

of his patients. He has educated residents and students on the need to provide competent, compassionate care by strengthening the physician/patient relationship and by motivating patients to lead healthier lives. Dr. Lijoi has also been a very active community volunteer.

I once again offer my congratulations to Dr. Fawcett and Dr. Lijoi for personifying the best ideals and practices of family medicine. They have positively impacted countless of their fellow citizens throughout their careers and I know that their patients, friends, family and colleagues join with me in offering best wishes for continued success in their future endeavors.

H.R. 6079—OBAMACARE REPEAL ACT

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, there are many issues in the health care law that require Congressional attention. After repeal of ObamaCare, as we craft proposals to reform the health care system, there are a variety of issues that were dealt with in the original ObamaCare law that had nothing to do with the central elements of the law that we will seek to address. These include for example reforming the Medicaid program in a way that, among other things, addresses disparities in Medicaid funding amongst the states and territories. Puerto Rico Governor Fortuño has personally raised this latter issue with me. The Governor has taken commendable steps to reduce Puerto Rico's deficit and grow its economy and it is important that with respect to Medicaid, Puerto Rico and the other territories be treated fairly.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, on the 208th anniversary of the fatal wounding of Alexander Hamilton in his duel with Aaron Burr, it is \$15,879,266,313,073.20. We've added \$5,252,389,264,160.12 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF EQUAL PAY FOR WOMEN

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as we mark the 40th anniversary of Title IX—the his-

toric law establishing equal access to education for women, I would like to take a moment to recognize the importance of equal pay for equal work, another federal policy that is essential to providing equal opportunity for women in our country. The contemporary push for women's rights began with the passage of the Equal Pay Act of 1963. Although this statute was a great advancement for women in society, much work remains to strengthen the reality of equal pay for women. For example, in 1963, women earned sixty cents for every dollar a man made. Today, according to the latest Census statistics, women only earn seventy-seven cents for every dollar a man makes—progress but still an egregiously-unfair and unequal disparity. Equal pay is the foundation for economic well-being and security. Policymakers must take action to ensure that equity in pay is a national priority.

In 2009, the 111th Congress took strides to further close the gender discrimination gap in the professional work environment by passing The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law. This law initiated great improvements for women in the workforce, such as allowing a time frame extension to file lawsuits against employers for wage discrepancies. However, additional protections are needed, which is why Democratic lawmakers are advancing the Paycheck Fairness Act. The Paycheck Fairness Act strengthens the equality provisions within the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and eliminates the loopholes not seen in the past. For example, it increases penalties on employers who violate federal law and allows women to pursue legal matters if they are treated unjustly. The legislation also ensures equality in the tax code so that everyone—male and female, high-income earners and those living in poverty—pays their respective tax rate. Fairness should be applicable to all, in wages and in taxes. The Paycheck Fairness Act provides effective remedies to women who are not being paid equal wages for equal work, and Congress should pass the bill as soon as possible.

Equality in pay is an issue of civil rights. Women represent more than half of the workforce, and they deserve the full-amount of earnings for their work. Loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars over a lifetime due to unequal pay undermines the economic security of women and our nation. I will continue to steadfastly support and advance legislation that promotes gender equality and civil fairness.

CONGRATULATING VICTORIA FOLEY

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Victoria Foley of the Joplin McAuley Catholic Track and Field Team for winning the Discus State Title at the Missouri Class 1 State Track and Field Championship.

Victoria worked hard throughout the season to achieve her state title. She continuously strove to better her performance, inspiring her teammates as well as earning the respect of her competitors.

Victoria is a solid definition of what it takes to be a great student athlete by virtue of her

phenomenal talent and great sportsmanship. Through her hard work and dedication she won the Missouri Class 1 State Discus Championship with a throw of 121 feet 3 inches. In the end, she added herself among only 2 others who can share the State Champion title in the McAuley Catholic High School history.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Victoria Foley, the Missouri Class 1 State Discus Champion.

IN CELEBRATION OF MRS. BESSIE RUDOLPH ANDERSON'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a beloved role model and gracious woman of faith, Mrs. Bessie Mae Rudolph Anderson. On Saturday, July 14, 2012, Mrs. Anderson will be honored at an event celebrating her 100th birthday in Albany, Georgia.

Mrs. Anderson was born on July 6, 1912 in Mount Willing, Alabama to Isiaah and Ada Eula Cabbie Rudolph. She was the fifth of nine children. She and her brother, Will Arthur, are the only living siblings today.

As she grew up, Mrs. Anderson helped her father on the farm and her mother in the house. In her free time, she was the "Belle of the Ball" as she loved to dance. She has always enjoyed fishing, reading, telling stories about her childhood, and cooking her famous biscuits.

In 1924, Mrs. Anderson met William Anderson, a "Georgia Boy." After dating for five years, they were married on July 28, 1929. They began their life together in Alabama where they had five children: William, Jr., Mattie Pearl, John Samuel, Rosie Maxine and Ernestine. In 1940, they moved to Georgia where they had six more children: Katherinean, Sim Hill, Lee Ernest, Lottye, Freddie Mae, and Charles Edward. Mrs. Anderson was a devoted wife and loving mother and worked hard to make a home for her family.

When her youngest child started school, Mrs. Anderson began working for the Pope family in Thomasville, Georgia as a housekeeper and caregiver for their three children: Sissy, Dusty, and Miller. She was like family to the Papes and she loved those three children as her own.

Mrs. Anderson often said she was a chemist and a nurse licensed in all states because whenever and wherever anyone fell ill, she was always willing to go and nurse them back to health using her own homemade medical remedies.

Mrs. Anderson has achieved numerous successes in her life, but none of this would have been possible without the love and support of her late husband, William, her eleven children, and her 194 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Most important to Mrs. Anderson is her sturdy and enduring relationship with the Lord. She is a longtime member of Mercy Seat Christian Church. She served as treasurer for the church for many years and still serves as Mother of the Church.

The race of life isn't given to the swift or to the strong, but to those who endure until the

end. Mrs. Anderson has run the race of life with grace and dignity and God has blessed her over her lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to Mrs. Bessie Mae Rudolph Anderson as she and her family prepares to celebrate her 100th birthday.

RECOGNIZING ST ANN'S SCHOOL 148 YEARS OF EDUCATING YOUTH

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize St Ann's School of Hornell, New York for educating the youth of the 29th district for 148 years. On Wednesday, June 20th, St Ann's school closed its doors for the final time, bringing to a close a long legacy of providing a strong Catholic education to the children of the Southern Tier.

Since its founding in 1863, St Ann's School has committed itself not just to the development of the skills necessary for learning, but to the development of the whole child. Operating in an atmosphere permeated by Christian values, St Ann's School has long provided families with an affordable option to instill in their children the intellectual, emotional, and spiritual values necessary to become outstanding citizens.

It has been my privilege to represent St Ann's School for the past 2 years, and although I regret the decision that was made to close the school, I am truly thankful for its deep commitment to the education of the children of the 29th District of New York.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRI- TION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) funding as the House Agriculture Committee marks up H.R. 6083, the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management (FARMM) Act.

As families struggle to meet their basic needs during the economic downturn, the SNAP short-term food assistance program has become more important than ever. With over 14 percent of American households suffering from food insecurity, SNAP works to ensure that children, unemployed workers, and seniors have the nutrition and extra help they need. SNAP provides essential support for 46.3 million Americans (nearly half of which are children) in 22 million different households. Washington State alone has nearly 1 million people that rely on SNAP benefits.

Changes proposed in the FARMM Act to end broad-based categorical eligibility would hurt low-income families in Washington State. An estimated 80,000 Washingtonians that currently receive SNAP benefits would not qualify or would be dropped from the program. Fur-

ther, an estimated 280,000 low-income children in SNAP-eligible households that currently have access to free or reduced school meals would no longer have access. Further, FARMM Act provisions to limit which Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) payments can apply to SNAP benefits, would further limit benefits received through SNAP. These changes would disproportionately impact children, seniors, and working families. In these trying economic times, many Washingtonians cannot afford these cuts.

Congress must stand up for SNAP funding, as the program plays a crucial role in our economic recovery. The best way to lower government spending on SNAP is not through major cuts, but by continuing to help families in need. In Washington State, the average SNAP recipient receives benefits for only nine months. In these tough economic times, SNAP is providing much-needed support in getting families back on their feet.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues protect SNAP funding as the FARMM Act goes through the legislative process.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to correct an error I made in voting recently.

Rollcall vote 430, the twelfth Broun amendment, proposed to reduce the Public Housing Operating fund by \$56 million. Because that particular series of votes included six successive amendments by Representative BROUN of Georgia, and these votes were shortened to two minutes in length, I mistakenly lost track of the order of amendments and voted "yes" on rollcall 430. I ask that the RECORD reflect I intended to vote "no" on rollcall 430.

CONGRATULATING ARENA PHARMACEUTICALS AND THE FDA

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Arena Pharmaceuticals and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on their work to approve a new weapon in the battle against obesity—Belviiq. This is the first new drug for the treatment of this serious medical condition to be approved by the FDA in 13 years. According to the FDA, this innovative therapy works by activating the serotonin 2C receptor in the brain. Activation of this receptor may help a person eat less and feel full after eating smaller amounts of food.

Mr. Speaker, the health of our nation needs to be a top priority, and with over 93 million Americans impacted by obesity this type of innovation needs to be supported. The FDA's approval of Belviiq is not only a step towards improving the lives of many Americans and significantly reducing healthcare costs, but it can also result in job retention and job growth in San Diego. Breakthroughs, like Belviiq from

the San Diego life science community, create jobs in their search for innovations to ensure a healthier future. Arena Pharmaceuticals invested over \$1.5 billion dollars to get to this point, much of which was spent in California. In addition, all pivotal clinical trials were conducted here in the United States of America. By fostering cutting edge life science research, we can bring economic invigoration to San Diego and the U.S. while alleviating current medical ailments like obesity.

The life science industry employs over 2 million Americans, with the San Diego cluster being one of the largest at approximately 40,000 employees and 700 companies. Through successes in this industry with promising advancements like Belviiq, more companies and research projects can emerge in the region to generate job opportunities. San Diego biotechnology is internationally renowned for important discoveries in the medical field. Belviiq adds another distinction to San Diego biotechnology as our region is directly contributing to remedying obesity in the United States, which costs the nation \$190 billion per year. These medical breakthroughs not only help our local businesses, but also contribute to a healthier America.

Currently, less than one third of Americans have a healthy body weight. Americans across all social and economic groups are consequently affected by medical issues caused by being overweight. This recent innovation can allow us to look towards a future in which less Americans are affected by this serious medical condition and other weight-related illnesses. As doctors have been asking for more research into new treatments for weight-loss, Belviiq begins to answer these calls. Now we have taken the first steps in a new approach to obesity and will hopefully see new results.

Congratulations to Mr. Jack Lief of Arena Pharmaceuticals. The work of this innovative company will not only be felt in San Diego but across this great country.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GEORGIA PEANUT COMMISSION

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, with the discussion of a new farm bill heating up, I would like to pay special recognition to the Georgia Peanut Commission. In August, the Commission will be celebrating their 50th anniversary. Since 1961, they have successfully improved the profitability of peanuts and peanut products through research, promotion, and education, creating a better market for Georgia peanut farmers.

When the Georgia Peanut Commission began, farmers who harvested 475,000 acres of peanuts averaged yields of 1,200 pounds per acre. Last year, farmers who harvested the same 475,000 acres averaged over 3,500 pounds per acre, an increase of 350 percent. Due to their efforts, Georgia peanut yields are consistently higher than other states; possess superior quality, and contribute an estimated 2 billion dollars to the Georgia economy.

In fact, Georgia is number 1 in the national production of peanuts with nearly 50 percent of the annual crop.