

INTRODUCTION OF STOP DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING FOR WOMEN'S SERVICES ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing important legislation that will protect the rights of women seeking information on family planning services.

This week is National Women's Health Week, a weeklong effort to empower women to live happier, healthier lives. We want to encourage women to prioritize their health, but not deceive them about what medical options are available. Unfortunately, there are some centers that deliberately misinform or mislead women seeking information on family planning services. Called Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPCs), they pose as sources of unbiased pregnancy counseling, using deceptive propaganda to dissuade women from considering comprehensive birth-control options or legal abortion. Fake reproductive health clinics entice women with unintended pregnancies through their doors under the pretense of providing the full range of reproductive options and services.

The Stop Deceptive Advertising for Women's Services Act directs the Federal Trade Commission to promulgate rules under the Federal Trade Commission Act, declaring it an unfair or deceptive act for an entity, such as a crisis pregnancy center, to advertise as a provider of abortion services if the entity does not provide abortion services.

Deception has no place when a woman is seeking information about her pregnancy. Working together we can help stop the fraud and confusion these Crisis Pregnancy Centers are perpetrating on the women of America.

CONCERNS REGARDING PROPOSED CUTS TO FUNDING FOR FOOD STAMPS

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my serious concern about the proposed cuts to funding for food stamps in the 2013 Farm Bill.

Food stamps are critical to the health and wellbeing of our Nation's most vulnerable populations. In my home State of New Jersey, nearly 870,000 households rely on this benefit to feed their families. Of that number, 45 percent are children and nearly 25 percent are either elderly or disabled adults.

As it stands, food stamp benefits average less than \$1.50 per person for each meal, and that number is already set to drop to about \$1.40 this fall when a temporary boost from the Recovery Act ends.

Every one of us knows how difficult it would be to feed their children or aging parents a nutritious meal for that amount of money. And yet, the farm bill would slash federal spending for food stamps by more than \$21 billion over the next decade, eliminating food assistance to nearly 2 million people.

I understand the need to bring our budget under control, but I encourage my colleagues to find a smarter path forward. Let us not balance the budget on the backs of those among us who are the most vulnerable.

HONORING TYLER TILTON-LAGERMANN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tyler Tilton-Lagermann. Tyler is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 393, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tyler has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Tyler has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Tyler contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Tyler Tilton-Lagermann for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING UCP OF CENTRAL FLORIDA'S GRAND OPENING OF THEIR NEW WEST ORANGE CAMPUS

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize that on May 1, 2013, UCP of Central Florida celebrated the grand opening of their new West Orange campus location in Winter Garden, Florida. UCP of Central Florida is a tuition free public charter school that seeks to serve our young people with disabilities. The communities and families of Central Florida are blessed to have an organization such as UCP of Central Florida that is dedicated to helping improve the lives of thousands of children.

The mission and vision of UCP of Central Florida to open their doors to children, with or without special needs, is to be commended and celebrated. UCP of Central Florida offers the necessary development tools, including counseling, educational services and specialized therapy programs, to help build a foundation of success for children and families. This organization has achieved remarkable results. I am grateful to all those involved with making this organization such a successful part of our community.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize UCP of Central Florida on the grand opening of their new West Orange campus. I wish them many more successful years of providing quality care to the Central Florida community.

HONORING KBBF RADIO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congressman JARED HUFFMAN, to recognize and honor radio station KBBF 89.1 FM as it celebrates 40 years of operation.

KBBF was the first bilingual public radio station in the United States, launching its inaugural broadcast on May 31, 1973. Its success has led to the creation 35 other radio stations throughout the country that now serve their local Hispanic and Latino communities.

For 40 years, KBBF and its program hosts have delivered an ever-evolving level of service to Spanish and English speakers alike by providing a diverse mix of information, commentary and culture. Airtime is devoted to public affairs, news commentary, literature, financial and health news, youth and women's issues and news, indigenous programming and music from all over the world.

The radio station was founded by an eclectic group of individuals including a farm worker, a lawyer, a housewife, a college professor and a college student who wanted to provide cultural, educational and informational radio programming to a community that had historically been underrepresented in traditional radio formats.

The vision of a bilingual public radio station captured the imagination of both the local community and the Nation. The late United States Senator Ted Kennedy personally directed a helicopter to fly KBBF's antenna to the top of Mt. St. Helena, the finishing touch before broadcasts could begin.

Mr. Speaker, KBBF 89.1 FM Public Radio is a true pioneer in every sense of the word and it is therefore appropriate that we honor KBBF today on its 40th anniversary.

HONORING WILLIAM W. McCLANNAHAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize William W. McClannahan. William is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 393, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

William has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years William has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, William contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending William W. McClannahan for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN HONOR OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JOYCE ZONGRONE, U.S. NAVY (RETIRED)

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to honor Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Joyce Zongrone, who retired after 35 years of courageous service in both the active and reserve service on June 30, 2008.

LCDR Joyce Zongrone has been consistently recognized throughout her career for her service in the Vietnam War, Operation Desert Storm, and the Global War on Terrorists. LCDR Zongrone originally earned her commission in 1974 after graduating Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island. She then went on to serve with great distinction, being awarded the Woman of Military Achievement Award by the San Diego Chapter of the U.S. Navy League for three consecutive years: 1975, 1976, and 1977.

LCDR Zongrone also received the U.S. Navy Commendation Medal for her service in Operation Restore Hope in Somalia and her duties as the Navy Central Command's liaison to General Colin Powell's Farewell Tour. LCDR Zongrone received a Coast Guard Unit Commendation for her development of a joint anti-submarine warfare curriculum for the Coast Guard and the Navy; and the Humanitarian Service Medal for Operation Babylift, a U.S. initiative that airlifted over 2,500 Vietnamese orphans out of Vietnam after the war.

In addition to her service to our great nation, once released from active duty by the U.S. Navy, LCDR Zongrone worked as a freelance producer, investigative reporter, technical writer for NASA, a teacher, and adjunct professor. In her post-military life, LCDR Zongrone won a Texas Gulf Coast Press Association Award, an Attaway Newspaper Group Color Photography Award, and was included in the 2005–2006 edition of Who's Who in American Teachers. Furthermore, due to her distinction and success, LCDR Zongrone currently serves on the Military Academy Selection Board of the Ninth Congressional District of Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I am blessed to have the opportunity to pay tribute to such a selfless veteran as LCDR Zongrone. For those of us who know LCDR Zongrone, we are always in awe of her intelligence and willingness to serve worthy causes. It is an honor to know that as Americans and freedom-loving people, we owe our liberty and security to brave individuals like LCDR Zongrone, who put their liberty and security at risk for us.

GIRLS OF STEEL ROBOTICS TEAM

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Girls of Steel robotics team on winning the Engineering Inspiration Award at the 2013 Pittsburgh Regional F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Competition.

This is the second year in a row in which they have won the Engineering Inspiration

Award. This prestigious award, which recognizes the team's outstanding efforts to advance respect for the engineering profession, also qualified the team to compete at the F.I.R.S.T. Championship in St. Louis for the third year in a row. The championship is the final and largest competition of the robotics season and features teams from across the world.

F.I.R.S.T., which stands for "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology," is an organization dedicated to introducing our youth to the world of science and technology. This year alone, hundreds of thousands of students are gaining practical, team-based engineering experiences by participating in F.I.R.S.T.

As a founder and co-chair of the Congressional Robotics Caucus, I think competitions such as these are outstanding tools for getting students interested in careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. I believe our nation's future economic growth and prosperity depends upon getting young people interested and engaged in scientific pursuits, and I want to commend organizations like F.I.R.S.T. for the important work they do in that regard. The F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Competition instills a sense of pride in the individuals who participate in it and allows them to apply their natural creativity in the demanding and competitive field of robotics.

The Girls of Steel team is made up of 40 young women from high schools in and around the Pittsburgh area. In recognition of their hard work, intelligence, and teamwork, I want to mention each of these inspiring young ladies by name. They are Sonia Appasamy, Katie Ashwood, Tammy Bevilacqua, Elizabeth Bianchini, Britt Bovbjerg, Aaminah Bray, Grace Brueggman, Dakota Calvert, Abby Ceraso, Tristan Close-Abuyen, Claudia Contreras, Laurel Donatelli, Samantha Eppinger, Clarisa Espinoza-Delgado, Mackenzie Ferris, Naoka Gunawardena, Heather Harrington, Rosanne Harrison, Kathryn Hendrickson, Imani Horton, Campbell Konrad, Elizabeth Kysel, Sylvie Lee, Sophia Lee, Shana Leshko, Pragna Mannam, Genevieve Nieson, Raina Oravec, Simran Parwani, Korryn Resetar, Kaylyn Rocher, Alex Roth, Rachel Round, Katie Shreve, Lynn Urbina, Molly Urbina, Bryce Volk, Becca Volk, Giulia Watkins, and Natalie Young.

I also want to mention that one of the Girls of Steel—Naoka Gunawardena from The Ellis School—was one of two students at the Pittsburgh Regional who won the prestigious F.I.R.S.T. Dean's List Award, which recognizes student leaders who are outstanding at pursuing and achieving F.I.R.S.T.'s ideals.

I also want to express my appreciation to the staff of the Carnegie Mellon University Field Robotics Center, which has mentored the Girls of Steel. As a result of their efforts, more young women are gaining real-world technological experiences which will certainly aid them in the future.

I congratulate the Girls of Steel and wish them continued success in their academic and professional pursuits.

HONORING JACOB SHIPLEY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Shipley. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 320, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jacob researched and led a restoration of destroyed quail habitat on federal wetlands in northern Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Shipley for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

INTRODUCTION OF MEDICAL NEUTRALITY PROTECTION ACT OF 2013

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Medical Neutrality Protection Act of 2013, which is an updated version of the bill I introduced in the 112th Congress. I have been encouraged by the tremendous support that this bill received since then, including major human rights advocacy groups, medical professionals, U.S. government officials, and medics living abroad who have been persecuted while serving in times of civil unrest.

Since I first introduced this bill in July 2011, we have heard of widespread cases, particularly in the Middle East, where the independence of physicians and medics was severely hindered. Unfortunately, the situation remains dire. Many have been arrested, detained, interrogated, and even tortured for caring for the wounded. Countries that do this to their medical professionals do not deserve our military assistance.

This bill elevates the protection of medical professionals as a foreign policy priority for the U.S. Government so that countries that violate norms of medical neutrality will no longer be able to receive U.S. military assistance.

I first became aware of this issue back in the 1980s during the civil war in El Salvador. The conflict ended in the early 1990s with over 75,000 people killed, some of whom were medical workers who were caught in combat or working in refugee camps. Then, as now, I was concerned that the United States was not doing enough to stop government forces from harming medical workers, who are some of the only unbiased eyewitnesses that we have on the ground.

Protecting doctors and health care workers is a nonpartisan issue that should get broad support in Congress and our government.