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It's a bad outcome for physicians, for patients, for the government. The only other solution would be for the Medicare agency to hold payments until longer-term SGR reform legislation is enacted in December, and that really plays hard with their practices. It is difficult for them to plan, to pay their employees, pay their rent, and know that payments will be postponed for 1 month.

So I join with my distinguished colleague across the aisle in supporting H.R. 5712 and asking my colleagues to support it this morning.

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge my support of the one month patch to the Sustainable Growth Rate, but to state once again, that we cannot continue to kick this can down the road. I continue to support a permanent fix to the flawed SGR formula, like the one we passed in the House of Representatives last year. I also want to express my continued frustration that the Republicans in the United States Senate thwarted them from following the House's lead on this sound policy.

It is necessary that we pass this one-month extension today, but it is far from sufficient. Two weeks ago, I introduced H.R. 6427, the "Medicare Physician Payment Update Extension Act." This legislation will extend the current physician Medicare reimbursements for 13 additional months. I believe this longer extension will give our seniors and physicians the peace of mind they need while Congress works on a permanent solution to this longstanding problem.

Tonight we will pass a one-month extension to ensure that seniors have access to the same doctors they do today, and so doctors will be fairly reimbursed for their services over the next month. However, when we come together to address this problem again in 30 days, I urge my colleagues to pass a permanent solution, or at minimum, pass a year long extension so that we can ensure some stability to the Medicare program.

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5712, "The Physician Payment and Therapy Relief Act of 2010." One of the most important priorities of Congress, regardless of our current economic downturn, is the financial well-being of our Nation's hospitals, and the ability of patients to have access to medically necessary care when they need it.

Passage of H.R. 5712 accomplishes both goals by blocking the 23 percent cut in Medicare payments to doctors, for one month, while Congress and the Obama Administration work together to put together a permanent fix to ensure the optimal Medicare reimbursement rate to doctors and hospitals.

In order to have world class hospitals in the United States, we must have the needed funding to ensure that our Nation's hospitals can provide the highest quality care possible. Passage of H.R. 5712 will help strengthen our Nation's hospitals, especially those located in our inner cities and rural areas. Many of these hospitals are experiencing serious funding shortages, and are at risk of losing much needed doctors and medical staff.

H.R. 5712 is a bipartisan bill that costs one billion dollars, and is fully paid for. This legislation helps to protect access to doctors for

Medicare beneficiaries and military families, given that payment rates for doctors in TRICARE, the health care program for active-duty service members, National Guard and Reserve members, military retirees, and their families are tied to Medicare rates.

H.R. 5712 is a good example of how Members of Congress working together in a spirit of bipartisan unity can improve the health and well being of all Americans. I encourage my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of legislation that would avert a 23 percent payment cut for Medicare physicians and continue to provide them with a 2.2 percent update through December 31, 2010.

While I would like to see a permanent, long-term solution to the flawed Medicare physician payment formula, this stop-gap legislation is necessary so that Medicare beneficiaries can continue to see their doctor of choice and have access to the care they need. However, a long-term solution to this problem is needed to provide stability for physicians who provide services under Medicare so that their practices can adequately plan for the expenses they incur for treating Medicare beneficiaries. In fact, the House passed legislation this Congress that would have permanently fixed the Medicare physician payment formula. Unfortunately, it was blocked in the Senate.

Madam Speaker, I hope our Republican colleagues will join us in finding a long-term solution to this problem. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HERGER. Madam Speaker, while I intend to support this bill and urge its passage, our work does not end here. We must find a long-term, stable and fiscally responsible solution to this problem.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 5712.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendments were concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**LANCE CORPORAL ALEXANDER SCOTT ARREDONDO, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS POST OFFICE BUILDING**

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5877) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 655 Centre Street in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, as the "Lance Corporal Alexander Scott Arredondo, United States Marine Corps Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5877

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. LANCE CORPORAL ALEXANDER SCOTT ARREDONDO, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS POST OFFICE BUILDING.**

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 655 Centre Street in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, shall be known and designated as the "Lance Corporal Alexander Scott Arredondo, United States Marine Corps Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Lance Corporal Alexander Scott Arredondo, United States Marine Corps Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to present H.R. 5877, legislation that designates the U.S. Postal Service facility located at 655 Centre Street in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, as the "Lance Corporal Alexander Scott Arredondo, United States Marine Corps Post Office Building."

Introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts, Representative MICHAEL CAPUANO, on July 27, 2010, H.R. 5877 enjoys the support of Massachusetts' entire delegation to the House.

Madam Speaker, Lance Corporal Arredondo of Randolph, Massachusetts, was the 968th U.S. military fatality of Operation Iraqi Freedom. An avid martial arts enthusiast, he studied at the New England Academy of Martial Arts in Randolph, where he also taught courses to young students.

He was assigned to Battalion Landing Team 1/4, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, I Marine Expeditionary Force, out of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. Sadly, on August 25, 2004, Lance Corporal Arredondo was killed by a sniper in Najaf. He was 20 years old.

In closing, let us pay tribute to the life and service of Lance Corporal Alexander Scott Arredondo by naming the Jamaica Plain Post Office Building in his honor. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5877.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 5877, to designate the facility of the United

States Postal Service located at 655 Centre Street in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, as the "Lance Corporal Alexander Scott Arredondo, United States Marine Corps Post Office Building."

Madam Speaker, it is altogether fitting and proper that we name this post office in Jamaica Plain for a true American hero who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Born August 5, 1984, Alexander Scott Arredondo graduated from Blue Hills Regional Technical School in Canton, Massachusetts, in the year 2002. He joined the Marine Corps and was assigned to the 1 Marine Expeditionary Force based out of Camp Pendleton, California. He was deployed to Iraq and served his first tour of duty in 2003, which lasted 9 months. In June, 2004, Lance Corporal Arredondo was deployed back to Iraq. Sadly, Madam Speaker, Lance Corporal Arredondo died in Najaf, Iraq, defending freedom and protecting our Nation.

At only 20 years old, Lance Corporal Arredondo was on his second tour of duty supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom, proving this young man's bravery, courage, and dedication. He is truly an American hero, and I urge all Members to join us in support of this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the chief sponsor of the legislation, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. CAPUANO).

Mr. CAPUANO. I thank the gentleman for yielding. I also want to thank the committee for putting this bill out.

Lance Corporal Arredondo was a recipient of the Navy Cross with combat V and a Purple Heart. He was nominated for the Bronze Star, and he gave his life for this country on August 25, 2004. As you heard, he was on his second tour of duty in Iraq.

I just want to read a paragraph that was written about one of his actions, his last action, by a lieutenant general that I think sums up what his own colleagues, his other Marines, thought of him.

"On August 25, 2004, Lance Corporal Arredondo gallantly performed the duties of a fire team leader while fighting enemy forces in the old city of Najaf. While moving with his squad to attack and clear a two-story building, the platoon became heavily engaged at close ranges by enemy small arms, machine gun, and RPG fire. He never hesitated as he led his Marines under intense fire through the building, personally clearing rooms and assuming the greatest risk as grenade explosions raised an impenetrable cloud of dust and dirt in each room.

"Lance Corporal Arredondo led his Marines clearing the objective in a superb manner, never slowing down and never showing any fear. After the exhausting attack, when the platoon had gained control of the building, Lance Corporal Arredondo personally em-

placed his marines in an exemplary manner while setting up a defense and preparing for further engagements with the enemy.

"After his fire team was set in defense, Lance Corporal Arredondo was shot and mortally wounded by a sniper as he walked the line checking his marines. Lance Corporal Arredondo fought alongside his fellow marines and displayed the highest levels of courage and selflessness during the three weeks of fighting in Najaf. He gave his life fighting for freedom and defending his fellow marines."

That was not written by me or my staff. That was written by his commander. I think that that alone, that one paragraph, clearly underscores exactly what kind of a person Lance Corporal Arredondo was. For a man to give his life at such a young and tender age is an incredible thing, and I am proud—and I want to be very clear, this is the first time I have been here on something like this. I don't take this lightly at all this. This is not just naming another thing after another person. This particular one is very important to me, to my constituents, and to his family because of the service he rendered for this country, because of the fact that he gave his life fighting for our freedom and our rights. I just want to say thank you to the committee again for bringing this bill to the floor, and thank you to the people who have supported this bill.

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Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5877.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### NATIONAL MESOTHELIOMA AWARENESS DAY

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 771) supporting the goals and ideals of a National Mesothelioma Awareness Day.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 771

Whereas mesothelioma is a terminal, asbestos-related cancer that affects the linings of the lungs, abdomen, heart, or testicles;

Whereas workers exposed on a daily basis over a long period of time are most at risk, but even short-term exposures can cause the disease and an exposure to asbestos for as little as one month can result in mesothelioma 20–50 years later;

Whereas asbestos was used in the construction of virtually all office buildings, public schools, and homes built before 1975 and asbestos is still on the United States market in over 3,000 products;

Whereas there is no known safe level of exposure to asbestos;

Whereas millions of workers in the United States have been, and continue to be, exposed to dangerous levels of asbestos;

Whereas the National Institutes of Health reported to Congress in 2006 that mesothelioma is a difficult disease to detect, diagnose, and treat;

Whereas the National Cancer Institute recognizes a clear need for new agents to improve the outlook for patients with mesothelioma and other asbestos-related diseases;

Whereas for decades, the need to develop treatments for mesothelioma was overlooked and today, even the best available treatments usually have only a very limited effect and the expected survival time of those diagnosed with the disease is between 8 and 14 months;

Whereas mesothelioma has claimed the lives of such heroes and public servants as Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, Jr., and Congressman Bruce F. Vento, and a high percentage of today's mesothelioma victims were exposed to asbestos while serving in the United States Navy;

Whereas it is believed that many of the firefighters, police officers, and rescue workers from Ground Zero on September 11, 2001, may be at increased risk of contracting mesothelioma in the future;

Whereas the establishment of a National Mesothelioma Awareness Day would raise public awareness of the disease and of the need to develop treatments and enhance public awareness for it; and

Whereas cities and localities across the country are recognizing September 26 as Mesothelioma Awareness Day: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Mesothelioma Awareness Day; and

(2) urges the President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States, Federal departments and agencies, States, localities, organizations, and media to annually observe a National Mesothelioma Awareness day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

Mr. CLAY. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of House Resolution 771, a bill supporting the goals and ideals of National Mesothelioma Awareness Day. This resolution will