

be used as potential biothreat agents. The antibody was successfully used, through compassionate use exception, to save the lives of three individuals with significant exposure to the Hendra virus.

Brigadier-General (Dr.) Jean-Robert Bernier, Canadian Defence Force, a 1997 graduate of USU's Master of Public Health degree program, was sworn in as the Surgeon General of Canada in July 2012.

The USU Graduate School of Nursing has conferred more than 600 master's degrees since its founding in 1993 and 15 doctorates since opening its Ph.D. program in 2003. These men and women serve in uniformed and federal services at home and abroad. They also work with the school's faculty to conduct research.

Air Force Capt. Jennifer Curtis, who graduated from USU's Family Nurse Practitioner program, Graduate School of Nursing, in 2009, was awarded the Bronze Star and other decorations for her heroic lifesaving actions of six soldiers while under fire in Afghanistan during her very first deployment.

In addition to its world-class educational programs, USU is dedicated to innovative research in military medicine, nursing and oral health as well as public health. Its research programs, devoted to preventive medicine, infectious disease, prosthetics, traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder, are relevant both locally and globally.

The civilian members of USU's Board of Regents are appointed by the Secretary of Defense. They are prominent leaders in health care, higher education and public policy from across the country. Current members include:

Otis Brawley, M.D., Chief Medical Officer and Executive Vice President, American Cancer Society

Sheila Burke, Senior Policy Analyst at Baker Donelson and former Under Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution

General (Ret.) Ronald Griffith, former Vice Chief of Staff of the Army

Michael Johns, M.D., Chancellor of Emory University

Haile Debas, M.D., Executive Director of Global Health Sciences at the University of California, San Francisco

Kenneth Moritsugu, M.D., Vice President, Global Strategic Affairs for LifeScan, Inc., former Deputy Surgeon General of the United States

Gail Wilensky, Ph.D., Senior Fellow at Project HOPE and former Administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration

Ronald Blanck, D.O., Chairman and Partner of Martin, Blanck & Associates, former Army Surgeon General, and former President of the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth. Dr. Blanck serves as Chair of USU's Board of Regents.

Ex-officio members of the Board include:

Dr. Jonathan Woodson, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs

Lt. General Patricia Horoho, Surgeon General of the U.S. Army

Vice Admiral Matthew Nathan, Surgeon General of the U.S. Navy

Lt. General Thomas Travis, Surgeon General of the U.S. Air Force

Vice Admiral Regina Benjamin, Surgeon General of the United States

Dr. Charles L. Rice, President of the Uniformed Services University

The Board members' experience, knowledge and ideas will enable USU to continue

its fine tradition of making significant contributions to military medicine and public health, helping to create a stronger, more effective military and federal health system in service to our nation and the global community.

Our nation is fortunate that USU fulfills well its mission of educating future generations of military and public health physicians, nurses, dentists and biomedical scientists. Moreover, USU is a particularly compelling example of the importance of public investment in our nation's future. I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress, the leadership of the Department of Defense and the USU to ensure that USU has the support it needs to continue to fulfill the vision of its founders.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating USU, its students, alumni, faculty and staff on forty years of extraordinary contributions to our nation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE SECONDARY PAYER AND LATE ENROLLMENT PENALTY FAMILY FAIRNESS ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Medicare Secondary Payer and Late Enrollment Penalty Family Fairness Act. Today, the Social Security Act uses different definitions of familial relationships for purposes of Medicare secondary payer rules and late enrollment penalty protections. Beneficiaries over age 65 are subject to a more restrictive definition than younger beneficiaries who are eligible for Medicare due to disability. My legislation fixes that anomaly by creating a uniform definition so that Medicare beneficiaries of all ages are treated equally. I would like to thank my constituent Joseph Goleman for bringing this problem to my attention.

Medicare's secondary payer rules generally allow an individual to maintain employer-sponsored coverage after they've obtained Medicare eligibility and forgo joining Medicare Part B (and therefore having to pay the Part B monthly premium) as long as they maintain such coverage. In these instances, their employer-sponsored coverage remains their primary coverage, and Medicare Part A is their secondary coverage. Very importantly, the law also protects people in this situation who then transition to Medicare Part B when they lose that employer-sponsored coverage. The law shields these beneficiaries from the late enrollment penalty because they've maintained consistent coverage and therefore carry no adverse risk for Medicare. This is a key benefit as the late enrollment penalty is a substantial financial hit.

These rules exist because they are a win for beneficiaries with access to employer-sponsored coverage and a win for taxpayers. Beneficiaries gain because employer-sponsored coverage usually has lower cost sharing than Medicare and typically has lower deductibles as well. Plus, taxpayers win because Medicare isn't responsible for many new health costs for these individuals because they are being primarily covered by their employer's plan.

For people who become eligible for Medicare based on disability, the current law pro-

vides that these Medicare Secondary Payer and Late Enrollment Penalty rules apply to the beneficiary and his or her "family member." For people who become eligible for Medicare by reason of turning 65, these protections only apply to the beneficiary or their "spouse."

The practical impact of these different definitions of familial relationships is that a person eligible for Medicare based on disability is protected from late enrollment penalties when covered by a same sex spouse on his or her employer plan. However, a person eligible for Medicare because they've turned 65 is not.

I learned of this problem after I received a constituent inquiry in my Fremont, California office. Joseph Coleman is a 34-year-old person with a disability and is enrolled in Medicare on that basis. After becoming enrolled in Medicare, he learned that he could obtain spousal coverage and thereby avoid having to pay the Part B premium. He was also rightly informed that he'd be eligible to rejoin Medicare Part B—without paying a penalty—if that spousal coverage changed.

Imagine Joseph's surprise, anger, and fear when he went to exercise that right to rejoin Medicare Part B and he was told by a local Social Security office in our community, that that right didn't extend to him because he was in a same-sex marriage. Instead, he would be subject to a significant late enrollment penalty, which made Medicare Part B coverage entirely unaffordable for him.

Thankfully, Joseph reached out to me. My staff quickly discovered that he was, in fact, guaranteed the protection to rejoin Medicare without penalty. After several go 'rounds with the local Social Security office by my staff and Medicare's Region 9 staff, we were able to get Joseph the benefits to which he was due. However, it is clear to me that because there are two different standards in the law, mistakes are made and people are likely losing benefits to which they are entitled under current law. This certainly would have been the case with Joseph if I hadn't intervened.

Regardless of your position on same-sex marriage, revising the law to have a standard definition using "family member" for the Medicare secondary payer rules and the late enrollment penalty protection simply makes financial sense for Medicare. By converting to the term "family member," we steer clear of stepping into any debate over the Defense of Marriage Act. While I oppose that law and would strongly support its repeal, that's not the fight we're waging today.

The simple goal of this bill is to right a wrong, which was brought to my attention by a constituent. If left unchanged, not only does the law treat Medicare beneficiaries in identical situations differently, it obviously results in confusion for those who enforce the law. I am sure more people than Joseph Coleman have been wrongly denied benefits based on misinterpretation of the convoluted law—potentially accented by personal prejudices.

I urge my colleagues to join with me in support of this small bill that affects few people, but simply clarifies the law. It will mean the difference between people obtaining quality, affordable coverage through Medicare Parts A&B, or being left behind.

IN HONOR OF MR. DAN BRADY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dan Brady, a member of the Cuyahoga County Council serving the Third District.

Dan Brady is a native of Cleveland, Ohio and has been active in public service for many years. He earned a degree in political science and history from Ohio University. He served on the Cleveland City Council from 1986 to 1996 before serving one term in the Ohio House of Representatives from 1996 to 1998. He left the Ohio House of Representatives to run for a seat in the Ohio Senate, in which he served until 2006. He was elected to the position of minority whip in the Ohio Senate in 2001. He now serves on the Cuyahoga County Council representing the Third District.

Dan Brady's accomplishments make him a remarkable figure in state and local government. As a member of the Cleveland City Council, Dan helped manage the expansion of Cleveland Public Power. In the Ohio House of Representatives, he supported the Beck Center for the Performing Arts and opposed legislation that would have reduced benefits to injured workers. In the Ohio Senate, he fought for legislation to reduce the risk of HIV among hospital workers working with needles.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Dan Brady, a member of the Cuyahoga County Council who is dedicated to serving the citizens of Cuyahoga County and the State of Ohio.

HONORING CLAUDE L. AND
MICHELLE D. WINFIELD**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Claude and Michelle "Shelley" Winfield. The Winfields have made unique personal contributions in their professional lives and through their volunteer efforts to benefit New Yorkers at-large.

Mr. and Ms. Winfield have spent the majority of their professional careers in education. Mr. Winfield was born in Virginia and moved to New York City as a young boy. He earned an undergraduate degree in electrical engineering from New York University, and began his career working for Western Electric. He later earned masters degrees in elementary education and education administration from City University of New York. Mr. Winfield found his true calling when he began teaching. He taught 2nd grade English and middle school science, and later became the principal of Walt Whitman Middle School in Brooklyn, which served 1,900 students. Mr. Winfield is a strong proponent of the progressive teaching methods that he feels benefited him as a young student.

Ms. Winfield grew up in Pennsylvania, and earned an undergraduate degree in home economics from Howard University before beginning her teaching career. She received masters degrees in education administration from

Fordham University and in special education from Adelphi University. For 15 years, until her retirement in 2002, Ms. Winfield was the beloved Supervisor of Special Education at Robert Wagner Middle School in Manhattan where she inspired in her colleagues and students an appreciation for the intrinsic value of education.

The Winfields are deeply involved in the community, serving in leadership positions in a variety of organizations. Mr. Winfield serves as Manhattan Community Board 6 Executive Committee Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Community Board's Housing, Homeless Services and Human Rights Committee. He also volunteers as a docent at the Museum for African Art.

Ms. Winfield is an active member of the of the Parent Advisory Board at the National Dance Institute. She has been an enthusiastic advocate for the program since her son participated in it as a student at P.S. 124M. She was appointed by Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer to serve on the Community Advisory Board of Bellevue Hospital Center and assists with fundraising for The Duke Ellington Society, Inc. in Manhattan.

Ms. Winfield had an early introduction to the civil rights movement as a result of her family's activism and community service. Her father was a civil rights leader who served as President of the North Philadelphia Action Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). In accordance with the family tradition, Mr. and Ms. Winfield have worked with the NAACP Mid-Manhattan Branch, which honored them with the Distinguished Service Award in 1975.

The couple is also very involved in local political organizations, including the Samuel J. Tilden Democratic Club, for which Ms. Winfield serves on the donations committee. In April, they received the Samuel J. Tilden Democratic Club Humanitarian Award for their tireless advocacy and incredible contributions of their time and talents to strengthen the community.

Married in 1974, Mr. and Ms. Winfield are the proud parents of two children, Marie and Michael, and adore their son-in-law Konrad Pust. They are also loving grandparents to their granddaughter, Sophie.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Claude and Shelley Winfield. This remarkable couple are shining examples of selfless devotion to community service.

CONGRATULATING DR. HILLARD
M. LAZARUS**HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my congratulations to Dr. Hillard M. Lazarus, in his continued pursuit of excellence in care delivery and commitment to medical innovation. During my eighteen year tenure in Congress, I have had the great honor of working with the University Hospitals Systems (UH) in Cleveland, OH, and experiencing firsthand the exceptional commitment to increasing the quality of care they provide to patients not just from Northeast Ohio, but from around the country. I have also had the

opportunity to develop a personal relationship with many members of their dedicated team of care providers.

Dr. Hillard Lazarus is one of those extraordinary members of the UH team. Dr. Lazarus has over 30 years of distinguished experience in his field, and has served as the Director of the Blood and Bone Marrow Transplant Program within the Division of Hematology/Oncology at Seidman Cancer Center for the past 25 years. In this time, Dr. Lazarus has gained a reputation as a leading expert in his field and is widely recognized for his contributions in the areas of mesenchymal stem cell transplants and autologous stem cell transplantation. As a pioneer in non-embryonic stem cells and regenerative medicine, Dr. Lazarus performed the first stem cell transplant in the state of Ohio in 1976 at UH Case Medical Center.

Dr. Lazarus has been identified as an Outstanding Physician in many national and local surveys, was inducted into the Cancer Care Hall of Fame and the American Cancer Society, and has received the American Cancer Society Lifetime Achievement Research Award. He has also authored and co-authored over 270 publications in peer-reviewed journals, 46 book chapters and 66 review articles. His record of ground-breaking treatments and breakthroughs has helped make Seidman Cancer Center a leader in the treatment of leukemia and other blood disorders.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to share some of the highlights of the ongoing work of Dr. Lazarus with the House of Representatives. It is so important to recognize innovators like him, who pave the way for medical breakthroughs that increase the duration and quality of life for millions of Americans. I am proud to offer my congratulations and thanks to Dr. Lazarus for his outstanding achievements and contributions, as well as his service to Northeast Ohio and the United States of America.

IN HONOR OF CLEVELAND CITY
COUNCILMAN ZACK REED**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Councilman Zack Reed, who has been representing the residents of the Mt. Pleasant and Kinsman neighborhoods in Ward 2 on Cleveland's City Council since 2000.

Councilman Reed grew up in the Mt. Pleasant neighborhood of Cleveland. He began his career in public service working with local unions to help inner-city youth find jobs with the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Youth Apprenticeship Program.

Throughout his time in office, Councilman Reed has focused on the revitalization of the Mt. Pleasant neighborhood and the safety of its residents. He was an active advocate for the zero tolerance for crime policy, gun buybacks and an increase in support for Cleveland police officers. Reed has also worked closely with community leaders in his neighborhood to revitalize small businesses and create an environment that supports economic development.

Councilman Reed has been a strong advocate of workforce equality for the diverse population of Cleveland and has been an active