

Modernization Act, and specifically section 103 that addresses a disturbing trend in taxpayer federally subsidized housing.

Last summer, HUD's inspector general published an audit revealing that over 25,000 recipients of taxpayer-supported housing actually exceeded the maximum allowable income to qualify for housing assistance. Importantly, roughly triple that number is on a wait list for housing. In fact, those on the wait list are economically qualified.

Worse, to pay for these over-income tenants, American taxpayers—you and I—are on the hook for \$104 million next year. While hundreds of thousands of desperate low-income American families legitimately in need of taxpayer-supported housing today sit on those lists idly waiting for much-needed help, tens of thousands of over-income tenants sit in taxpayer-supported housing.

In one instance, a New York family with an income of nearly \$500,000 is receiving taxpayer-subsidized public housing. In Nebraska, an individual with double the income limit and \$1.6 million in assets is living in taxpayer-supported housing, paying \$300 a month. In my home State of Florida, we have many cases as well.

It is very clear that eliminating this kind of waste, fraud, and abuse is the reason that we serve today. It is critical that we do so.

A combination of inadequate congressional directives and an indifferent Federal bureaucracy has let down the American people—the people who trust Congress to responsibly and effectively allocate tax dollars. It has also let down the low-income families on the wait list who are hoping for an opportunity to climb out of poverty.

I am pleased that the House acted responsibly yesterday to pass legislation to stop this failed policy. Section 103 of the Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act sets clear requirements for HUD and, now, for local housing authorities.

Under this section, households currently in public housing whose income exceeds 120 percent of the median income level for 2 consecutive years will no longer be permitted to receive taxpayer assistance. Further, public housing authorities will be required to report annually to Congress and the American people on tenant incomes so that we might maintain proper oversight of this program.

These are reasonable reforms that bring accountability to a Federal program that desperately needs it, ensures a smooth pathway for over-income households to a reasonable transition off of taxpayer assistance, and should create new opportunities for those on the wait list.

I am also pleased to see that HUD is finally taking steps to address this matter. It is far too late, but at least they are. Just yesterday, the agency announced that it will consider a much-needed new rule to strengthen

oversight of over-income tenancy in public housing.

Mr. Speaker, we should not rest until we can be sure that taxpayer dollars, those of the men and women who entrust us to represent them, are going to support only those American families most in need of assistance.

We still have much work remaining, but with passage of the Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act, we have made a very important first step. Let us, together, hope that the Senate and the President will join with us in this important work on behalf of the American taxpayers that we represent.

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION: GO RED FOR WOMEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women campaign.

The Go Red for Women campaign is a critical public awareness platform that the American Heart Association uses to help promote heart-healthy lifestyles. More than 627,000 women's lives have been saved from heart disease since the Go Red for Women campaign was created in 2004. We have made tremendous progress, Mr. Speaker, in the fight against cardiovascular disease, but we still have a long way to go.

Heart disease is the number one killer of women and is more deadly than all forms of cancer combined. Heart disease causes one in three women's death each year, killing approximately 1 woman every minute. Ninety percent of women have one or more risk factors for developing heart disease. Since 1984, more women than men have died from heart disease.

Heart disease is, unfortunately, a silent killer. According to the American Heart Association, nearly half of all women are not aware that heart disease is the leading cause of death for women.

For African American women, the risk of heart disease is especially great. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death for African American women. Of African American women 20 years of age and older, 46.9 percent have cardiovascular disease; yet only 43 percent of African American women know that heart disease is their greatest health risk. In fact, I did not realize that I was at risk for stroke.

In 1999, I suffered a cerebral brain stem stroke. Because of my personal experience, I decided to be part of the solution. As this epidemic continues, I decided to not sit on the sidelines.

In 2000, I was elected to serve on the National American Heart Association Board of Directors. I was the only non-physician or nonmedical professional on the board at that time. As a board member, I served as a leader, guiding the American Heart Association's mis-

sion, cultural sensitivities, and national efforts.

Here in Congress, my advocacy continues. As a member of the Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition, my colleagues and I work to raise awareness about the prevalence and severity of cardiovascular disease.

Last Congress, I introduced two pieces of legislation that raise awareness for stroke and other cardiovascular diseases. One, the Return to Work Awareness Act, would assist survivors of stroke and other debilitating health occurrences in returning to work. Both pieces of legislation had the support of the American Heart Association and the National Stroke Association.

I will reintroduce, Mr. Speaker, these important pieces of legislation this month during American Heart Month. I encourage all my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, to join me as an original sponsor.

Mr. Speaker, you will notice that many of our colleagues today will be wearing the red American Heart Association pin. By wearing this pin, we help raise the awareness of cardiovascular disease in women and provide an important reminder that it is never too early to take action to protect our health.

This month, American Heart Month, let us recommit ourselves to improving heart-healthy lifestyles and to continue to fight against this deadly disease for ourselves and our families.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize all the survivors of heart disease and those who are battling heart disease. I salute their family members and friends who are their source of love and encouragement to them as they fight this disease, as well as my friend, American Heart Association CEO Nancy Brown, and all the healthcare professionals and medical researchers who are working to find cures to improve treatments.

Please join us. Sign onto my bill and support a healthy lifestyle.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 55 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Compassionate and merciful God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Bless the Members of this people's House with strength, fortitude, and patience. Fill their hearts with charity, their minds with understanding, and their wills with courage.

In the work to be done now, may they rise together to accomplish what is best for our great Nation and, indeed, for all the world, for you have blessed us with many graces and given us the responsibility of being a light shining on a hill.

On this feast of St. Blaise, may all Members be healed of every infirmity of their throat.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HIGGINS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CONGRATULATIONS CAROL JOHNSON

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week the National Safety Council honored Carol Johnson, president and CEO of Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, with their annual CEOs Who Get It award.

This award recognizes leaders who have built a positive safety protocol through leadership and employee engagement, safety management solutions, risk reduction, and performance measurement.

Ms. Johnson was recognized for her focus on safety SRNS, promoting a positive culture and continuously implementing safety measures at the site. She was commended by the Department of Energy for her role in recognizing and correcting safety errors.

This achievement represents Carol's strong commitment to prioritize safety for every employee and every task with fulfilling jobs.

I appreciate Carol's dedication to the employees of SRNS. Her focus on safety strengthens the community and makes the Central Savannah River area a world-class place to live and work. She has truly exemplified the goal of continuous improvement with zero harm. Congratulations to Carol on this well-deserved recognition and award.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President by his actions never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

STANDING WITH THE FAMILIES OF COLGAN FLIGHT 3407

(Mr. HIGGINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, next Friday will mark the seventh anniversary of the crash of Continental Colgan Flight 3407.

The cause of the accident was pilot error due to inexperience. The families of those who were lost fought for and won reforms that require pilots to be sufficiently experienced before they are entrusted with the safety of the flying public.

But regional airlines are trying to roll back these higher standards, claiming that they cannot find enough experienced pilots. That is simply not true. The airlines would see that if they increased starting salaries for pilots from \$16,000 a year to a level commensurate with the responsibility they are given.

Yesterday the Western New York congressional delegation stood with the families to serve notice that we will relentlessly oppose any attempt to water down these reforms. We will honor those who died by ensuring that never again will our loved ones be entrusted with inexperienced pilots.

ISRAELI DEFENSE FORCE LIEUTENANT HADAR GOLDIN

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I had the honor of meeting Simha and Leah Goldin. They are the parents of Israeli Defense Force Lieutenant Hadar Goldin, and they have started the campaign Bring Hadar Home.

Hours after the declaration of the international brokered cease-fire to the 2014 Gaza conflict, Hamas terrorists murdered Lieutenant Goldin and dragged his body deep into one of the underground tunnels in Gaza.

A year and a half after this brave and patriotic young man's murder, the family still languishes in limbo, unable to give Hadar a proper burial because Hamas is holding his body hostage.

This was a cease-fire entered into by Israel at the urging of Secretary Kerry and the U.N., and they should bear

some responsibility for securing Hadar's return home to Israel.

We have noticed how little Hamas regards human life by its indiscriminate rocket attacks against innocent Israeli citizens and by holding Palestinian citizens as human shields.

We must demand Hadar's return home and support the Goldin family in its efforts to give Hadar a proper burial and put an end to this nightmare.

D-STRONG

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dorian Murray, an 8-year-old boy from Westerly, Rhode Island, who was diagnosed with a rare tissue and bone cancer. After learning in December that his disease was no longer treatable, Dorian told his father that his goal was to become famous all around the world.

In recent weeks, after his parents posted his request on Facebook, the world has responded. People in China, Italy, Brazil, Germany, and other countries have come together to post their messages of support for Dorian during his courageous fight against cancer.

Dorian's hashtag, #DStrong, has now been viewed on social media platforms by millions and millions of people.

I am keeping Dorian, his mom Melissa, and his dad Chris in my thoughts and prayers.

Today the United States House of Representatives is D-Strong.

MIKE MIRON—FARMER OF TOMORROW

(Mr. EMMER of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mike Miron of Hugo, who recently won the Young Farmers and Ranchers Excellence in Agricultural national competition at the American Farm Bureau Federation's annual meeting.

Mike is the fifth generation to work in his family's dairy and crop farm. In addition, he is also a high school teacher and Future Farmers of America adviser in Forest Lake, Minnesota.

Agriculture is one of the more important sectors of the American economy. Thanks to farmers who are educators, like Mike Miron, my State of Minnesota is a national leader in agriculture.

We need to celebrate the hard-working men and women who contribute to agriculture in Minnesota and all across this Nation.

Thank you, Mike, for what you have done and what you continue to do for agriculture today and tomorrow, and congratulations for your Excellence in Agriculture.