

ensure children who need to enter foster care will be placed in the least restrictive setting appropriate to their needs, by targeting federal dollars only on smaller family-foster homes and on other care settings for children and youth with special treatment needs or those in special circumstances, such as pregnant and parenting teens or older youth in independent living settings. A number of states already have undertaken special efforts to reduce the number of children in congregate care and to preserve group care settings for children with special treatment needs.

Children and society pay a high cost when the current systems fail to adequately address the needs of the children who come to the attention of our child welfare systems, nearly 80 percent of whom are victims of neglect. We believe that the specific changes proposed will go far in encouraging state and local child welfare systems, private providers, the courts and youth and families who have been involved in the system to work together to achieve significant change for children over the next decade.

We look forward to working with you to ensure these new child welfare finance reforms will truly benefit children who come to the attention of the child welfare system and to continue to explore additional improvements on their behalf to ensure they all have safe, permanent families. Thank you for your continuing leadership on behalf of these children.

Sincerely,

SHARON OSBORNE,
*Board Chair, Children's Home
Society of America.*

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF WISCONSIN,
Milwaukee, WI.

Hon. VERN BUCHANAN,
*Chairman, Human Resources Subcommittee,
House Committee on Ways & Means, Wash-
ington DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN BUCHANAN: Children's Hospital of Wisconsin strongly supports the Family First Prevention Services Act of 2016 (H.R. 5456). We applaud your leadership on this important issue.

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin (Children's) is the region's only independent health care system dedicated solely to the health and well-being of children. We serve children from every county in the state and are recognized as one of the leading pediatric health care centers in the United States. In addition, Children's is the largest not-for-profit, community-based child and family serving agency in Wisconsin. Through our Community Services work, we provide a continuum of care to more than 15,000 children and families annually. This includes family preservation and support, child and family counseling, child welfare, child advocacy and protection, and foster care and adoption services.

We strongly support the Family First Prevention Services Act that that would allow funds under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act to be used for the first time for evidence-based prevention services to help keep children at risk of placement in foster care safely at home with their parents or with kin. The legislation represents a significant and meaningful shift in child welfare policy by prioritizing up-front, evidence-based services to keep families together. We know from experience and empirical research that this is important for the healthy development of children.

The bill also makes significant advancements to integrate interventions and measures focused on child well-being into the child welfare system. Children's believes that prioritizing and providing accountability for child well-being, in addition to

safety and permanency, is critical to achieving better outcomes for children and society and positioning children to thrive into adulthood.

Children's is committed to improving the health and well-being of children and families. We believe the Family First Prevention Services Act will enable the child welfare system to better serve our most vulnerable children and families.

Sincerely,

AMY HERBST,
*Vice President, Child Well-Being,
Children's Hospital of Wisconsin.*

FIRST FOCUS
CAMPAIGN FOR CHILDREN,
Washington, DC, June 14, 2016.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
*Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

Hon. ORRIN HATCH,
*Chairman, Committee on Finance,
U.S. Senate, Washington DC.*

Hon. VERN BUCHANAN,
*Chairman, Human Resources Subcommittee,
Committee on Ways and Means, House of
Representatives, Washington, DC.*

Hon. SANDER LEVIN,
*Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and
Means, House of Representatives, Wash-
ington, DC.*

Hon. RON WYDEN,
*Ranking Member, Committee on Finance, U.S.
Senate, Washington DC.*

Hon. LLOYD DOGGETT,
*Ranking Member, Human Resources Sub-
committee, Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN BRADY AND HATCH, RANKING MEMBERS LEVIN AND WYDEN, CHAIRMAN BUCHANAN AND RANKING MEMBER DOGGETT: On behalf of the First Focus Campaign for Children (FFCC), a bipartisan organization committed to making children and their families a priority in federal policy and budget decisions, I am writing in strong support of H.R. 5456, the Family First Prevention Services Act of 2016. This bill that makes important policy changes in federal child welfare spending that better support the needs of vulnerable children and families.

Currently, there are 415,000 children in the foster care system, a number that has increased by 3.5 percent from 2014. Nearly 31 percent of children placed in foster care were removed due to parental alcohol or drug use, and in some states, the percentage of removal due to parental substance abuse is closer to 60 percent. In addition, 57,000 children in foster care live in group homes or congregate care settings. These children and youth do not have a clinical need to be in such a setting, and should be with families who can provide love and support.

The Family First Prevention Services Act of 2016 contains many important provisions that address these poor statistics and will make a significant impact in strengthening and keeping families together. For the first time states will be able to use federal dollars from Title IV-E of the Social Security Act to provide time-limited, evidence-based services to families. The services are aimed to help prevent children from entering the foster care system by allowing federal reimbursement to families for mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and in-home parent skill-based programs. In addition, the bill incentivizes states to ensure that children are placed in family-based settings by only allowing federal reimbursement after an assessment has occurred and it has been determined that the child should be placed in a quality residential treatment program.

The legislation also includes a number of other provisions aimed to reform and

strengthen the child welfare system including the extension of the Title IV-B program, improving supports for youth transitioning to adulthood, establishing model foster care licensing standards, and calling for a GAO review to examine compliance of states in reinvesting savings from the federal adoption assistance reimbursement for special needs kids.

We look forward to working with you to ensure these new child welfare finance reforms will truly benefit children who come to the attention of the child welfare system and to continue to explore additional improvements on their behalf to ensure they all have safe, permanent families. Thank you for your continued leadership on behalf of these children.

Sincerely,

BRUCE LESLEY,
President.

CELEBRATING THE EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF MRS. SYLVIA CRIER

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2016

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Sylvia Crier on receiving the annual New Orleans Excellence in Teaching Award from New Schools for New Orleans. The Excellence in Teaching Award is given to a teacher that goes above and beyond for their students and who has a powerful impact on their school community.

Mrs. Crier began her teaching career more than 51 years ago when New Orleans public schools were newly integrated. Prior to starting her teaching career, Mrs. Crier received her Bachelor's of Science in English from Tuskegee University and moved to New Orleans shortly after—and we're glad she did.

At the young age of 75, Mrs. Crier has taught English, U.S. History, civics and business to generations of New Orleans students. Currently, the students of McDonough 35 High are lucky enough to have a teacher who is invested in not only their educational achievement but also their professional and personal development.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the Crier family in celebrating Mrs. Crier's dedication to her students and receiving this achievement.

RECOGNIZING W. MARK DONALD, DMD, MAGD AS THE 52ND PRES- IDENT OF THE ACADEMY OF GEN- ERAL DENTISTRY

HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2016

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the occasion of the 2016 Academy of General Dentistry's Annual meeting in Boston, Massachusetts to commend and congratulate W. Mark Donald, DMD, MAGD, for his service as the 52nd President of the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) 2015–2016.

A Louisville, Mississippi native, Dr. Donald is a graduate of Mississippi State University and the University of Mississippi School of

Dentistry. He has served in private practice and has continued to deliver professional dental care and oral care education to the citizens in his local community for the past 28 years.

Dr. Donald is the first dentist from Region 12 of the AGD and the Mississippi AGD to hold an elected national office and to become the national President of this organization.

The Academy of General Dentistry was founded in 1952 with the foundational core principal of continuing education for general dentists to advance their knowledge, education and training in all fields of dentistry through post-graduate continuing education.

The Academy of General Dentistry is the second largest dental professional organization in North America with over 40,000 members consisting of 62 constituents in the United States and Canada with student and international members.

Members of the Academy of General Dentistry are required to acquire continuing education as a membership requirement and can obtain a coveted Fellowship and Mastership in the AGD.

Fellows in the AGD make up 15% of the membership and only 5% of the membership obtain the coveted Mastership award. Dr. Donald obtained the Mastership award in 2009.

Dr. Donald has been a member of the AGD since 1988 and has served in both appointed and elected positions of leadership within the AGD. He was appointed to the Legislative and Governmental Affairs Council in 2000 and served as chair from 2003 to 2006. He was elected as Regional Director of Region 12 and served for five years and two as chair. He has been elected to serve as AGD Speaker of the House, and in 2013 he was elected as the AGD Vice President.

Dr. Donald was instrumental in the conception, formulation and implementation of the AGD advocacy strategic plan including the introduction and initiation of the AGD Advocacy fund and the AGD Hill Day and has helped guide the AGD advocacy efforts for the general dentists for the past 16 years.

Dr. Donald received the first Dentist of the Year award in his home state of Mississippi in 2010 and was recognized as the 2016 Alumnus of the Year for the University of Mississippi School of Dentistry. He is the first and current project chair of the Mississippi Mission of Mercy which has provided 1.3 million dollars of free dental care to 2,800 patients in Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Dr. W. Mark Donald, DMD, MAGD for his service as the 52nd President of the Academy of General Dentistry, and also to acknowledge the significance that the Academy of General Dentistry has had on the profession of dentistry, the oral health care delivery system of the United States, and the importance of oral health care for all our citizens.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF BRAD DOHERTY

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2016

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the accomplishments of a remarkable community member, Brownsville Herald Photo

Editor Brad Doherty. Mr. Doherty recently retired after nearly 33 years of dedicated service to the newspaper and the Brownsville community.

Born in the Texas Panhandle town of Slaton, Mr. Doherty dreamed of becoming a basketball player, but traded in his basketball for a camera in college. Mr. Doherty earned a degree from the University of Texas at Austin's College of Fine Arts before joining the staff at The Brownsville Herald.

Mr. Doherty was passionate about telling stories through photojournalism. For more than three decades, Mr. Doherty has been present at community events including football games, graduations, and festivals like Brownsville's famous Charro Days Fiesta.

In addition to working full-time at the newspaper, Mr. Doherty served as an adjunct professor of photography at the University of Texas at Brownsville, he became a highly regarded professor. He was a mentor to many aspiring journalists and many of his photojournalism students went on to become his co-workers at The Brownsville Herald.

Despite his busy days, he always found a way to spend time with his wife, Anna, daughter, Kenya, and their Weimaraners. The family often traveled to Real de Catorce, Mexico where Mr. Doherty would photograph scenes from both the bustling village and the stark plains surrounding it.

Brad Doherty left an indelible mark on The Brownsville Herald and the community it serves. Mr. Doherty is an immensely talented photographer and teacher, and he will be missed by his colleagues and by all those who have seen Brownsville come alive through his photography.

FRANKIE'S STORY

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2016

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Frankie Prout, a young man from the Port Richmond area of Philadelphia described by his devoted mother Jacqueline as happy and well-loved by everyone who knew him. I also rise in honor of the 129 victims of drug overdose deaths each day; 78 of those from opioids.

In February of 2012, at the tragically young age of 20, Frankie succumbed to a heroin overdose in a half-way house, preceded by his addiction to Percocet—an addiction that began two years earlier with a prescription from the dentist. After repeated attempts to seek rehabilitation and attempts to qualify for meaningful treatment, Frankie was denied the resources he needed to overcome his addiction.

We must remind one another of people like Frankie, and put names and faces to the nearly 30,000 people who fall victim to opioid overdose each year. But we must also take action to make that tragic number zero. We as elected leaders must not abandon any more victims like Frankie. And we cannot stand by as mothers like Jacqueline bury their children.

THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION'S POSITION LIMITS LITERATURE REVIEW

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2016

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD an important document related to the ongoing work to finalize a position limits rulemaking at the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC). The document, an unpublished draft literature review prepared by the CFTC's Office of the Chief Economist (OCE), is titled "Analysis of the Various Economic Studies Cited in Comment Letters in the Position Limits Rulemaking."

The House Committee on Agriculture (Committee) conducted oversight of research practices at OCE based on a report published by the CFTC's Office of Inspector General (CFTC OIG). As part of this oversight initiative, the Committee requested, obtained, and reviewed documents and information related to the CFTC OIG's report. As a result of its oversight efforts, the Committee obtained a literature review on position limits that was never finalized or circulated to the full commission.

Having reviewed the draft literature review prepared by the CFTC's own economists, I believe it presents a comprehensive overview of the current state of economic research on excessive speculation and an objective analysis of the potential utility of position limits. The document discusses in detail the ongoing and vigorous debate among economists about what constitutes excessive speculation and what, if any, impact it might have on prices and volatility in the commodity futures markets. In addition, the document summarizes and provides a brief analysis of many of the most important academic studies cited by commenters and utilized by CFTC staff in drafting the proposed rule.

On June 14, 2016, I requested that CFTC Chairman Massad make this document public because I believe the insights and information contained in this report will benefit the general public's understanding of and ability to comment on the proposed rule. On June 17, 2016, Chairman Massad declined on the grounds that (i) the document was a summary of studies submitted during the comment period and, (ii) it was never intended to be public.

The document, however, is much more than a summary of studies submitted during the comment period; it also is a wide-ranging examination of how to define excessive speculation, how to measure it, and how it may impact markets.

For reference, I have included the entirety of the conclusion section here:

Economists debate whether "excessive speculation," meaning a link between large speculation positions and unwarranted price changes or price volatility, exists in these regulated markets, and if so to what degree. The question presented is a surprisingly difficult one to answer. All the empirical studies on this question have drawbacks, and none is conclusive. This inconclusivity is not surprising. It is inevitable, given the economic uncertainties that inhere in the data and the complexity of the question. There are many theoretical and empirical assumptions, and often multiple leaps of faith, that