

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.

COMMENDING MEHDI MORSHED
FOR HIS SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBU-
TIONS TO THE STATE OF CALI-
FORNIA

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2010

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, as the Chair of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation, I rise today to recognize and commend the great work of Mehdi Morshed, who at the end of March is retiring from California High-Speed Rail Authority. For over 40 years, Mehdi has worked on transportation policy in various capacities in California and is widely considered a leading expert. I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Mehdi for over thirty years.

Mehdi Morshed was educated at the University of Washington in Seattle as a civil engineer and he received a master's degree in transportation engineering from the University of California, Berkeley.

Since then, he has worked to make sure that Californians have safe and accessible transportation. He worked for the California Department of Transportation in various capacities, including planning, design and construction of bridges.

He then served as the lead transportation policy staffer in the California State Senate for over 20 years. During his time at the State Senate, Mehdi was responsible for developing and enacting some of California's most ground-breaking transportation laws, policies and programs, including vehicle safety and emission standards, as well as assisting with the establishment of the California High-Speed Rail Authority, the California Transportation Commission and other local and regional commissions, transportation districts and agencies.

At the end of this month, Mehdi will be retiring as the Executive Director of the California High-Speed Rail Authority, a position he has held since 1998. His dedication to high-speed rail in California has resulted in the project evolving from a planning concept to a fully developed project with an 800-mile system that will link Los Angeles and the Bay Area through Central Valley, with links to Sacramento and San Diego. Mehdi was at the helm of the Authority when State proposition 1A was passed by voters in November 2008, which is a \$9 billion bond measure for the State's high-speed train system. Mehdi's ability to successfully develop California's high-speed rail system has led to California receiving \$2.5 billion in Recovery Act funding.

Madam Speaker, Mehdi Morshed has played a major role in developing and implementing California's transportation policies for over 40 years. I can assure you that his leadership will be missed in California, and his transportation projects throughout the State will be a lasting reminder of his years of service to the people of California.

OLDE DOMINION AGRICULTURAL
COMPLEX

HON. THOMAS S. P. PERRIELLO

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2010

Mr. PERRIELLO. Madam Speaker, today, I want to celebrate a vision of the future that is deeply rooted in our past.

It is fitting that the vision is being realized in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, which for centuries served as an economic engine for the Commonwealth of Virginia. That economic engine was fueled by farmers.

Agriculture remains the largest industry in Pittsylvania County and the largest industry in the commonwealth. And today, we break ground on the Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex, located just outside Chatham, Virginia. What will be built on this broken ground, however, will not just be the facilities, but a future for agriculture in this region. It will be a future built on innovation and education, recreation and community connection.

The Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex will house a number of professional agricultural leadership organizations and will offer the local agricultural industry a centralized location in which to learn best practices in operations, equipment, crops, soils, animals, forestry, and renewable systems. The complex will also serve as an opportunity for local producers to enter and grow new markets. These anticipated areas of growth include aquaculture, bioenergy production, and cattle markets.

I am particularly bullish on the opportunities our farmers can seize in the area of domestic energy production. Until now, this region has been locked out of the energy market. Farmers were forced simply to be consumers of energy. We are coming to understand, however, that farmers can be producers of energy—that agricultural regions can be energy regions. Crops we grow above ground can be just as valuable as fuel buried below. In Gretna, Virginia, Piedmont BioProducts has built a refinery that turns crops into oil. And in Chatham, the Van Der Hydes are turning waste into electricity, turning a liability into an income stream that may help them survive low dairy prices.

The complex will not only serve agriculturalists, but will engage the entire local and regional community. The resources and information offered through programs will be designed to meet a variety of interests ranging from those of homeowners to backyard gardeners to children interested in attending 4-H camp. Its arena will ensure that the complex becomes a regular gathering place for the community where citizens can enjoy a vast array of shows and concerts. Whether showcasing farm equipment and livestock or entertaining with country music, the Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex will be a unique asset in Pittsylvania County. It will offer the local community endless opportunities to prosper the local economy through advances in its agriculture industry and increased tourism to the region.

Of course, the complex is not just sprouting from the earth uncultivated. It is the carefully tended fruit of the labor and vision of the Olde Dominion Agricultural Foundation. The foundation deserves great credit for making this a reality. The facility will allow the foundation to

further its goal "to provide extensive educational opportunities to area agricultural producers and individuals involved in agricultural-related activities" and will help the foundation realize its vision "in establishing an environment of excellence in the integration of agricultural, economic, and social systems."

It is only fitting that this complex be built in the county that ranked first in Virginia for flue-cured tobacco sales. However, the county's agricultural contributions do not stop there. Pittsylvania County has also been ranked fifth in Virginia for both corn silage and all hay production. Cattle, beef cows, and milk cows have placed Pittsylvania County in the top six producers in the commonwealth. Equine, swine, sheep, goats, horticulture, and viticulture groups are also growing industries. Additionally, Pittsylvania County benefits from the support of the surrounding counties of Bedford, Henry, Franklin, Halifax, and Campbell, which also have a high percentage of land invested in agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Virginia and Pittsylvania County first prospered because of tobacco farming. Agriculture continues to play a vital role by contributing billions of dollars to our local economy, providing fresh and wholesome products that are part of a healthy diet, and ensuring continued protection of our open spaces. I take great pride in the farming traditions of southern Virginia and believe that our farmers, supported by the community and invested with the latest innovations, can and will take a leading role in a new economic revival. Within our community we have the entrepreneurs, the innovators, the farmers. This complex will harness each of these components to open new markets and spur economic growth. This economic revival will not only keep wealth in our community, but more importantly may help keep our children in our community.

Southern Virginia is fortunate to have the vision of the Olde Dominion Agricultural Foundation and the future promise of the Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex.

Let me close by quoting from one of Virginia's most famous farmers, Thomas Jefferson: "Cultivators of the earth are the most valuable citizens. They are the most vigorous, the most independent, the most virtuous, and they are tied to their country and wedded to its liberty and interests by the most lasting bands." The Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex will help strengthen those bands.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE "SAKS" BILL

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, every year roughly 36,500 women are violently assaulted in the workplace and yet their only remedy is workers compensation. In an effort to protect the rights of victims of workplace violence, I am reintroducing a bill to protect the civil rights of victims of gender-motivated violence. This legislation is intended to prevent employers from invoking workers compensation when employer negligence results in sexual assault and rape of an employee. This important bill will allow employees to sue their