

or dependent on prescription pain relievers in the past year grew to an estimated 336,000, up from 132,000 a decade earlier, based on data from SAMHSA. Addition does not recognize age, race, ethnicity, or income. Anyone could be susceptible including seniors.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Inspector General has recommended that Medicare have this type of a program. In a hearing, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Principal Deputy Administrator stated that they supported this policy, but needed a statutory change in the law to create such a program.

A change to the Medicare program is a herculean task. I want to thank some of the people that supported this provision and helped get this legislation over the finish line. Lindsay Berman from the Pew Charitable Trusts, Jerry Steffl, Jonathan Heafitz, Gary Kline, Sergio Santiviago, Richard Hoar, Heather Cutler, Nelson Bunn from the Major County Sheriffs Association, and Chuck DeWitt from the Major Cities Chiefs Association.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 10, 2015

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber today because I was at the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals hearing in New Orleans, LA, on President Barack Obama's immigration executive actions.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on roll call vote 431.

I would have voted "yea" on roll call vote 432 and in favor of the Lee/Schakowsky/Clarke Amendment which would have struck from the underlying bill controversial policy riders that will undermine a woman's right to choose. This amendment would have protected women's health care choices and was especially vital to low-income and minority women's health.

I would have voted "yea" on roll call vote 433 in support of H.R. 6, the 21st Century Cures Act.

RECOGNIZING THE 2015 INSTITUTE FOR EXCELLENCE IN SALES & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT WINNER MARK WEBER

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 10, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the Lifetime Achievement presented by the Institute for Excellence in Sales & Business Development (IES&BD). The Institute was created to foster excellence in business sales and development practices and to help organizations maximize their efforts. This annual award recognizes individuals, teams, and organizations throughout the United States who demonstrate exemplary performance through leadership, risk taking, innovation, vision, and customer development.

The 2015 IES&BD Lifetime Achievement Award honoree is Mark Weber of NetApp, a data management and cloud storage provider based in Vienna, Virginia. With over 30 years of experience in technology sales and engineering, Mr. Weber is a proven leader in Information Technology with particular expertise in serving the public sector.

Mr. Weber began his career as a federal account manager for Hewlett-Packard and later joined Sun Microsystems where he managed a diverse portfolio and served in a variety of positions including regional executive director for federal, state, and local government sales.

At NetApp, as Senior Vice President for the Americas, Mr. Weber leads sales, channels, engineering, professional services, business development, finance, operations, and marketing across North America, South America, and U.S. Public Sector. Prior to his current role, Mr. Weber served as the President and General Manager of NetApp U.S. Public Sector for ten years. He was responsible for managing and developing government business at the federal, state, and local levels in addition to higher education and teaching hospitals.

Under his leadership, NetApp's Vienna office was ranked in the top 10 for the best places to work in D.C. for the sixth time by the Washington Business Journal as well as repeatedly listed in the Washingtonian's Best 50 Places to Work issue.

Mr. Weber's professionalism has earned him the respect and admiration of his peers. In 2014 he was recognized by the Wash100 Exec Ranks as an Innovative GovCon Technologist & Business Leader. He was also awarded the FedScoop50 Industry Leadership award in 2012 and 2013 and the Federal Computer Week's Federal 100 Award in 2011. Within NetApp, he has received the Club Award for nine straight years and is frequently recognized as Sales Leader of the Year within the larger organization.

Mr. Weber sits on the Advisory Council for the Department of Business & Economics at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and is a board member of the Virginia Tech Science and Engineering Regional Growth Enterprise (VT-SERGE).

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mark Weber for his many contributions to the federal IT procurement field and on congratulating him on receiving the 2015 Institute for Excellence in Sales & Business Development Lifetime Achievement Award.

21ST CENTURY CURES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to accelerate the discovery, development, and delivery of 21st century cures, and for other purposes:

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Chair, today I stand in strong support of the 21st Century Cures Act. This bipartisan bill gives our nation's best and brightest the tools they need to understand—and eventually defeat disease—and reauthorizes both the National Institutes of

Health (NIH) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The 21st Century Cures Act has the potential to accelerate the discovery of drugs for life-threatening illnesses; repurpose drugs found ineffective for one condition and test them on another; promote an interoperable health system; enhance telehealth practices; and advance the development of more targeted, personalized treatments.

My district, the 7th Congressional District of Alabama, is home to the University of Alabama at Birmingham, the Southern Research Institute, and the University of Alabama. NIH funding is critical to the continuing vitality of these three leading institutions, as well as to the region.

The prospect of this act alone provides hope. Hope that cures can be discovered, hope that one day no diagnoses indicate inevitable ailment or death, and hope that one day treatments will yield more reward than risk.

Despite the potential of this bill, there are two amendments that threaten that hope and essentially aim to inhibit the health of several Americans. First, the Hyde Amendment has reared its ugly head yet again. It is a harmful and discriminatory bill that prevents women from making their own healthcare decisions. Further, it serves as a stark contradiction to efforts geared toward providing health positive resources for all.

Second, the Brat amendment aims to convert the federal funding of the NIH and the FDA from mandatory to discretionary. Such a transaction would stifle the progress both federal agencies have already made and will continue to make. It will singlehandedly reverse the trajectory of medical progress and halt further research efforts.

With only 5 percent of rare diseases having an FDA-approved treatment, it would be a gross understatement to say our medical systems have failed to keep pace. Viruses and diseases will not wait for us to catch up; they will mutate, grow ever more virulent, and continue to impact our public health. We need to leverage our investments to make potentially game-changing strides in treatment. We need 21st century solutions for 21st century threats.

An investment in health affects more than our physical well-being, and the 21st Century Cures Act reflects this. H.R. 6 is not only a health bill; it is a jobs bill. Our country has been the leader in both the medical device and biopharmaceutical industry for decades, helping us become the core of global medical innovation. This puts a target on our backs, as China and other countries have attempted to attempt to claim this role and thus, our jobs. U.S. medical device-related employment totals over 2 million jobs, and the U.S. biopharmaceutical industry is responsible for over 4 million U.S. jobs. NIH funding currently supports over 400,000 jobs at research institutions across the country, including jobs for young and upcoming scientists. Without this funding, our jobs are out there for the taking. Without this funding, the thousands of jobs in my district provided by the University of Alabama at Birmingham, the Southern Research Institute, and the University of Alabama are not safe. The policies in this legislation will help us fight off foreign competitors and allow us to continue innovating, so we can all protect medical jobs in our districts and add more.

We must get serious about addressing the unmet medical needs of the American people.

I urge my colleagues not to deprive the American people of the cures they deserve. Vote against these poison pill amendments because when it comes to the health of our constituents, there is no place or time for partisan politics. I urge my colleagues to oppose the Brat and Hyde amendments, and I urge them support H.R. 6.

RECOGNIZING NONE SUCH FARM

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 10, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special company in the 8th Congressional District, None Such Farm, which recently was recognized as a Finalist for the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award.

The Freedom Award is the highest recognition given by the U.S. Government to employers for their support of their workers who serve our country in the Guard and Reserve. Nomination requests come from a Guard or Reserve member who is employed by the organization they are nominating, or from a family member. The award was created to publicly recognize employers that provide exceptional support to their Guard and Reserve employees, and the Department of Defense deems it the highest of all employer recognition awards.

30 companies from across the country were selected as a Finalist for this prestigious award. None Such Farm is the only company representing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and all of us in Bucks County are proud.

None Such Farm is owned and operated by the 3rd generation of the Yerkes Family in beautiful Buckingham, Pennsylvania. For over fifty years the Yerkes farm supplied sweet corn for the wholesale market in Philadelphia. In the late 1970's, as the wholesale market began to change, Bill and John Yerkes decided to build a Farm Market. Since 1978, the market has doubled in size, adding a Meat Shop to sell their own farm raised beef, along with a kitchen for high quality "ready to go" food. None Such Farm is a staple of Bucks County, with some of the best sweet corn around, along with delicious fruits, vegetables, and beautiful flowers.

Today, the Yerkes family heritage lives on—through Leslie, Jon and Scott Yerkes, who made the decision to preserve the 217 acre farm. As a County Commissioner and as a United States Congressman, I have seen the tremendous strides that None Such Farm has made and the dedication it has given to its customers and employees.

I am pleased to see the Department of Defense recognize None Such Farm for their good treatment and support of our nation's military families. Thank you to the Yerkes family for taking care of those who serve our country. I am proud of your commitment to our military, and wish you many years of success in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 HONOREES OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY FEDERATION OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 10, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations (the "Federation") and the honorees of its 65th Annual Awards Banquet. The Federation is a coalition of civic and homeowners associations. Each year, the Federation honors a few select individuals for their extraordinary contributions to our community. As a former two-term President of the Federation, I understand that those who volunteer their time, energies, and talents to civic activities play a vital role in making Fairfax County one of the best places in the nation in which to live, work, and raise a family. I am honored to recognize the following individuals for their service to our community:

2014 Citizen of the Year: Michael O'Reilly. A lifelong resident of Fairfax County, Michael O'Reilly is a true "model citizen" who never fails to heed the call to public service. Mr. O'Reilly served as Mayor of the Town of Herndon from 2004–2006. In 2009 he helped create the Governing Board of the Fairfax-Falls Church Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness and has chaired the Board since its inception. He also currently serves as President of the Herndon Council for the Arts and as Co-chair of the Herndon Committee of the Dulles Regional Chamber.

Lifetime Achievement Award: Mary Agee. For the past 43 years, Mary Agee has made an enormous difference in the lives of Northern Virginians, particularly the low income and struggling. Joining Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS) in 1972, Ms. Agee became the organization's leader 27 years ago. Under her leadership, NVFS has grown into a regional resource that employs 350 people, has approximately 3,400 volunteers, and provides assistance to more than 34,000 Northern Virginia residents every year. Although Ms. Agee is retiring from her position as President and Chief Executive of NVFS, her contributions and impact have left a permanent imprint on our community that will continue to help future generations of Fairfax residents.

Citation of Merit: Connie Hartke. Connie Hartke is best known as President of Rescue Reston, a grassroots organization formed to protect open space. Under her leadership, Rescue Reston secured more than 4,200 signatures in opposition to the construction of homes on the Reston National Golf Course and led citizen engagement efforts with the Board of Supervisors and Board of Zoning Appeals. Ms. Hartke is also a valued supporter of the Walker Nature Center, participating in numerous education programs including hikes, presentations, and environmental film nights.

Citation of Merit: Bruce Wright. Bruce Wright commutes by bicycle to most of the many meetings he attends as Chairman of Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling (FABB). Since 2005, Mr. Wright and FABB members have worked with Fairfax County and the Virginia Department of Transportation to ensure that bicycling is an integral part of the county's transportation network. Under his leadership,

FABB advocated for the county's first Bicycle Master Plan. He has served on the Hunter Mill District Land Use Committee, the Reston Planning and Zoning Committee, the Tysons Land Use Task Force, the Fairfax County Trails & Sidewalks Committee, and on the Washington Area Bicyclist Association.

Special Gratitude Honoree: Supervisor Michael Frey. Supervisor Frey has represented the Sully District on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors since the Sully District was created in 1991, and I was proud to serve with him during my 14 years on the Board. Prior to that, he worked for former Board Chairman Jack Herrity and former Springfield District Supervisor Elaine McConnell. Since the beginning of his tenure, Mr. Frey oversaw enormous growth and change in the Centreville/Chantilly area. His expertise in land use and development issues helped guide the area through this transitional period. His notable accomplishments include the creation of the Centreville Historic District, the acquisition of over 2,000 acres of parkland, and the establishment of a day labor center in Centreville. Mr. Frey has worked tirelessly for transportation improvements in western Fairfax to improve mobility and reduce congestion. A strong proponent of youth activities and opportunities for young children, Mr. Frey has been a leading advocate of youth sports. In addition, Mr. Frey was a strong supporter of the bid by Fairfax County to host the 2015 World Police and Fire Games and currently serves on the Board of Directors for the organization. Mr. Frey is retiring later this year from the Board of Supervisors, and I wish him well in his retirement and thank him for his 24 years of service to the County and the residents of the Sully District.

Special Gratitude Honoree: Supervisor Gerald "Gerry" Hyland. Supervisor Gerry Hyland has represented the Mount Vernon District on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors since 1988, and I was proud to serve with him during my 14 years on the Board. As one of the longest-serving supervisors, Mr. Hyland has helped shape the tremendous growth and development of southern Fairfax County. He has been a force for renewal within the Mount Vernon District, working tirelessly on such major projects as the revitalization of the Route 1 corridor, the massive expansion of Fort Belvoir required under BRAC, and the transformation of Lorton from an industrial area once known for a prison and landfill into a thriving community known for its parkland, premier golf course, and the Workhouse Art Center. A tireless advocate for his constituents, he has helped manage the explosive growth of Mount Vernon to ensure that the quality of life enjoyed by the residents would not be diminished, but would rather be enhanced by this reinvention of the community. Mr. Hyland is retiring later this year from the Board of Supervisors, and I wish him well in his retirement and thank him for his 27 years of service to the County and the residents of the Mount Vernon District.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these incredible individuals and in congratulating them on being honored by the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations. Civic engagement is the root of a community, and Fairfax County residents enjoy an exceptional quality of life due in part to the efforts of these individuals. The contributions and leadership of these honorees