

last year. The hearing was on efforts to reduce fraud, waste and abuse in Medicare.

We heard testimony at that hearing from two panels of witnesses. The first panel consisted of Members of Congress pursuing legislative initiatives to reduce Medicare fraud, waste and abuse. The second panel was made up of government witnesses: Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services (OIG), The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the Government Accountability Office.

Numerous witnesses raised concerns about limitations to the authority of the Office of the Inspector General to minimize Medicare fraud. From this discussion it became clear to Representative HERGER and me that we should change the law in order provide the Inspector General with the additional requested tools to better protect Medicare.

This is a simple bill with only two provisions. It expands the OIG's permissive authority to ban executives whose companies have been convicted of Medicare fraud from the program. Second, it expands the OIG's permissive authority to exclude affiliates of corporations convicted of fraud, including parent companies hiding behind convicted corporate shells.

The first change is important because it will enable the OIG to protect Medicare from executives who circumvent exclusion by moving to another company. Under current law, executives whose companies are convicted of fraud can be excluded from Medicare. However, if the executive has left the company by the time of conviction, he or she cannot be barred from Federal health care programs. These executives are able to move from one company to another and continue to defraud Medicare, seniors, and taxpayers.

The second change provides the OIG with stronger tools to address corporations that have engaged in fraud. Companies that engage in fraud often set up shell companies to insulate themselves from liability. Criminal settlement negotiations can result in the conviction of these shell organizations with no real operational impact on the parent company. Without discretionary authority to exclude parent companies from the program, the OIG is missing a tool in its arsenal that could allow the government to exclude particularly bad actors or obtain stronger prospective remedies in settlements.

This legislation passed the House of Representatives last year by voice vote. Unfortunately, it was not taken up in the Senate. We urge our colleagues to cosponsor this bill so we can quickly enact these new anti-fraud tools to protect Medicare beneficiaries and all of America's taxpayers.

INTRODUCING THE SUSAN B. ANTHONY BIRTHDAY ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month to introduce the Susan Brownell Anthony Birthday Act. This bill will designate the third Monday in February as the day to celebrate the legacy of Susan Brownell Anthony, a pioneer of the women's rights movement, and its leader for more than 50 years.

Born on February 15, 1820, Susan Brownell Anthony met Elizabeth Cady Stanton in 1851 and attended her first women's rights convention in Syracuse in 1852. At that convention she was inspired to join the fight for women's suffrage, asserting that this was 'the right women needed above every other.' The first proposal for women's suffrage was presented to Congress in 1868, and the first formal women's suffrage amendment to the Constitution of the United States was introduced in January 1878. For 35 years after that first proposal was made, Susan Brownell Anthony appeared before every Congress to ask for passage of a suffrage amendment, demonstrating her unwavering dedication to the cause. Her last public words before her death on March 13, 1906 were 'Failure is impossible.'

Between 1917 and 1919, over a thousand women held a vigil outside the White House, asking, 'How long must women wait for liberty?' Unfortunately, Susan Brownell Anthony did not live to see her dream of women's suffrage become a reality, but her heroic efforts were not in vain. The nineteenth amendment, also called the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, was ratified on August 26, 1920 giving the right to vote to American women. The text of the 19th amendment states that "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

The United States has previously recognized Susan Brownell Anthony's tremendous contributions to our Nation. To commemorate her legacy, a marble statue of her and her women's rights colleagues, Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, was dedicated in the United States Capitol in 1921. Susan Brownell Anthony's picture appeared on postage stamps in 1936 and 1955. Her home in Rochester, New York, has been a National Historic Landmark since 1966, and in 1979, her image was placed on a dollar coin.

I am proud that the work of Susan Brownell Anthony and her fellow suffragists has been acknowledged and honored in these ways. However, as the founder and leader of the women's movement in the United States, Susan Brownell Anthony deserves a permanent place in our history. The journey to equality is long and difficult, but it well worth the fight. Passage of the Susan Brownell Anthony Birthday Act would make February 21st the first Federal holiday that celebrates the birthday of a woman, and would allow all women and men in the United States to celebrate and honor the legacy of a true American heroine.

CONGRATULATING ODALMY MOLINA

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2011

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate a young student from South Florida, who has achieved national recognition by excelling in the classroom and in her community. Odalmy Molina, from Cuban descent and a student at Hialeah High School, received the Youth Award from the Hispanic

Heritage Foundation, which recognizes the most impressive Latino High School seniors.

Ms. Molina's family history is a sadly familiar story to many of us, that of losing a loved one to cancer. I too, have experienced the same loss, but know that family suffering can strengthen our passion to succeed and become better individuals. Ms. Molina's deep desire to one-day find a cure for cancer is fueled by her passion to replace the hurt and suffering of those affected by cancer with hope and solace. Her desire has led to a constant quest for knowledge, by either assisting scientists in performing lab work at the Miami project to Cure Paralysis; co-publishing original research presented during the Annual Neuroscience Research Day; or serving as the youth co-chair for the American Cancer Society. These extraordinary accomplishments at such a young age are an inspiring example to all of us.

The Hispanic Heritage Foundation is a national non-profit that inspires, identifies, prepares and positions Latino leaders for classroom, community and workforce. After receiving 10,000 applications annually, HHF honors more than 150 students at ceremonies with partner universities in ten regions across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I heartily applaud Ms. Molina for her accomplishments, for she is a fine example of the best and brightest in South Florida. She has demonstrated a level of commitment that deserves our sincere admiration and respect. I am confident that she will continue to accomplish great things for our community in South Florida and our country.

IN RECOGNITION OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 1818 AND CUB SCOUT PACK 1818

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pack 1818 and Troop 1818, the Jewish Cub Scout Pack and Boy Scout Troop that are based in my Mantua neighborhood in Fairfax County. Cub Scout Pack 1818 boasts 34 boys ranging from Grade 1 to Grade 5. Chartered by the Olam Tikvah Men's Club since 2000, Pack 1818 provides an opportunity for these boys to take in a variety of sports, crafts, and outdoor activities, like hiking and camping.

This year, Tiger Cubs include: Jacob Boyett, Elijah Fischer, Benjamin Golden, Ari Pearlstein, Nathan Rothberg, Isaac Saiger, and Matthew Wurmser. Wolf Cubs include Jacob Book, Nathan Chernys, Ben Engler, Daniel Fertel, Alex Frame, Zach Grossman, Sebastian Jones, Aidan Jupiter, Jacob Hemmerdinger, Rueben Hemmerdinger, Solomon Hutchins, Ben Neifeld, and Zachary Shmargal-Ellison. Bear Cubs include Mitchell Akawie, Samuel Goldberg, Jared Johnson, Michael Krasovsky, Ilan Nabatkhorian, Lars Rosen, and Jacob Rutzick. First year Webelos include Solomon Jones while second year Webelos include Joshua Ackerman, Kenny Book, David Chernys, Daniel Dorlester, Jordan Lamar, and Aaron Shurberg.

I am especially pleased to note that these last six boys—the second year Webelos—will

transition to Boy Scouts during a ceremony this evening. Each of those boys has earned the Arrow of Light award.

Following this ceremony, the number of boys in Troop 1818 will be 18, which in Jewish tradition corresponds to life. Troop 1818, which is only three years old, has emerged as an important force in the lives of these young boys. Troop 1818 provides opportunities to build lifelong skills and values and to make lasting friendships through weekly activities and a variety of outdoor programs. The boys have a chance to earn merit badges in such diverse areas as engineering, camping, orienteering, nuclear science, and first aid. This past year, boys from Troop 1818 got to learn CPR, build and sleep in a snow igloo, and attend the 100th anniversary National Jamboree with Scouts from around the country and world.

Troop 1818 currently includes Benjy Ackerman, Max Chernys, Jamie Frame, Josh Hone, Casey Lamar, Ezra Lapidus, Levi Meerovich, Josh Rutzick, Sam Rutzick, Ezra Postelnek, Yosef Postelnek, and Zach Watts. These boys have made significant accomplishments over the past year—earning merit badges and multiple rank advancements—which they will receive at their semi-annual Court of Honor this weekend.

Finally, I'd like to also recognize Robert Book, who founded Troop 1818 and currently serves as Committee Chair for Pack 1818. An Eagle Scout himself, Robert is being recognized this weekend for his accomplishments by being presented with the Shofar Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues join me in congratulating these scouts and also in thanking the troop leaders, parents and families for their dedication to our youth.

CONGRATULATING MS. BARBARA ALLEN AS A WINNER OF THIS YEAR'S PURPOSE PRIZE

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2011

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Ms. Barbara Allen on the occasion of being named as a winner of the Purpose Prize. Ms. Allen was selected from over 1,000 applicants for her work raising funds for public school art programs.

The Purpose Prize is an award given by Civic Ventures, a think-tank that focuses on work and social purpose. For the past five years the purpose prize has been given to 10 people, all age 60 and over, who have developed new ways to solve social problems. As individuals who have completed their mid-life careers, the winners of the purpose prize have all shown that social innovation is not the sole province of the young. Civic Ventures considered the Purpose Prize to be not a lifetime achievement award, but an investment in the future of the winner.

Ms. Allen has won this award through her laudable efforts to maintain the arts in public schools. She is the founder and CEO of Fresh Artists, a nonprofit that has raised more than \$100,000 benefiting 272 Philadelphia public schools to the enrichment of over 53,000 children. Fresh Artists utilizes the creativity of our students to achieve the goal of funding the art

programs that can help more students harness their own creativity. The organization invites students in grades K through 12 to donate their artwork to be used in large-scale reproductions. Fresh Artists then collects monetary donations from businesses and organizations who display the artwork in their buildings. The donations are then used to buy art supplies for Philadelphia's most under-resourced public schools. Since its founding in 2008, Fresh Artists has installed nearly 600 reproductions. Barbara Allen's vision and dedication to the arts have provided students with an opportunity to not only have their work displayed, but also to have their work contribute to the purchase of supplies that allow other students to produce further works of art.

I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Ms. Allen on this momentous occasion. Her dedication to the art will ensure that the students of Philadelphia's public schools continue to have access to the supplies that will allow them to fully realize their creative potential.

TRIBUTE TO MR. CHARLIE BURRELL

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 11, 2011

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and exceptional accomplishments of Mr. Charlie Burrell, known internationally as "the Jackie Robinson of classical music" and the "titan of the classical and jazz bass," on the occasion of the celebration of his 90th birthday.

Charlie was born in Toledo, Ohio, in 1922, and raised in Detroit, Michigan. An acclaimed contrabass player, he was one of the first African-American musicians to break the color barrier of a major U.S. symphony. Honored by the Alphonse Robinson African-American Music Association for his invaluable contributions, he has received accolades from his colleagues for having opened the door for other African-American musicians by demonstrating that they did not have to be relegated to stereotypical musical styles.

Charlie began the pursuit of a musical career at an early age at the encouragement of his mother. A chance hearing of a performance of the San Francisco Symphony led to his desire to become the first African-American musician to perform with the company—a dream he would realize twenty-eight years later.

Although a dedicated student of classical music, Charlie and his friends embraced jazz music and practiced it whenever possible. At seventeen, Charlie was even asked to join the Lionel Hampton Big Band, affording him the opportunity to travel the country with some of the jazz greats of the time. Upon graduation from Cass Technical High School in Detroit, then one of the most prestigious music schools in the nation, Charlie saw his classmates move directly into professional symphonies, while he was unable to because of the color of his skin. But that never deterred his resolve to play.

In 1941, he attended the New England Conservatory of Music and then joined the Navy where he was stationed at the Great Lakes

Naval Base outside Chicago. There, he was selected to join the first-ever all-Black Navy band, a recruiting device the Navy developed to encourage African-American enlistment. Following his honorable discharge from the Navy, he attended Wayne State University with an eye towards teaching music in the public schools. At the time of his graduation, he once again faced the challenge of discrimination when was told by the administrator of music for the Detroit School System there would be no African-American music teachers in their schools.

But Charlie continued to pursue his dreams. After he was turned down for auditions with four different companies, he moved to Denver, Colorado, where he worked at Fitzsimons Army Hospital and enrolled in the University of Denver to earn his teaching certificate. He later taught for the Denver Public Schools. A chance meeting with John VanBuskirk, the lead bass player with the Denver Symphony, led to an audition with the company. Charlie broke through the color barrier of the time to become the first African-American musician to join the Denver Symphony Orchestra.

And in 1959, realizing his childhood dream, Charlie Burrell went on to become the first African-American musician to ever play in the San Francisco Symphony. During his five-and-a-half year stay in San Francisco, he also became the first African-American to play with the San Francisco Opera and the San Francisco Ballet orchestras, and the first African-American professor at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

Upon arriving back in Denver, he was hired again by the Denver Symphony Orchestra where he performed for more than thirty years. Whenever top jazz musicians performed in Denver, Charlie was often called on to play with them.

During his lifetime Charlie has mentored and performed with many musicians. He has played with nearly all of the great names in the jazz world: jazz bass great Milt Hinton; jazz stride pianist Fats Waller; Lionel Hampton; jazz trumpeter Clark Terry; bassist Major Holley; and jazz trombonist Al Grey. One of his favorite vocalists was the late Billie Holiday. He is especially proud of his cousin, the renowned pianist George Duke, and his two-time Grammy award-winning niece, jazz vocalist Dianne Reeves, both of whom he taught and mentored.

On a personal note, Charlie played bass in a jazz trio founded by my uncle Al Rose. The Al Rose Trio became the first racially integrated jazz group in Denver, and when my uncle passed, Charlie asked me if he could be my Honorary Uncle—which he is to this day.

Retired from the Denver Symphony Orchestra since 1999, Charlie continues to be an active member of the community, on occasion playing his bass with his Cousin Purnell Steen's swing quartet. A comment he made during a PBS "Special Jazz in Five Points" broadcast best sums up his life, "Music is my great love affair, and, in fact, it is my first, and always has been, my first."

Charlie has been and continues to be an inspiration to musicians young and old all across our country, but we in Denver are incredibly blessed and proud to call him one of our own. I join all my constituents in wishing Charlie a very happy birthday and congratulating him for his lifetime of achievement.