

H.R. 4821 THE “KAYTLYNN NOGGLE
FEDERAL LIFE INSURANCE EQUITY ACT”

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the “Kaytlynn Noggle Federal Life Insurance Equity Act,” named in honor of the daughter of constituents of mine, Elizabeth and Larry Noggle; and to encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill.

I would like to read the e-mail sent to me by Mr. Noggle as I think it sums up the need for this legislation far better than I could.

“Representative Burton, recently my wife, Elizabeth, and I had a stillborn daughter, Kaytlynn Grace on December 19, 2009.

We are both Federal employees with the Defense Department and when we looked to see if the Federal Group Life Insurance covered stillborn children, we were told it did not.

As you are probably aware, Indiana law requires any child 20 weeks gestation or more to be buried or cremated as if they were a regular person who lived and died, the cost of which ran our family over \$2,000 in funeral expenses.

As the insurance didn't cover it, this was a large unexpected expense. Since Indiana law requires burial, we had hoped our insurance would cover at least the funeral expenses as we carried the family coverage on our policy. We discovered that for military service members, their life insurance covers stillborn children up to \$10,000.

While neither Elizabeth nor I expect to benefit from any changes, we request that the Federal Employees Group Life Insurance program be modified to include stillborns for all Federal employees, at least equivalent to the Servicemembers group Life Insurance Program.

We aren't looking to profit from Kaytlynn's death. We are hoping to bring about a change to help other families in this situation. Thank you Larry Noggle.”

Madam Speaker, Public Law 110–389, the “Veterans’ Benefits Improvement Act of 2008” in addition to enhancing other veterans and military benefits, amended the definition of dependent under the Family Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance program to include stillborn children. And coverage for stillborn children has been part of the program since November 18, 2009.

The “Veterans Benefits Improvement Act” did not, however, amend the definition of dependent under the Federal Employees Group Life Insurance program. The Kaytlynn Noggle Federal Life Insurance Equity Act simply corrects this imbalance and brings the two programs into parity.

Although I do not have an official CBO score on the bill, the costs to the Federal Government should be negligible for several reasons.

First, the cost of Basic insurance under the Federal Employees’ Group Life Insurance program is shared between the employee and the Government; with the employee paying $\frac{2}{3}$ of the total cost while the Government pays $\frac{1}{3}$. The cost of the Optional Coverage under the program—in other words coverage for spouses and children (including coverage for

stillborn children)—is paid 100 percent by the employee.

Second, stillbirths are fortunately rare. According to the latest figures from the Centers for Disease Control, each year in the United States approximately 25,000 babies are stillborn—roughly 1 percent of all births. Consequently, the probability is that the Federal Employees Group Life Insurance program would pay out relatively few claims under the stillborn provision.

To paraphrase Mr. Noggle, no one is going to make a profit from this provision. But it will hopefully give Federal families some peace of mind that they won't be made destitute by the tragic event of a stillborn baby.

I would encourage all of my colleagues to co-sponsor this critically important legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT FRONEK FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE NEW LENOX FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, on April 3, 2010, friends, family, and colleagues of Robert Fronek will gather to celebrate his 35 years of service to the New Lenox Fire Protection District. Today, I join the chorus of praise for Robert's service.

Robert, or Bob to his friends, began his service to the New Lenox Fire Protection District on June 14, 1973. When he first began, Bob gave his time for little or no pay. He gained a Master's Degree in Fire Science and his role in the fire department grew as he devoted his time and effort to the Fire Protection District.

Over the past 35 years Bob has worked for the New Lenox Fire Protection District. He has served as Lieutenant, Captain, Deputy Chief, and Trustee. He currently serves as District Operations Manager. Bob is the only person to have held every office on the district's Board of Trustees, serving as President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Bob has also been awarded the honor of Firefighter of the Year. During his time with the Fire District, Bob was an advocate for the businesses in New Lenox by making sure that the Fire District received bids from local businesses whenever possible. Bob is known to his colleagues as a very meticulous worker and a great friend.

Bob is also a loving grandfather, father, and husband. Bob and his wife Mary have been married for 37 years, all but one of which have been spent living in New Lenox. Bob and Mary have five children and ten grandchildren.

The 11th Congressional District of Illinois and the community of New Lenox owe Robert Fronek a debt of gratitude. I am proud to represent him and all the wonderful firefighters who serve the 11th District. I congratulate Robert on being honored by his colleagues and wish him continued success.

RECOGNIZING CORPORAL CHAD WATSON

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to recognize Cpl Chad Watson of the United States Marine Corps, a true American hero.

Corporal Watson gave up his final year of a wrestling scholarship at Indiana University to serve his country in Iraq with the Marine Corps in 2006. He was quickly assigned to be a team leader, and led his team on five ambushes and more than 60 combat patrols. Corporal Watson was popular with his team and was even voted as the one Marine his fellow Marines would most like to serve with in combat.

However, after serving a little more than three months in Fallujah, Corporal Watson's time in Iraq was cut short when he was severely injured by an IED while on a mission. He spent the next 17 months in various forms of recovery and rehabilitation.

Corporal Watson received the respect and praise of his colleagues while serving in the military, and was named Marine of the Quarter for his actions in Iraq. Despite his injuries and substantial recovery time, he continues to serve his country and his fellow servicemen through his work with the Wounded Warrior Project. This organization seeks to empower injured veterans by spreading awareness and enlisting the aid of the public to meet the needs of men and women who have been injured in service to their country. The Wounded Warrior project also helps severely injured service members aid and assist each other.

Corporal Watson's devotion to his country before, during, and after his time in Iraq is an example of true patriotism. I want to both recognize him and, on behalf of the United States Congress, thank him for his selfless service on the frontlines in Iraq and for his continued dedication to serving as a tireless advocate for our nation's veterans.

HONORING JEAN SPRINGER

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an American heroine and one of my constituents, Jean Springer. Jean was a twenty-two year old student at Adelphi University, who instead of thinking about studying and exams, began thinking about how she could help her country in the War effort.

In 1943, Jean joined the newly formed Women Air Force Service Pilots or WASP Corps and began flying non-combat missions in support of the United States Army Air Forces.

Jean grew up in Long Island, New York. She learned to fly on Long Island and began a lifelong love of flying.

Jean and more than one-thousand other female pilots joined the Army Air Forces WASP Corps in an effort to free up their male counterparts to fly combat missions in the war effort. At that time women pilots were prohibited

from flying combat missions. Instead they flew missions to ferry military personnel, equipment and delivered new aircraft.

Yesterday, the United States Congress honored these women by awarding them the Congressional Gold Medal, a recognition that was long overdue. It wasn't until 1977 that our nation recognized these women for their military service. The WASP Corps was disbanded in 1944.

Jean relocated to Cincinnati over sixty years ago and is the retired Director of the Men's Mercantile Library Association. She is a mother of three and grandmother to four wonderful grandchildren, her family was present today to see her honored.

Jean and the women of the Women Air Force Service Pilots Corp are true American Heros. I am extremely happy that today they were given the recognition they have long deserved.

RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTIONS OF KOREAN AMERICANS

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1036 to recognize the contributions of Korean Americans in the United States.

On January 13, 1903, over a hundred Korean immigrants came to the United States, and today there are more than a million people living in this country who can trace their ancestry to Korea. In my district in Texas, we are privileged to have a very large and dynamic Korean American community, and through the years, Dallas has benefitted immensely from this community's contributions. Additionally, the Dallas/Fort Worth area has a remarkably strong trading relationship with South Korea and the city both imports and exports exhaustively with the country.

Mr. Speaker, our country is stronger because of communities like the Korean American community, and we are fortunate that they have added unique and dynamic attributes to the American character. I ask my fellow colleagues to join me today in honoring their contributions to American culture and in celebrating their accomplishments in this country.

IN RECOGNITION OF GLEN KROHN FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE NEW LENOX FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, on April 3, 2010, friends, family, and colleagues of Glen Krohn will gather to celebrate his 50 years of service to the New Lenox Fire Protection District. Today I join the chorus of praise for Glen's service.

Glen, a 70 year resident of New Lenox, began his service to the New Lenox Fire Pro-

tection District on December 8, 1960. When he first began, Glen gave his time for little or no pay. His role in the fire department grew as he devoted additional time and effort for what he viewed as a great cause.

Glen began his life of service to our country with three years in the US Army. He then began a half century of service to the New Lenox Fire Protection District. He has served as Lieutenant Engineer, Chief Engineer, and, since 1997, as Trustee. Glen has twice been awarded the honor of Firefighter of the Year. He is known to his colleagues as the historian of the fire district and is said to possess a heart of gold.

Glen is also a loving grandfather, father, and husband. Glen and his wife, Doris, have been married for 56 years and have three children and seven grandchildren.

The 11th Congressional District of Illinois and the community of New Lenox owe Glen Krohn a debt of gratitude. I am proud to represent him and all the wonderful firefighters who serve the 11th District. I congratulate Glen on being honored by his colleagues and wish him continued success.

HONORING ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE FOR HISTORIC SOLAR ARRAY

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Arizona Western College, a community college in southwestern Arizona that serves over 13,000 full-time and part-time students in Yuma and La Paz Counties. Arizona Western College, in collaboration with Arizona Public Service and Power Purchase Agreement Inc., will be establishing the largest array of solar energy panels of any college in the country. The total solar installation, which will be on the college's main campus in Yuma, Arizona, will be 5 megawatts, generating enough energy to cover 100% of the college's energy needs.

The installation will also be a testing site for manufacturers around the world as well as the foundation for education and workforce development in renewable energy technology. Arizona Western College is in the process of developing curriculum in solar energy technology, ranging from occupational certificates to an associate's degree program while plans to partner with university programs for bachelor and master's degrees are also underway. The installation will not only provide a source of clean energy for the campus, but it will also help train the next generation of "green collar" professionals. While the solar array will most surely change the face of the local economy, it also has the potential to impact solar technology research and education on a national and global scale. By training individuals in these technologies and supporting technological advances in solar energy production, Arizona Western College is leading the way to a clean energy economy.

Arizona Western College's decision to enter this partnership will help reduce our country's dependence on unsustainable fossil fuels, actions which I applaud. By investing in renewable energy technologies and research, Ari-

zona Western College will help make these technologies more affordable and readily available across America. Our country has been at the forefront of past technological revolutions, and with Arizona Western College spearheading the effort, America will be the leading innovator in solar energy technology.

This project takes us one step closer to establishing a sustainable energy future. As a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources, I not only admire but also wholeheartedly support Arizona Western College's initiative to help lead the country in developing technologies that will help harness the power of the sun.

SARA PLATT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sara Platt. Sara is a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of the USA and earning the high honor of the Gold Award.

Sara's outstanding achievement reflects her hard work and dedication. Sara has exhibited unique and creative examples of service that have made a difference in her community. I am confident that she will continue to hold herself to the highest standards in the future. This is an accomplishment for which Sara can take pride in for the rest of her life.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Sara Platt for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of the USA and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

CONGRATULATING JOHN D. MC CARTHY WHO WAS NAMED MAN OF THE YEAR BY THE WILKES-BARRE FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to John D. McCarthy, who was named "Man of the Year" by the Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, June 19, 1935, Mr. McCarthy graduated from St. Mary's High School and King's College where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration.

Mr. McCarthy is chairman of the board of McCarthy Tire Service Company, Inc., one of the largest tire distributorships in North America and also Chairman of the Board of McCarthy Realty, Inc.

Mr. McCarthy has, for many years, left an indelible and positive imprint on many groups and organizations in the Greater Wyoming Valley. He served on the boards of directors of the Wyoming Valley Health Care Systems,