

merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Daniel Ross Mallette for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING CAROLINA INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS

HON. BOB INGLIS

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2010

Mr. INGLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Carolina International Trucks (CIT) and its President, Richard D. Ryan, on the occasion of receiving the International Circle of Excellence Award for 2009. CIT maintains a significant presence in the Fourth Congressional District with a dealer location in Greer, SC.

With 310 employees, CIT is one of the top truck dealerships in the Southeast and the entire nation. In 2003, it was named the International Dealer of the Year, an honor awarded to the dealer of International brand trucks who exhibits the highest commitment to best-in-class customer service. Including this new award recent award, CIT has now received the Circle of Excellence Award, under Richard's leadership, a total of 15 times.

The Circle of Excellence, which is awarded by the International dealer organization of Navistar, Inc., honors International truck dealerships that achieve the highest level of dealer performance with respect to operating and financial standards, market representation, and most importantly, customer satisfaction. It is the highest honor a dealer principal can receive from the company.

Through Richard's commitment to hard work and outstanding customer service, he has built a business that is contributing to economic growth during these challenging times. Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Richard Ryan for his record of accomplishment and for his many contributions to his community, state and nation.

HONORING BILL POWERS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to Bill Powers as he is honored with the prestigious Cariño Award from the California Alliance for Retired Americans. A tireless advocate for seniors', renters', workers' rights and health care for all, Bill is more than deserving of this acknowledgment. On behalf of the people of Sacramento and the Fifth Congressional District of California, I ask that all my colleagues join me in honoring his service and many remarkable accomplishments.

For over forty years, Bill Powers has advocated for the protection of the rights and lives of those whom policymakers far too often tend to forget. As a founding member of the California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA)

and as their lead volunteer lobbyist, Bill has helped CARA grow into a strong organization that ensures seniors and health care issues are at the forefront of policymakers' minds. As the lead volunteer advocate in Sacramento, Bill has trained and mentored dozens of CARA members who have followed him into advocacy.

The Cariño Award was created to honor individuals and organizations who have demonstrated their commitment to improving the quality of life for seniors and their families. Bill is most deserving of this honor as he has continuously gone the extra mile to improve the quality of life for seniors, families and working people. After retiring from the Western Center on Law and Poverty, Bill began volunteering with the Gray Panthers, Older Women's League, AARP, and the Congress of California Seniors before becoming a founding board member with CARA.

Prior to his work with seniors' organizations, Bill had a passion for affordable housing. Before he moved to Washington, DC, Bill helped to build the first affordable housing development in Germantown, Philadelphia. While working in our nation's capital, he advocated for increased affordable housing at a national level by working for the National Housing Law Center and the Housing Assistance Council. Today, he continues his advocacy with the California Coalition for Rural Housing.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the numerous contributions made by Bill Powers during his lifetime of service to the people of our nation. Throughout his career he has worked to further causes he believes in and has touched many people's lives. As he enters the next phase in his life, and his wife Gloria; three children Anne, Susan and Steve; and six grandchildren, gather to celebrate his inspiring commitment to justice and fairness, I ask all my colleagues to join me in thanking my friend, Bill Powers, for his public service, and to wish him success in his future endeavors.

HONORING NEW MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2010

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to New Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Newnan, Georgia, which is celebrating its 138th year of serving the Lord in our community. In Georgia's 3rd Congressional District, few churches have witnessed the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries, but New Mount Calvary Baptist has attained that distinction. New Mount Calvary has witnessed many seminal events in our nation's history, and it has carried on from the Reconstruction Era to election of our nation's first African-American president.

A church that has kept its doors open for 138 years has blessed its families for generation after generation. The Lord calls on us to gather together as believers in his church to worship Him. The church is where we receive His Word, His blessings and His guidance. We go forth from the church to serve in our respective communities.

The members of New Mount Calvary Baptist Church are rightfully proud of how long they

have actively served in their community. I asked the House to join me in congratulating this church on its long, proud record of work in Newnan and in sending best wishes for many more important milestones in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION AND LEADERSHIP OF BARBARA WEINREICH

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2010

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. This month, I would like to recognize a few of the phenomenal women from Central Florida who are making a distinguished contribution to my district, the great State of Florida, and to our nation as a whole. This month I would like to recognize Barbara Weinreich. Ms. Weinreich has greatly given back to our Orlando community, which has been her home for the last 49 years.

Ms. Weinreich earned both her Bachelor of Arts degree in English and a Masters of Education degree in Elementary Education from Cornell University. A teacher for 25 years at Eastbrook Elementary School, she is now retired from the Seminole County Public School System. Her service to the community supercedes teaching our children; she is also a leader and advocate for the Central Florida Jewish community and for inter-faith understanding and activism.

Currently, Ms. Weinreich serves on the Board of Directors and Chairs the Community Relations Committee, CRC, of the Jewish Federation. She is a member of the Holocaust Center's Board of Directors, Friends of the Jewish Pavilion's Board of Directors, Beit Hamidrash, and a member of the Advisory Committee for the Judaic Studies Department at the University of Central Florida.

Madam Speaker, during Women's History Month, it is my honor to recognize Barbara's dedication to public education, as well as her devotion to the Florida Jewish community. Barbara's activism with our Florida community is something I admire and respect.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2010

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, the one-size-fits-all federally controlled health care plan proposed by the Democrats as "reform" will never address the particular needs of each state the way a successful health care system must do.

It is essential that Congress allow states the flexibility to respond to local markets, institutions, demographics, and issues. At the very least a federal plan must contain opt-out provisions for states. The current plan does not include these provisions and could seriously undermine years of hard work and progress in Utah.

Utah's Governor recently sent a letter to the members of our delegation outlining some of

his concerns with the current proposal for a federal takeover of health care. In his letter, the Governor criticized the current health care legislation as not providing Utah the flexibility to create solutions and address problems in a manner best suited to Utah's unique needs.

The Utah state legislature shares the Governor's concerns about increased federal restrictions on states' abilities to regulate health care. The legislature passed a bipartisan concurrent resolution urging Congress, should it pass health reform legislation that further restricts states, to grandfather certain state laws, regulations and practices that have proven very successful in Utah.

I stand with the Utah legislature and the Governor in urging Congress to refuse to enact any legislation that imposes further restrictions on a state's ability to regulate health care in the way that best meets the needs of its citizens.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,
Salt Lake City, Utah, March 11, 2010.
Hon. JASON CHAFFETZ,
Longworth Building,
Washington DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN JASON CHAFFETZ, I am writing to encourage you to resist the Obama Administration's current push to pass the White House health care reform plan as quickly as possible. As I have outlined in previous communications, the White House plan is not in the best interests of the citizens of the State of Utah.

While in Washington recently with the National Governors Association, I discovered, through discussions with my counterparts, that many are working on state-based health system reform. It quickly became clear, however, that the country's governors were not welcome to participate in the national dialog, which is an unfortunate and critical mistake. States must have the opportunity to address local needs with local solutions and to help shape the national debate.

Simply put, the White House plan does not provide Utah with the flexibility to create solutions and address problems in a manner best suited to our unique needs. A one-size-fits-all "solution" will never address the particular needs of each state and its citizens. States must be allowed flexibility to respond to local markets, institutions, demographics, and issues. At the very least, a federal plan must contain opt-out provisions for states like Utah, which has already come so far in reforming our own health care systems. The current plan does not contain these provisions and, as it stands today, could seriously impede three years of hard work and progress in Utah. These opt-out provisions are critical to states like Utah, which is leading the way in reform.

The White House plan is a rejection of the concept of federalism, which is so vital to our nation. It ignores the fact that the right way to go about reform is to allow the 50 states to be 50 laboratories of innovation. This is the only way to really learn what works and what doesn't, and for whom. For the past three years, Utah has been one of the leading states in developing health care reform, and the results are beginning to show great promise. We have had several successes, particularly with the Utah Health Exchange, and we continue to build on those successes.

Our friends in other states are also beginning to learn what works for them and what does not. If Washington leaders are serious about finding a good solution for the nation, shouldn't they be looking to these states for guidance?

If designed correctly, federal reform that creates flexibility and rewards innovation

will provide benefits well into the future. In fact, I would like nothing more than to lend my support to a meaningful bipartisan federal health reform bill. However, there appears to be little interest from the White House to create such a bill. The process the Administration is pursuing all but guarantees that no bipartisan bill will emerge. Yet, here in Utah, all of our health system reform legislation has enjoyed broad bipartisan support. It can—and it should—be done. That message must be heard in Washington.

As Governor, I ask that you continue to work toward a bipartisan federal reform bill. One that recognizes the proper role of the states as laboratories and provides the support we need to be flexible in addressing our unique situations and demographics.

Thank you for your leadership and assistance with this very important issue.

Sincerely,

GARY R. HERBERT,
Governor.

UTAH STATE LEGISLATURE
H.C.R. 8 Enrolled
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON FEDERAL
HEALTH CARE REFORM
LONG TITLE

General Description: This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and Governor urges Congress to refuse to pass any health care legislation that contains certain provisions, urges Congress to pass health care legislation with specific provisions, and urges Congress, should it pass health reform legislation that further restricts states, to grandfather certain state laws, regulations, and practices.

Highlighted Provisions: This resolution urges Congress to refuse to enact, and the President of the United States to refuse to sign, any legislation that imposes further restrictions on any state's ability to regulate the payment and delivery of health care, imposes additional financial burden related to health care on any state, or limits the ability of consumers and businesses to create innovative models for higher quality, lower cost health care; urges Congress to pass, and the President to sign, legislation that grants states greater flexibility under federal laws and regulations related to health care and encourages states to create health reform demonstration projects with the potential for replication elsewhere; and urges that should Congress pass, and the President sign, legislation that further restricts states in any manner, the legislation recognize states' efforts to reform health care by grandfathering any state laws, regulations, or practices intended to contain costs, improve quality, increase consumerism, or otherwise implement health system reform concepts.

Special Clauses: None.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:

Whereas, people's health affects not only their sense of well being, but their capacity to contribute to their families, to their employers, and to society at large;

Whereas, the improvement and maintenance of individual health depends to a significant extent on the widespread availability of affordable, high quality health care;

Whereas, the widespread availability of affordable, high quality health care is threatened by long-term runaway spending in a system that too often delivers suboptimal care;

Whereas, runaway spending and sub-optimal care are attributable to various factors, but are perpetuated to a large extent by a third-party payer system that fails to reward individual effort to preserve and im-

prove one's health and that fails to reward delivery of the most effective care at the lowest cost;

Whereas, for many years, Utah has been laying the foundation for genuine long-term health system reform;

Whereas, this foundation includes the creation of the Utah Health Data Authority in 1990 and the subsequent collection and publication of hospital charges by facility and adjusted for risk;

Whereas, this foundation includes the establishment in 1993 of the Utah Health Information Network, a nationally recognized statewide system for processing health insurance claims at a small fraction of the cost often charged by other claims processors;

Whereas, this foundation includes the 2005 requirement that the Utah Health Data Authority publish reports that compare health care facilities based on charges, quality, and safety;

Whereas, this foundation includes the 2007-08 development of an all-payer database that will report payments, as opposed to charges, for entire episodes of medical care, and will ultimately allow consumers to choose from among competing providers of treatments for any particular condition based on outcomes, price, and other attributes important to the consumer;

Whereas, this foundation includes the 2008-09 creation of the first statewide system in the nation for standardized electronic exchange of clinical health information across provider systems, including exchange of diagnostic test results and electronic medical record information;

Whereas, this foundation includes the 2008 creation of the Health System Reform Task Force, a legislative body that has engaged consumers, employers, doctors, hospitals, and insurers in a voluntary, cooperative effort spanning two years, and involving thousands of hours, to develop a strategic plan for health system reform;

Whereas, this foundation includes the 2009-10 creation of payment and delivery reform demonstration projects designed to align third-party payment structures with provider practices that result in the highest quality of care for both chronic and acute conditions;

Whereas, this foundation includes the 2009 creation of the nation's second-only health insurance exchange, a virtual marketplace where employees may enroll under a defined contribution arrangement, select from a range of plans broader than what an employer traditionally offers, and fund premiums with contributions from multiple sources;

Whereas, this foundation outlined above is the result of an iterative process of creation and refinement that has relied heavily on the input of all major stakeholders in the health care system and has been established largely on the basis of cooperation and consensus rather than compulsion;

Whereas, many of the perverse incentives that plague our health care system are rooted in federal Medicare and Medicaid payment policies, which exert a disproportionate influence on the privately funded portions of our health care system;

Whereas, federal proposals for health system reform recently considered by Congress emphasize enrollment expansion rather than cost containment, much like boarding additional passengers on an already sinking Titanic;

Whereas, those proposals include laudable authorizations for payment and delivery reform demonstration projects but otherwise largely lack significant cost containment provisions;

Whereas, those proposals include many provisions to improve quality of care but fall

short of the systemic changes needed to fully link outcomes and payment;

Whereas, states have consistently proven themselves laboratories of policy innovation, in spite of sometimes stifling federal regulatory restrictions;

Whereas, the best hope for health system reform lies with individual states, where an iterative process of experimentation, evaluation, and modification will minimize the unintended consequences of one-size-fits-all national policies and will produce results worth replicating; and

Whereas, states are in need of additional financial resources and flexibility to experiment rather than additional benefit mandates, Medicaid eligibility mandates, and rating restrictions, all of which will inevitably drive up health care spending and costs to states; Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein, urge Congress to refuse to enact, and the President of the United States to refuse to sign, any legislation that imposes further restrictions on any state's ability to regulate the payment and delivery of health care, imposes additional financial burden related to health care on any state, or limits the ability of consumers and businesses to create innovative models for higher quality, lower cost health care; be it further resolved, that the Legislature and the Governor urge that Congress pass, and the President sign, legislation that grants states greater flexibility under federal laws and regulations related to health care and encourages states to create health reform demonstration projects with the potential for replication elsewhere; be it further resolved, that the Legislature and the Governor urge that should Congress pass, and the President sign, legislation that further restricts states in any manner, the legislation recognize states' efforts to reform health care by grandfathering any state laws, regulations, or practices intended to contain costs, improve quality, increase consumerism, or otherwise implement health system reform concepts. Be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States, and the members of Utah's Congressional delegation.

COOPER COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL HOME HEALTH AGENCY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Cooper County Memorial Hospital Home Health Agency for serving their community for the past 25 years.

The CCMH Home Health Agency have been providing professional home care services to the numerous residents of Cooper County and other surrounding counties since 1985. They have provided supportive help services to the Boonville region, helping to alleviate the pain and suffering of many homebound residents. In addition, the CCMH Home Health Agency has been a friend to many of these patients and a connection to the outside world, delivering care even when the roads are treacherous and many times unsafe for travel.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in celebrating with the Cooper County Me-

morial Hospital Home Health Agency and commending them for providing care to the people of Missouri throughout the past 25 years and for the many years to come.

HONORING WILLIAM J. RYAN

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer special recognition to William J. Ryan as he announces his retirement from TD Bank, N.A.

William arrived in Maine amidst the real estate recession of the early 1990s. In a climate similar to the economic hardships the country faces today, much of the state's banking industry was in turmoil. Peoples Heritage Bank, the forerunner of TD Bank, NA, was on the verge of being closed down by the FDIC when William was named its CEO in 1990. Not only was Peoples Heritage Bank restored to solvency, but under the stewardship of Mr. Ryan and his team, over 30 banks and insurance industries in New England were brought together under the Bank North banner.

William's capacity for turning institutions on the verge of ruin into spectacular success stories has impacted Maine greatly. The Bates Mill Complex in Lewiston, once the site of the state's largest single employer, was on schedule to be torn down before the bank intervened. Today, the bank is one of Lewiston-Auburn area's largest employers, including over a thousand TD jobs filling the mill alone. Additionally, West Falmouth has been transformed into a regional commercial and business hub since a new bank operations center was opened there. Lastly, thanks to the efforts of William Ryan, Portland now boasts the corporate headquarters of one of the fifteen biggest banks in the country.

Outside his positions as a board member and Vice Chair of TD Bank Financial Group and as CEO of TD Banknorth Inc. William serves the community in a variety of civic capacities. He is a Trustee of the Libra Foundation, a group advocating the advancement of human rights, an Emeriti Trustee of Colby College in Waterville Maine and a member of the Board of Advisors at the University of New England.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Ryan on his retirement, and thanking him for his tremendous contributions to the people of Maine.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to the people of the city of Lincoln in Talladega County, who are celebrating their city's 100th anniversary this year.

Lincoln, Alabama, was named after the famous American Revolutionary War figure General Benjamin Lincoln. Lincoln, who was known as the "Defender of Charleston" for his courage in battle, rose to highest ranks of the Continental Army. He had the honor from General George Washington of accepting the British surrender at the Battle of Yorktown, which ended the War of Independence.

During the War of 1812, Andrew Jackson with a force numbering more than 2,500 men camped near Lincoln. This was one of the first steps in the further development of this region, with early settlers coming from Virginia, the Carolinas and Georgia.

In 1911, Lincoln was incorporated and chosen as the location for the Talladega County High school. The first mayor of this proud city was W.D. Henderson.

All of us across Talladega County and East Alabama are deeply proud of this important occasion for the proud citizens of Lincoln. We look forward to seeing the city continue to thrive and grow, and we congratulate local citizens and Mayor Lew Watson on their 100th anniversary.

HONORING ANNEMARIE KAUL FOR BEING AWARDED THE LIFESAVING CERTIFICATE OF MERIT FROM THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2010

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor AnneMarie Kaul of Woodbury, MN, for her heroic, life saving measures on February 25th, 2009. AnneMarie is being awarded the Lifesaving Certificate of Merit from the American Red Cross and it's my honor to recognize her today.

In February of 2009 a man collapsed in the lobby of a fitness center after a game of racquetball. As a direct result of her Red Cross training, AnneMarie asked the receptionist to call 911 and proceeded to check on the man. She found no vital signs and immediately began CPR and used the automated external defibrillator at the center. AnneMarie continued with CPR efforts until the ambulance arrived and a pulse could be found. If it was not for AnneMarie's swift and heroic actions, the man would have almost certainly lost his life.

"Over a year later and because of her brave actions, AnneMarie is being presented with the highest award available from the American Red Cross. It is presented to an individual or team of individuals who have saved or sustained a life using the very skills and knowledge taught to them by the American Red Cross. According to the American Red Cross, 'this action exemplifies the highest degree of concern of one human being for another who is in distress.'

Madam Speaker, AnneMarie Kaul is a perfect example of whom this award was created to recognize. Please join with me in honoring her lifesaving efforts.