

medical knowledge. Studies have shown that it takes up to 17 years for important new knowledge to be broadly applied in medical practice—to move from research bench to bedside. Patients struggle to pay their bills and our country cannot sustain the growing costs of health care, now exceeding 17% of our GDP.

Mayo Clinic believes that one answer lies in new models of training future physician leaders. Today we are taking the lead and announcing a bold new educational model to train the physicians of tomorrow. This model addresses the importance of delivering patient-centered, team-based care—the two essential elements of how we practice at Mayo Clinic. This new model will teach the requisite skills to design models of evidenced-based, data-driven care. Our experience at Mayo Clinic leads us to believe that this model will ensure better patient safety, better patient service and improved outcomes using systems engineering, health economics, and other disciplines.

Mayo Clinic has expertise in this approach. We recently announced the opening of our Center for the Science of Health Care Delivery. We are redoubling our efforts to bring innovation into the medical school classroom—to shape and arm physicians of the future to be leaders in the development of new models of care.

Today and together, Mayo Clinic and Arizona State University are advancing this new discipline—the science of health care delivery. I am very pleased to announce that Mayo Clinic will expand the Mayo Medical School, based in Rochester, Minnesota, to Arizona. The branch campus we announce today will be known as Mayo Medical School—Arizona Campus. It will operate under the governance and oversight of Mayo Medical School. Each class here in Arizona will include 48 students. This branch will build on the academic excellence of Mayo Medical School while also reflecting the need for medical school curriculums to be geared toward training the physicians of tomorrow. This new medical school will be an important pipeline for future leaders in the field of medicine around the nation, the world, and right here in Arizona.

The students of this new campus will earn an MD degree from Mayo Medical School and a Master's degree in the Science of Health Care Delivery from Arizona State University. This is the first medical school in the nation to embed the science of health care delivery into its four-year medical education. Other medical schools are moving in this direction because they too believe this is the right approach.

Today's announcement reinforces Mayo Clinic's commitment to Arizona and helps secure Mayo's role as the premier academic medical center in the southwest. We are one step closer in fulfilling our commitment to being a beacon for clinical excellence in the western United States.

Health care is about treating patients in a manner that delivers optimal outcomes and quality of life in the most efficient way possible. Well trained physicians are one of the centerpieces of our collective future. We're excited to be here today to make this important announcement for Mayo Clinic, for Arizona, and for patients today and in the future. We're eager to get started and look to the future with great confidence.

IN HONOR OF MR. CHARLES J.
POPA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor Mr. Charles J. Popa who is being honored by the Polonia Foundation on October 2, 2011.

Charles was born on October 19, 1925 in Pulaski Township, Pennsylvania. He was taking classes in high school when Pearl Harbor was attacked and immediately left school to work as an auto mechanic. Charles enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1943 and went on to serve in the Asiatic Pacific Theater; specifically in Luzon and Mindanao. Charles rose to the rank of sergeant before being discharged in 1945.

Upon returning to civilian life, Charles began working in the trucking industry and transported goods such as coal and steel throughout the Eastern United States. He retired in October 1982. After the War, Charles married Jane Stadnik on April 15, 1950. Together, they raised three children, Charles Jr., David and Susan.

In addition to his military service, career and family, Charles was an active member of his community for decades. Just two years after joining the Polish Legion of American Veterans in 1969, Charles became the post commander, a position he held for forty years. He is also a member of the Roman-American Volunteers, the Grand Knight of Pulaski and is a lifetime member of VFW Post 7538. Charles was honored in 1987 as the Polish Legion of American Veterans' veteran of the year. In 1998, he was recognized by the United Veterans Council.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues please join me in honoring Mr. Charles J. Popa and congratulating him as he is recognized by the Polonia Foundation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was prevented from casting votes during last Monday night's session due to repeated delays of a flight from Charleston, West Virginia, to Washington. Had I been present, I would have voted in support of all three measures brought before the House—H.R. 686, H.R. 765, and H.R. 670.

The flight, originally scheduled to depart at 4:50 p.m., did not leave Charleston until after 9 p.m., more than four hours late. In that time, the airline offered numerous excuses—maintenance, delayed flights that had backed up the system. Numerous alternative departure times were put forward and then retracted. Within one four-minute span, the airline emailed four different departure and arrival times. At moments, the arrival/departure information was so confused that the airplane would have had to violate the laws of physics in order to abide by the airline schedule. This is an all too often occurrence and often maintenance delay ex-

cuses are used to cover crew issues and/or other problems.

Needless to say, all passengers were inconvenienced and the airline's explanations were wholly unsatisfactory. This flight delay prevented me from carrying out my Constitutional duty to represent the people of southern West Virginia: I feel I owe them and this body an explanation about why that was not possible last night.

I recognize that flight delays happen and perhaps at times no one is to blame. But, given how disruptive and costly delays and cancellations can be, travelers ought to be able to depend upon consistent, timely air service to all communities, even in rural areas.

Rural communities depend on air service like any other communities. It connects us to the global economy. Our businesses need to ship their goods. Our families, workers, and students need to travel. We need reliable, dependable air service. According to GAO, airports in rural communities have higher rates of delays and cancellations than airports in larger communities. That's simply not acceptable.

As the Ranking Member on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I feel acutely aware of the transportation challenges this nation faces, and as I sat in that airport last evening—like so many other passengers at that airport and others across the nation—I was frustrated by the delay, annoyed at the changing excuses offered by the airline, and angered that I was unable to get to work on time.

During all that time that I sat in the airport, I had plenty of time to think and to boil over that I was sitting there at the mercy of an airline whose veracity continued to come into increasing doubt. But I also had time to ponder our work here.

We are in a great debate in this country about our federal budget, while at the same time we are struggling to get people back to work and get our economic engine humming again. I believe that improving our transportation system has to be one of our top priorities. We need to do more to ensure the efficient transportation of people and goods. We need to stop announcing delay, after delay. We need to stop offering political excuses.

Otherwise, while we hold the future of our citizens captive, forcing them to wait and wait, we will only succeed in making them more and more frustrated and angry.

We had better get off our duffs, come together, and make some real progress on a longterm measure that will ensure improvements to our transportation system and greater safety and reliability to business and the traveling public. And we had better do it soon.

TRIBUTE TO THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S 100TH NATIONAL DAY

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join the people of the Republic of China in commemorating their 100th National Day this October 10.

Taiwan remains one of our closest allies and a vital partner in peace in the region. A guarantor of fundamental rights to its citizens

and committed to the rule of law, Taiwan is a model for emerging democracies in the region and throughout the world. It is a vibrant reminder that freedom is a universal ideal.

We rightly consider any effort to hinder Taiwan's self-determination as a threat to regional peace. The United States must continue to stand behind our commitment to Taiwan and the military and trading partnerships we enjoy with this major regional economy. We must also support Taiwan's strong desire for much-deserved membership in the United Nations.

Mr. Speaker, we are grateful for dependable allies like Taiwan. The relationship between our two nations has been to the cultural, economic, and political benefit of both. We send our greetings and best wishes to the people of Taiwan as they mark their centennial next week.

ADMONISHING ANTI-DEMOCRATIC STATEMENTS

HON. STEVAN PEARCE

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, at a constituent event in Inglewood, California, on August 21, 2011, the Congresswoman who represents that area made several shocking and egregious statements that slander the good work a dedicated group of Americans are trying to achieve for our country. Perhaps most disturbing was her statement that, "As far as I'm concerned the Tea Party can go straight to hell. And . . . and, I intend to help them get there." These words do nothing to unite Americans and only fan the flames that incite division. Earlier in August, following the highly charged debt limit discussions, with words worsening the political divide, the Vice President declared that the Tea Party had "acted like terrorists." These attacks are an assault on democracy. Any action which ignores deep-seated concerns, or attempts to extinguish the voices of millions of Americans damages the democratic process. The Tea Party is united in common concern for the future and the well-being of generations to come. They are not, as one Congressman from Pennsylvania described, a "small group of terrorists." These are people who care deeply about the path our country is on and are working through the issues. They are present at parades, marches and rallies. They are gathering in meeting halls, restaurants, and family rooms to discuss their goals for our nation's future. Words that dismiss the Tea Party's shared belief that government can do better by the people of this country only further divide us. We have only our voices to change the hearts and minds of elected officials. Those of us entrusted by the people to support and defend the Constitution of the United States must never work to extinguish the light of democracy or the avenue of free speech. To limit the excitement and drive of a united group grows dejection; a certain foe of democracy. It casts a web of doubt over the activities of the Congress and threatens to harm the creation of good public policy. I will defend the right of any man, woman, or child to speak their truth and share their concerns. Just as all Americans regardless of race or gender, creed

or religion, ideals or personal conviction, Tea Party members deserve to have their voices heard.

RECOGNIZING ELSA HOMINDA OF THE CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON FOR HER WORK WITH ADOPTED CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN WASHINGTON STATE

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my constituent, Elsa Hominda, for her outstanding advocacy for adopted children in Washington State and for being a 2011 Angels in Adoption honoree. I am pleased to join Senator PATTY MURRAY in recognizing Elsa's dedicated work with local adoptees, their families, and birth parents.

Elsa is a Search and Reunion Specialist at the Children's Home Society of Washington, a non-profit organization devoted to strengthening and supporting Washington's children and families. Elsa and her husband are also the proud parents of three adopted children, ages 5, 11, and 12.

As a confidential intermediary at the Children's Home Society of Washington, Elsa acts as a neutral third-party to facilitate reunions between adoptees and birth parents. She serves as a counselor and mediator to the child or parent who is undertaking a search and helps to make what is often a very emotional and difficult process just a bit easier.

Through her work, she has helped many individuals. One personal story that I found particularly moving involved a gentleman who was placed in an adoptive home over 50 years ago and who recently embarked on the poignant journey to find his birth mother.

With the help of Ms. Hominda, this individual was able to reunite with his biological mother through a series of letters, emails, and eventually, a face-to-face reunion—a process that took several months. He is incredibly grateful for all the hard work Elsa did to facilitate the reunion and feels as though he has a new addition to his family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives please join me in honoring Elsa Hominda, whose work reuniting Washington's adopted children with their birth families enriches the lives of everyone touched by the process of adoption.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILLIAM G. ROHRER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the fiftieth anniversary of the William G. Rohrer Memorial Library in Haddon Township. For the past half century this valuable community asset has steadfastly served the citizens of Haddon Township. This past summer, the library was forced to temporarily close after

suffering damage from an unfortunate water main break. Undeterred, library staff worked diligently to reopen as soon as possible. Reflecting the great value and importance of this library, community members lined up at the door for the reopening of their cherished and loved library.

The staff of the William G. Rohrer Memorial Library also deserves particular recognition. It is through their hard work that this library has come to be so cherished by the people of Haddon Township. Their efforts have made the library a great success over the past fifty years and will continue to earn the support and admiration of the community for many more to come. To celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the library, local leaders, entertainers, and citizens came together to mark this important milestone with a day of reading, fun, and games.

Mr. Speaker, the fiftieth anniversary of the William G. Rohrer Memorial Library and the dedication demonstrated by its staff should not go unrecognized. I congratulate them on fifty great years, thank them for their service to the community, and wish them all the success in the future.

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM "WHERE IS THE PEACE DIVIDEND? EXAMINING THE FINAL REPORT TO CONGRESS OF THE COMMISSION ON WARTIME CONTRACTING"

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the committee for holding this important hearing on the future of our presence in Iraq and Afghanistan.

As one of the first Members of Congress to oppose the war in Iraq and as one who has forced debate on the war in Afghanistan a number of times in the House, I continue to be deeply concerned by the findings of the Commission on Wartime Contracting (CWC) in Iraq and Afghanistan. The latest and final report highlights continued privatization of inherently governmental functions, a significant lack of oversight of contingency contractors who in many cases, are providing vital support services for our personnel on the ground, and an estimated waste of up to \$60 billion thus far. Many of us were on this committee last year when it released a report ("Warlord Inc.") detailing the use of U.S. taxpayer dollars to pay off warlords in Afghanistan and essentially fuel the very insurgency we are trying to quell.

At a time when vital social services here at home are being cut in the name of fiscal responsibility, we would do well to take the recommendations and findings included in the final report of the CWC very seriously. It is clear from the Commission's reports that the U.S. Government has privatized the business of war to such a point where we are guaranteed to continue to see billions of dollars go unaccounted for and bad actors in Iraq and Afghanistan act with total impunity. And as the Commission points out, there will be another contingency operation.

The truth is that we cannot afford these wars. According to Congressional Research