

draw attention to the important contribution that radiology, in particular diagnostic imaging, serves in the health care delivery system. International Day of Radiology is observed annually on November 8th, an important date in the history of radiology. On that day in 1895, Professor Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen discovered x-rays. Radiology will be celebrated by many groups including the American College of Radiology, the Radiological Society of North America, and the European Society of Radiology.

Radiologists (physicians with special training in the use of imaging including x-rays), Radiation Oncologists (physicians trained to treat cancers with radiation alone or in combination with surgery and/or chemotherapy), and the medical imaging community have made significant contributions to modern medicine, providing powerful tools for clinical diagnosis, decision making, and treatment of disease. Over the last 30 years, medical imaging tools have been among the most sophisticated and cutting-edge technologies developed for patient care. During that span we have seen consistent decreases in cancer mortality rates with corresponding increases in American life expectancy.

The U.S. National Academy of Engineering recognized the tremendous contribution of medical imaging exams when it ranked imaging among the 20 greatest engineering achievements of the twentieth century. Practicing physicians surveyed in a 2001 Health Affairs study ranked Computed Tomography (CT) and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) number one among the top 30 recent medical innovations. Perhaps most telling, the New England Journal of Medicine named medical imaging one of the top 10 medical advances of the last 1,000 years.

A 2009 National Bureau of Economic Research study found that individuals with greater access to imaging scans live longer. Diagnostic imaging services have enabled patients to avoid several types of expensive and invasive procedures. Imaging scans cost less than surgeries and reduce the number of unnecessary hospital admissions and length of hospital stays. As such, medical imaging serves an important role in containing the cost of health care in the United States.

With its impact on patients' health, I'm pleased to recognize the importance of diagnostic imaging and radiation oncology, and call attention to November 8th as the International Day of Radiology.

HONORING DIANE SHERMAN,
MAINE HOUSING COUNSELOR

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the work of housing counselors across the country who have assisted homeowners during the hardships of the recent housing crisis—and one counselor in particular from Maine.

A constituent wrote to me about Diane Sherman, a housing counselor at Coastal Enterprises in Wiscasset, Maine, who helped this constituent in a four-year process to modify

their mortgage. For all that time, Diane has been this family's constant advocate. She has helped them through multiple hearings, held their bank to their word, and guided them through the bank's maze-like bureaucracy.

But what has mattered to this constituent more than anything else is that Diane treated her family with dignity, respect, and sympathy. This was in stark contrast to an institution that dealt with them more like a number than a person. At every step of the way, Diane reminded all involved that this was not an inhuman transaction—the situation was about real people threatened with losing a home that meant so much to them.

Truly outstanding, though, is that Diane performed her services for this family and many others while she herself dealt with life-threatening cancer. When too sick to go to the office, she worked from home. She is still dealing with the terrible disease but I hope and pray for her recovery.

Across the country, thousands of housing counselors like Diane are working to keep families in their homes. They've only become more important in recent years as the housing crisis impacted millions of families. Combined with falling home values, unresponsive mortgage servicers, and long-term unemployment, these families have few places to turn. Thank goodness for housing counselors, who work to make sure consumers get a fair shot. They are not always successful, but they still make an incredible difference for families in very difficult situations.

My sincere gratitude goes to these housing counselors for their heartfelt work, and my best wishes to Diane Sherman for her recovery.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WATER PROTECTION AND REINVESTMENT ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, there is nothing more essential to quality of life, to the health of our families and of our communities than water. Water is life. Safe drinking water and basic sanitation make the difference between health and sickness, between a family thriving or struggling just to exist.

Water quality and quantity are serious issues in communities across the country, especially now, when changing weather patterns, extreme drought, continued growth combine to put an even greater demand on our aging, inadequate infrastructure. To ease these pressures, I am introducing the Water Protection and Reinvestment Act, which would establish a trust fund to help local communities meet their water infrastructure needs.

Over a thousand communities across the country are struggling with combined sewer overflows as well as inadequate and aging sewer pipes. Small communities in particular, which already face huge questions of water supply and quality, have few resources with which to pay the bills and are seeing sky-high monthly costs for consumers.

The Water Protection and Reinvestment Act creates a deficit-neutral, consistent, and

firewalled trust fund to help states replace, repair, and rehabilitate critical wastewater treatment facilities. It will be financed by assessing small fees on a broad base of those who use water and contribute to pollution: water-based beverages, items disposed of in wastewater, and pharmaceuticals, which often wind up in wastewater systems.

The materials that flow into sewer systems and then into rivers and streams present unprecedented challenges to our water infrastructure. More and more products are designed to be flushed down toilets and drains, placing them in systems that are already stressed. Pharmaceutical residues are showing up in treated wastewater and because they are difficult to treat, I'm afraid we are slowly medicating vast numbers of Americans against their will. Aging water systems—some still made out of brick or wood, some dating from the century before last—mean that America also faces old-fashioned system reliability issues. Reports indicate that each year an average of six billion gallons of drinking water leaks from these inadequate and ancient pipes. Six billion gallons is enough to fill 6,000 Olympic sized swimming pools—if lined up, these pools would stretch from Washington, DC to Pittsburgh, PA.

These aging and outdated systems are not just a local problem, relevant only to a single neighborhood, city, county, or even state. Water does not obey county boundaries or even state lines, and it is a resource on which we all rely. The Federal Government should help fill the funding gaps that local communities and States cannot. The opportunity is now: There is significant State and local investment, interest rates are near an all-time low, and enacting this legislation, the Water Protection and Reinvestment Act, will leverage hundreds of billions of additional dollars.

The American public is already paying a disproportionate share of the costs of water infrastructure. Residential households have the least capacity to absorb additional costs during these difficult times, and they already face wildly escalating costs to deal with problems that they did not create. The voracious water demands of industry far outstrip household needs. In large measure, the Cokes of the world, the pharmaceutical companies, and industries that produce products that get flushed are the ones that accelerate water demand and complicate water treatment. Industries that profit by putting their products in the sewer systems—either by design or inadvertently—or who withdraw vast amounts of fresh water to make a profit should pay their fair share. Clean water is absolutely essential for these industries and the rest of the business community to function. A small fee to pay for water infrastructure upgrades would provide the business community far more in benefits than it would cost, and it could be used to leverage a broader range of investments.

This bill will help communities deal with their water infrastructure needs in a stable, proactive way, and will provide significant benefits for those who rely on our water system, the local government officials charged with making the system work, and the industries who rely on a clean, consistent source of water for their products.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN FLEMING

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, I was not present to vote for rollcall 537 and rollcall 538 due to flight delays from storm systems moving through the area. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on S. 679, the Presidential Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act of 2011, and "yes" on H.R. 828, the Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act of 2011.

HONORING GARY WADDELL

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding achievements of a great Nevadan, Mr. Gary Waddell. I am proud to call Gary my friend, and that makes me just like hundreds of thousands of Southern Nevadans who also have a friend in Gary. All of us know that when we catch a Gary Waddell television newscast, we get the news as it should be presented. No other newscaster has ever delivered news with better judgment and community perspective than Gary has for more than 30 years. No one has ever broadcast with more intelligence, warmth, and integrity than has Gary.

Gary is the "dean" of newscasters, but that term hardly captures what he means to Southern Nevada. In times of crisis in our community over the years, we've always turned to Gary's coverage because he is a consummate news professional, never allowing competitive pressure to compromise accuracy, thoroughness and fairness. Gary's signature on-air style is incisive, sincere, assuring, and warm. Southern Nevadans rightly call him their "Cronkite."

When we see Gary's work on TV, we are also seeing Gary the man—the man who has done so much good for Southern Nevada, above and beyond the ordinary call of his profession. Since the 1970s, Gary has given his time and talent to help people in need. His efforts, both public and private, have aided countless thousands of Southern Nevadans and built a stronger community for all.

Gary is coming to the end of his legendary broadcasting career. To say he will be missed is a major understatement. I understand he'll soon be riding off on his motorcycle, but I look forward to his return, and hope he may pursue a new venture that will again bring him into our living rooms.

Congratulations and best wishes on your new life chapter, my friend.

NO CO-PAY DAY

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate No Co-Pay Day.

Today marks a victory for women's health care. Some 47 million women will now be able to get preventative services that couldn't before this rule went into effect.

Any new insurance policies sold to individuals or employers must cover contraception without a co-pay as part of a larger package of mandatory co-pay-free women's preventive care benefits. Insurance plans that have already been purchased will have to start offering no-co-pay contraception when they renew.

Before the Affordable Care Act, some insurance companies did not cover preventative services for women under their health care plans, and others required deductibles or co-pays for the care they needed.

That changes today—all health insurance policies are required to cover new preventative care without charging women any co-pays or deductibles. Some of the new preventative services now available with no co-pay include annual visits, FDA-approved contraceptives, domestic violence screenings and counseling, breastfeeding support, HPV DNA testing for women 30 or older, HIV and sexually transmitted infections screenings, and gestational diabetes screenings that help protect pregnant women from one of the most serious pregnancy-related diseases.

Too often, women put their families' health care before their own, especially when it comes to preventative care.

Thanks to this new benefit in the Affordable Care Act, women can get the regular check-ups and screenings that are so important to staying healthy without having to worry about how much it will affect the family budget.

Today's announcement is just one more part of the overall implementation plan for improving our nation's health care system.

The Affordable Care Act will provide greater access to affordable health care for millions of women and families who do not have coverage now, while also lowering health care costs, creating jobs, strengthening the middle class, and reducing the deficit.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETTY SUTTON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, due to problems with travel, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 537, "yes" on rollcall No. 538, and "no" on rollcall No. 539.

NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues, LYNN WEST-MORELAND and Senator SAXBY CHAMBLISS, in support of this legislation, which will strengthen for the future one of the crown jewels of southwest Georgia—the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Fort Benning.

The National Infantry Museum sits on a 200-acre site that serves as a tribute to the Infan-

try's legacy of valor and sacrifice. The Museum honors infantry soldiers—from those who crossed the icy Delaware River with George Washington to those serving in Afghanistan today—for their selfless service to our country, while preserving their stories for future generations.

It also serves as a functional area for basic training graduations and other special and community events. Since its opening in 2009, for example, Infantry School classes regularly graduate on the facility's parade field.

In addition, the National Infantry Museum hosted a Congressional Military Family Caucus Summit just over a month ago, which connected military families with Members of Congress, officials from the Department of Defense, personnel from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and various military and veteran support organizations to discuss pressing issues impacting America's service members and their families.

In 2008, the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center Commemorative Coin Act was enacted to raise funds to complete the facility as well as create an endowment to support its maintenance. No taxpayer funds have been involved and the U.S. Mint even made a profit for the taxpayers from the coin sales.

With the current economic challenges, however, the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center hopes to direct the coin proceeds to pay down a portion of the \$16 million in bank loans that the Foundation incurred in order to complete the facility as well as reduce interests costs.

Accordingly, this legislation makes a technical change that will allow the coin proceeds to be used "for the retirement of debt associated with building the existing National Infantry Museum and Soldier center and for any future capital improvements." It is within the letter and the spirit of the original measure, and it will go a long way toward keeping our proud Army Infantry past alive so we as great nation never forget the sacrifices of our brave Infantry soldiers.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

RECOGNITION OF THE
RETIREMENT OF GARY BARRIGER**HON. DAVID P. ROE**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Gary Barrigar, who is stepping down as president of the Boone Watershed Partnership, which he has served since 2005. Through both his work with the Partnership and as a schoolteacher, Gary has made incredible contributions to his East Tennessee community.

As a science teacher who was in the classroom for 38 years at Elizabethton High School, Gary headed the award-winning Elizabethton High Ecology Club. He has also been an integral part of numerous organizations that protect the environment and outdoor areas that we East Tennesseans hold so close to our hearts.

Gary has made it his life's mission to increase water quality awareness and help preserve local rivers and streams—something