of global health research funding is directed towards diseases affecting 90 percent of the global population.

The Neglected Infections of Impoverished Americans Act of 2010 would provide an up-to-date evaluation of the current dearth of knowledge regarding the epidemiology of these diseases and the socioeconomic, health and development impact they have on our society.

I'd like to thank Rep. HANK JOHNSON and Rep. GINGREY for their efforts on this legislation. This will mark the second time we've passed this legislation out of the House and I'm hopeful we can swiftly move it through the Senate.

I'd also like to thank Chairman WAXMAN, Chairman PALLONE, and Ranking Member BARTON for their efforts on this bipartisan legislation.

PROVIDING FOR CONCURRENCE  
WITH AMENDMENTS IN SENATE  
AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3619, COAST  
GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF  
2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 28, 2010*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010, a bill to authorize the important activities and programs of the United States Coast Guard.

This comprehensive legislation includes new and enhanced port security programs that will help the Coast Guard protect and defend our nation's seaports, coastlines and waterways.

Since the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the Coast Guard has assumed additional security-related responsibilities and has improved its port and maritime border security and readiness capabilities.

Accordingly, the bill includes a strong port security title that builds upon the Coast Guard's current initiatives to safeguard the public and protect vessels, harbors, ports, facilities, and cargo within the jurisdiction of the United States.

For example, the bill's expansion of rapidly deployable specialized forces will enhance the

Coast Guard's current ability to respond and operate effectively in a hazardous threat environment.

The bill also directs the Coast Guard to lead the effort to enforce security zones around vessels carrying certain hazardous cargos, such as liquefied natural gas, as well as to increase the number of detection canine teams responsible for maritime-related security.

As the Chair of the Subcommittee on Border, Maritime, and Global Counterterrorism, I am particularly pleased that this legislation includes strong provisions to protect our nation's maritime border.

The bill authorizes the America's Waterway Watch Program—a "see it, say it" maritime domain awareness program that encourages the reporting of suspicious activities on and around our waterways to the Coast Guard.

Additionally, it authorizes the Mobile Biometric Identification Program, a program that will enhance border security by providing the Coast Guard with state-of-the-art biometric technology to help identify individuals interdicted at sea.

The bill will require the Coast Guard to develop a comprehensive strategy to combat the illicit flow of narcotics, weapons, bulk cash and other contraband through the use of submersible and semi-submersible vessels.

Drug trafficking organizations are constructing these vessels for the purpose of bringing narcotics from South America to the United States, and their efforts are becoming increasingly sophisticated.

Even more troubling is the thought that such vessels could be used to smuggle terrorists or their weapons into our country.

The Coast Guard's development of a comprehensive strategy to detect and interdict these vessels will be a key component of our effort to defeat these drug trafficking organizations.

Our Nation demands more from the Coast Guard now than at any other time in the Service's over 200-year history.

During these challenging times, it is critical that we ensure that the Coast Guard has the resources necessary to fulfill its homeland security mission requirements.

Passage of H.R. 3619 will provide the Coast Guard with the long-term tools that are needed in this post-9/11 world. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to join me in giving this important resolution their full support.

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HONORING MONTVILLE FIRE  
DEPARTMENT

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Montville Fire Department located in the Township of Morris, Morris County, New Jersey as it celebrates its 100th Anniversary this year.

Established in 1910 as the Excelsior Fire Company by Mr. John Capstick, the Montville Fire Department has long been representative of bravery and generosity. In just their first year, the fire department boasted an impressive 29 volunteers. Their first drill was performed on September 24, 1910 with Horace Eagan as their chief. On October 1, 1910,

thanks to the efforts of Mr. Capstick, the department was able to purchase their first vehicle: a horse-drawn hook and ladder truck. A few months later, on February 6, 1911, the volunteer firemen constructed their first firehouse with materials donated by Mr. Capstick. On November 6, 1911 the Township Committee took control of the fire department.

When John Capstick passed away in 1918, the department went through a period of financial instability. After reorganizing into different zones the fire department elected five fire commissioners on August 27, 1921. The fire department sold bonds in order to raise money to purchase its first motorized vehicle in 1922. The fire department participated in their first parade on June 3, 1931 as a part of the North Jersey Volunteer Firemen's Association Parade. The fire department upgraded in 1932 to the Buffalo fire truck which provided them with state of the art equipment, for that time period. Then, due to a generous donation by the Ladies Auxiliary, the Montville Fire Department was able to construct a new firehouse.

The 1950s saw two big expansions for the Montville Fire Department. First, in 1952 came the addition of two International 500 GPM high pressure pump trucks to their fleet. Three years later they established the Excelsior Fire Company No. 2 to better cover the hills of the Taylortown district. The Montville Fire Department eventually sold their famed Buffalo fire truck to a private company; however in 1976, the fire department repurchased and restored the vehicle. The Buffalo fire truck is still owned by the department and since the restoration project has received hundreds of trophies.

The Montville Fire Department has always been a leader in innovation. They were the first department in Northern New Jersey to win the National Fire Prevention Award. In 1957 the department was awarded for organizing one of the first Junior Fire Marshal programs in the Nation. They also were the first department to distribute reflectors to invalids and to spray Christmas trees with fire retardant.

Today, the Montville Fire Department boasts an impressive five fire trucks and responds to a wide array of emergencies. The success of volunteer fire departments such as this one is vital to the security of millions of Americans.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Montville Fire Department as they celebrate 100 years of committed service.

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HONORING THE REOPENING OF  
THE YANKEE AIR MUSEUM

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Yankee Air Museum, a marvelous museum located in the 15th Congressional District, in celebration of its reopening. Originally created in 1981 for the purpose of preserving Willow Run's aviation history, Yankee Air Museum has acquired and restored an original U.S. Army Air Force hangar, as well as a B-24 Privateer. Over the years the Yankee Air Museum has come to serve as a reminder of our country's manufacturing might.

Since obtaining the B-24 in 1987, the Yankee Air Museum has acquired five planes from

the World War II era that have since been restored to flying status, including a Douglas C-47, B-17 Flying Fortress, B-25 Mitchell, and two Taylorcraft L-2 Liaisons. The museum has also collected various retired aircraft, including a B-52 Stratofortress, in addition to various artifacts, including photographs, books and uniforms that preserve and display the aviation history of the State of Michigan.

Sadly, on October 9, 2004, the Yankee Air Museum suffered a fire that destroyed much of the history that the museum had sought to preserve. Historic artifacts, photos, books, as well as retired aircraft, were lost in the blaze. After 6 years of hard work by the Yankee Air Museum members, the museum is set to reopen on October 9, 2010, with three of their operational aircraft—the B-17, C-47 and B-25—in working condition. The reopening of the Museum will be followed by an Inaugural Gala and a public grand opening celebration.

I am proud of the Yankee Air Museum's many contributions to Michigan's 15th Congressional District and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Museum on its inspirational reopening Celebration.

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HONORING DR. THOMAS  
SVITKOVICH

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Thomas Svitkovich on his retirement as Superintendent of the Genesee Intermediate School District. A reception in his honor will be held tonight in Flint Michigan.

Dr. Thomas Svitkovich has been an educator for 46 years, starting in 1964. He started as a mathematics teacher, and has served as a junior high principal, a high school assistant principal, a high school principal, an associate superintendent, a deputy superintendent, and as a superintendent. In his capacity as the GISD Superintendent, he led the development of the Genesee Early College, GISD's Transition Center for adult students with disabilities, the Genesee County Great Start Collaborative, the statewide Seat-Time Waiver, and implementation of shared-services programs with local school districts. Under his leadership, Genesee Intermediate School District has gained a reputation for excellence and has received numerous state and national awards, including in the areas of overall administration, technology, and distance learning. Dr. Svitkovich has shared his knowledge of the education field by writing articles, making presentations and advocating on both the state and national level.

An active member of the community, Dr. Svitkovich has strengthened the bonds between education and the community to better prepare students for their future role in our society. He has established strong relationships with non-profits, health and human services agencies and the business community.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Dr. Thomas Svitkovich on his retirement from the Genesee intermediate School District. I wish him the best in his future endeavors.