

across the country have worked hard throughout their lives to provide for their families and help build our communities, all while making their fair and full contributions of taxes into the programs. It is our duty to respect these sacrifices and ensure that programs continue to deliver on promises made.

To that end, I was proud to cosponsor and support today's House passage of H.R. 1190, the Protecting Seniors' Access to Medicare Act of 2015. This bipartisan legislation would completely repeal the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB), an unelected and unaccountable board of fifteen bureaucrats who would possess the power to determine what to pay doctors who provide critical treatments and services under Medicare.

Created under the fundamentally flawed and wildly unpopular Affordable Care Act (ACA)—or Obamacare—IPAB's recommendations would be considered under fast track procedures that would limit critical Congressional input and oversight. Whether or not it is called rationing, IPAB's mandated focus on short-term savings could result in deep cuts to physician payments and ultimately lead doctors to stop seeing Medicare beneficiaries—seriously undermining seniors' healthcare decision making process and jeopardizing their access to lifesaving and quality care.

The repeal of IPAB will allow Congress to continue focusing on policies to ensure that Medicare is sustainable for both current and future generations. Last week I was pleased to support four bills—H.R. 2505, H.R. 2507, H.R. 2570, and H.R. 2582—that strengthen and improve Medicare Advantage (MA). These bills will ensure increased transparency and accessibility to the popular MA program which provides millions of Medicare beneficiaries with affordable, comprehensive, and innovative care plans.

Medicare is an absolutely critical component for the delivery of affordable, quality healthcare services for American seniors—and I will continue to advocate for legislation that properly supports Medicare. Seniors and disabled individuals deserve better than an unelected board of bureaucrats that will only serve to cut payments, ultimately resulting in the denial of certain treatments and services and reduced access to care. Congress must remain focused on solutions that ensure Medicare is sustainable for current and future generations, and the repeal of IPAB is critical first step.

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IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOX & GOOSE

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**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fox & Goose Public House as they celebrate their 40th anniversary. As its owners, staff, and loyal patrons gather to celebrate this wonderful occasion, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing and honoring the Fox & Goose for their contributions to the Sacramento Region.

Modeled after the famous public house bearing the same name in the English town of Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, Sacramento's Fox & Goose has become a similarly thriving

institution. Founders Bill and Denise Dalton, along with their daughter and current owner Allyson Dalton, have successfully created a tradition of excellent quality and service that is an integral part of Sacramento's dining scene. Since its grand opening on January 15, 1975, Fox & Goose has truly embodied its name as a public house by providing a gathering place for all to visit with friends, unwind with a traditional English or American meal and enjoy their wide range of fine beers, wines, and Scotch. Every time that I am home, I find time to stop by for breakfast and enjoy one of their famous olallieberry scones.

Over its 40 year history, Fox & Goose has received a number of accomplishments and accolades. The restaurant is widely regarded to have the "Best Breakfast" in Sacramento, winning awards and honors in this category many times, and from a number of different publications. Additionally, Fox & Goose's Open Mic and Pub Quiz nights have provided a great deal of entertainment for many in the Sacramento community to enjoy. The environment created by Bill and Denise, and sustained by Allyson, has also become the centerpiece of the revitalization of Sacramento's historic R Street.

Mr. Speaker, as patrons gather for their 40th anniversary celebration, I am pleased to honor and recognize Fox & Goose for its important role in enhancing Sacramento's community. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them continued success and thanking them for their service to the Sacramento region.

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TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
DAMON J. KEITH

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**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a proud son of Detroit, Michigan and a true icon in the law and in the civil rights movement, The Honorable Damon J. Keith. Judge Keith, a Senior Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, is the subject of a new film entitled "Walk with Me: The Trials of Damon J. Keith." The world premiere of the film took place in Detroit on June 17, 2015.

It is truly fitting that Judge Keith's story be told, and that his contributions to our country be more widely known. The grandson of slaves, Judge Keith was born on July 4, 1922, in Detroit. Judge Keith's father worked in a Ford factory, and pushed his son to be the first person in his family to attend college. Judge Keith lived up to his father's expectations, graduating from West Virginia State College in 1943. He was drafted into the Army during World War Two after graduating, and he served in a segregated unit in Europe. His experience in Europe as well as upon his return to the U.S. had a significant impact on him. As he told the Detroit Free Press in 2013, . . . "after the war was over and I returned to the States, I could see white German soldiers riding in the front of the bus and going into restaurants in the States that said 'for whites only.'" This spurred Judge Keith to pursue a legal career.

Judge Keith attended the Howard University School of Law, where he was mentored by fu-

ture U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. He received his degree in 1949 and returned to Detroit, where he later earned a Master of Laws from Wayne State University. In 1964, he founded one of the first African American law firms in Detroit. That same year, Judge Keith was elected co-chair of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission. The late Judge John Feikens served as the other co-chair and my brother Carl as general counsel where he observed firsthand Damon Keith's exceptional dedication to civil rights for all Americans. Just three years later, at the recommendation of U.S. Senator Phil Hart, President Lyndon Johnson nominated him for appointment to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. After serving as Chief Judge of the District Court, in 1977 President Jimmy Carter nominated him to the Sixth Circuit. He was confirmed, and he remains there today.

His jurisprudence is notable for the number of landmark cases which came before him. Several of those cases had to do with issues of race and segregation, including *Davis v. School District of the City of Pontiac* in 1970, which was the first case in the North in which a federal court ordered integration, and *Baker v. City of Detroit* in 1979, in which he ordered the Detroit Police Department to carry out Mayor Coleman Young's plan to integrate the department. One of the other cases for which he is known is *U.S. v. Sinclair* in 1971, in which he ruled that President Richard Nixon and the Attorney General had no right to wiretap individuals in domestic security matters without a court order. The Sixth Circuit upheld Judge Keith's decision, as did the U.S. Supreme Court in *U.S. v. U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan*, which became known as the Keith case. And in 2002, Judge Keith wrote the Sixth Circuit opinion upholding a lower court decision in *Detroit Free Press v. Ashcroft*, which held that the Justice Department could not prevent the press and the public from witnessing deportation hearings of people suspected of having ties to terrorism.

Recognizing his leadership despite a difference in judicial philosophy, in 1987 Chief Justice William Rehnquist named Judge Keith as National Chairman of the Judicial Conference Committee on the Bicentennial of the Constitution. In this role, Judge Keith led his colleagues throughout the country in efforts to promote the bicentennial of our nation's foundational document.

In addition to his intelligence and his deep belief in the importance of equality for all people, Judge Keith is known for his respectful nature and his fundamental fairness. The director of "Walk With Me," Jesse Nasser, recently told the Detroit Free Press, "You're hard pressed to find anybody, whether he ruled for them or ruled against them, nobody will say a bad thing about him. Trust me, we tried. If we interviewed someone who was on the losing side of a case he ruled on, the first thing they'd say is, 'Before we get started, let me go on the record saying Judge Keith is an incredibly fair judge and an incredible human being.'"

Just as the legendary Justice Thurgood Marshall mentored a young Damon Keith, so too has Judge Keith helped to guide many young people who, after having clerked for him, have gone on to achieve great things. Among those clerked for Judge Keith are Judge Eric L. Clay, who serves with Judge

Keith on the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals; former Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm; Lani Guinier, the first African American woman to receive a tenured professorship at Harvard Law School; and Jocelyn Benson, the Dean of Wayne State University Law School, which is home to the Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights and the Damon J. Keith Collection of African American Legal History.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps the most quoted line of all of Judge Keith's decisions came from *Detroit Free Press v. Ashcroft*, in which he wrote that "Democracy dies behind closed doors." Judge Keith has devoted his life to opening doors for all in society, and indeed in ensuring that all who serve in government are accountable to the principles upon which our nation was founded, and which have been enhanced and enriched over time. I encourage my colleagues to join me in thanking Judge Damon J. Keith for his truly excellent and inspirational service to our nation.

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IN OPPOSITION TO H.R. 2685, THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2685, the FY16 Department of Defense Appropriations Bill.

While I commend the House Appropriations Committee's support for our servicemembers and our national defense, I have serious concerns about the way this bill funds our military operations. As was the case with last month's National Defense Authorization Act, this appropriations bill uses the Overseas Contingency Operations budget as a backdoor loophole to get around sequestration by funding \$38 billion of the Pentagon's regular base budget activities with war funds—a blatant abuse of the budget process. Just last year, House Republicans criticized the abuse of the OCO loophole in their budget report, stating that it "undermines the integrity of the budget process" and that the Budget Committee would "oppose increases above the levels the Administration and our military commanders say are needed to carry out operations unless it can be clearly demonstrated that such amounts are war-related."

Moreover, in following the strategy of the Republican budget, this legislation begins the process of locking in sequestration for non-defense programs, which will have a devastating impact on investments critical to the nation. We need to get back to the table to have an honest debate about our budget and renegotiate the funding caps for both defense and nondefense. Only then will we be able to provide the necessary resources for our national security needs and to ensure we keep the nation's commitments to education, research, infrastructure, and other crucial drivers of economic prosperity.

I also have serious concerns with a number of other provisions contained in this legislation. I strongly object to a measure which provides \$600 million to train and equip the so-called "moderate" Syrian rebels. As I have urged repeatedly, this initiative could have unintended

negative consequences that will not serve our ultimate goal of defeating ISIS. Unfortunately, an amendment offered to strip this funding was not adopted.

I strongly oppose sections 8100, 8101, and 8102 of this bill, which prohibit funding for the transfer of Guantanamo Bay detainees to both the United States and abroad. While we must pursue and prosecute terrorists that seek to do us harm, this facility—and the conduct within its walls—have only served to hurt our nation in the eyes of the world. It is simply un-American to hold individuals without charging them for a crime. I was disappointed that amendments offered by Congressman NADLER to strike these sections from the legislation were defeated. I also object to the inclusion of unrequested funding for many weapons systems, including \$1 billion for additional Army vehicles and weapons systems that the Pentagon said was not necessary.

I appreciate that this bill contains a Sense of Congress stating that this body has a Constitutional duty to debate and decide when to authorize the use of military force in the fight against ISIL. I support many aspects of the military operations the President is currently conducting against ISIL, including the use of American air power against ISIL targets and in support of Iraqi and Kurdish forces, as well as the deployment of limited numbers of American troops to help train and equip those forces. However, it has now been ten months since the President sent troops into Iraq and Syria and four months since the President sent Congress a proposed AUMF to combat ISIL. The President himself said he wanted to revise and ultimately repeal both the 2001 AUMF and 2002 AUMF yet we continue to rely on them as justification for our ongoing military operations. We owe it to our troops and the American people to pass a narrowly tailored AUMF that provides the authority necessary to degrade and defeat ISIL without dragging the United States into another unnecessary ground war in the Middle East.

For those reasons, I was disappointed that two amendments offered by Congresswoman LEE to sunset the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force Against and Al-Qaeda and associated forces and the 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq were not adopted. In addition, an amendment offered by Congressman SCHIFF to prohibit the use of funds for Operation Inherent Resolve in the absence of an AUMF to combat ISIL after March 31, 2016 was defeated.

Despite my opposition to the overall legislation, I was pleased that a bipartisan amendment introduced by Rep. MASSIE and Rep. LOFGREN to limit funding for many backdoor programs within Section 702 of the FISA Amendments Act passed. I also support the increased 2.3 percent pay raise for our troops and their families. Finally, I support the inclusion of full funding of the President's request for U.S.-Israel Iron Dome missile defense program.

While this bill does provide much needed funding for programs that benefit our men and women in uniform, ultimately, it falls short in too many areas. It is my hope that many of my objections will be resolved in Conference with the Senate but I can't support it in its current form.

TRIBUTE TO MARY HILL AND EREN SAGUN

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mary Hill and Eren Sagun from Des Moines Roosevelt High School for winning the Class 2A Girls Tennis Doubles title.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by these students demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent them and their families in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the House join me in congratulating Mary and Eren on competing in this rigorous competition and wishing continued success in their education and high school tennis career.

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REMEMBERING THE SOUTH CAROLINA SHOOTING AND REMOVAL OF THE CONFEDERATE FLAG

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to speak out against the senseless loss of innocent lives resulting from another senseless act of violence.

My thoughts and prayers go out to the people of Charleston, South Carolina, the members of the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, pastored by the Rev. Clementa Pinckney, who was one of nine persons slain by a gunman motivated by hate.

Although tragedy has found its way into the lives of the individuals murdered and the lives of their families there has been some good found in this tragic loss.

Mr. Speaker, the legislature of South Carolina has decided to debate whether to remove the flag from the front of the State House building after public support from prominent legislators, community organizations, and the Governor of South Carolina have called for the flag to come down now.

When considering the removal of the flag the people must remember the nine lives that were lost due to senseless, insensitive, and hateful feelings that were influenced by the traditions represented by the Confederate flag.

The Confederate flag has been used as a symbol of hate, exclusion, and a brutally offensive past.

South Carolina should follow in the footsteps of Texas which refused to authorize license plates with the confederate flag on them, a decision upheld last week by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker, Wal Mart, Amazon, Sears, and eBay all have made a decision to stop selling Confederate flag merchandise.

The Confederate flag does not represent the future of our great country.

We must embrace a spirit of inclusion and goodwill with a mission to eradicate hate and ignorance.

We can no longer allow our past to dictate our future, and must use this tragedy as an opportunity to eliminate symbols of hate that permeate through our society.