

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT OF 2017

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise once again in strong opposition to H.R. 1628, which is a bill to take away health care from 24 million Americans. Whether you believe it or not, health care is a basic right.

This shameful bill steals from the most vulnerable among us, including seniors, veterans, people living with HIV, children, and the disabled. And this new bill is even more dangerous and destructive than when they brought it to the Floor last time.

It would, yes, rip away health care from 24 million people. It would reduce benefits, make families pay more for less, and transfer \$600 billion in tax cuts to the very wealthy.

This is outrageous. Access to women's health is denied by defunding Planned Parenthood. Medicaid, as we know it, will end. Healthcare costs for working families and seniors will skyrocket. It allows states to eliminate essential health benefits like maternity care, cancer screenings, and emergency care.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a health bill at all. This is a massive tax giveaway to the wealthy.

Let me tell you, as a woman of faith, I am appalled and I am saddened by the hypocrisy displayed in this bill by people who say they are religious. I want to remind you—in the Scriptures, the Book of Mark, chapter 12:31, we are reminded to love your neighbor as yourself.

I hope Republicans remember to love their neighbor as themselves today and vote "no" on this mean-spirited and evil bill. Let's defeat this harmful and morally bankrupt bill.

This is a matter of life and death, and the American people deserve better.

AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT OF 2017

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN J. FASO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for the American Health Care Act. As I have said from the beginning, when it comes to the Affordable Care Act, we should keep what works and change what doesn't. I urge support for the AHCA because it does just that.

The AHCA stops the Washington, DC, one-size-fits-all approach to healthcare and puts choice and freedom back in the hands of states, counties, families, and individuals. With the AHCA's monumental strides in reforming Medicaid to ensure its solvency for our most

vulnerable citizens and repealing burdensome taxes on the middle class, it is a win across the board for all Americans, but specifically Upstate New Yorkers.

Upstate New York residents will see additional benefits due to an amendment which Congressman COLLINS and I have included in the bill. This language is one of the greatest pieces of state mandate relief that New Yorkers have ever seen. By normalizing the fashion in which New York State funds Medicaid, those in my district alone will see more than \$224 million in tax relief every year.

The fact is that New York funds its Medicaid program by imposing a portion of the state's funding responsibility on the counties. Home ownership is burdened by lower property values due to high taxes. This also lessens business competitiveness in areas like Upstate NY. The extent to which New York burdens its counties is unlike any other: of the approximately \$9.5 billion in Medicaid costs shouldered by localities nationwide, New York localities account for more than \$7 billion of the total. Albany mandates ensure that New York spends more on Medicaid than Texas and Florida combined. This is simply unsustainable.

The people of Upstate New York demand relief: relief from burdensome Albany mandates; relief from rising property taxes; relief from Washington-controlled, bureaucratic healthcare; relief from ACA-imposed, middle-class healthcare taxes. For these reasons, I support the AHCA and urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING THE PERMIAN BASIN HONOR FLIGHT—MAY 2017

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 88 veterans from West Texas who will be visiting Washington, D.C. this week, sponsored by the Permian Basin Honor Flight. On behalf of a grateful state and nation, we welcome these heroes to the nation's capital.

The veterans on this Honor Flight are Clint Adams, Larry Allen, Robert Barbee, William Bourbon, Johnny Bragg, Patrido Brijalba, James Brooks, Randall Brooks, Jack Brookshire, Norval Brown, Leo Carr, Garry Clark, Edmundo Cobos, Edward Comacho, Jose Contreras, Guadalupe Cruz, Marvin Crain, Michael Crain, Ernest Davis, MJ Dinkins, Richard Dolan, Jose Duarte, Michael Dyess, Rayburn Favre, Carlton Fite, Richard Foncannon, John Foreman, Richard Galloway, Bobby Gann, Jerry Giles, Gonzalo Guzman, Barry Handlin, Donald Hawke, John Hayes, Harry Hemmenway, Cary Holt, John Hood, Earl Jackson, Joe Jackson, Marvin Jennings, Albert Johnson, Thomas Johnston, Velton Jones, William Jones, James Langston, Robert Lathrop, Robert Love, Lee Maston, Mark

Martin, Robert Martin, Walter Mason, Donald McSparran, Miguel Medina, Donald Merritt, Dory Miles, Kenneth Moore, Donnie Murray, Michael Norman, John Palmer, Jerry Partridge, Charles Pounds, Robert Patterson, Robert Price, Daniel Ramirez, Donald Ritchey, Joe Robledo, Jesus Rodriguez, Gary Roe, Monica Schwab, Dennis Sever, Larry Sisk, William Smartt, Larry Stowe, Oscar Taylor, Gustavo Tijerina, Bernardo Tucker, Joe Turner, Lewis VanZant, Sandra VanZant, Joe Villalva, Mark Webb, Donnie White, Eddy Willmon, Leo Wilson, Willie Woods.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled to have the opportunity to meet these brave men and women who exemplify the best of our country. Their sacrifice and commitment to the duty to our nation can never be fully repaid, and I hope that when they visit our nation's monuments in Washington, D.C., the gratitude and respect we have for them will truly be reflected.

Colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and their families for their exemplary dedication and service to this great nation. I would also like to extend a special thank you to the local communities, all of the volunteers, and Ms. Teresa Galloway and Mr. John West for their extensive work in organizing this Honor Flight. This trip would not have been possible without all the financial and emotional support of the people who have put in so much hard work and personal time to make sure this trip could be possible.

A TRIBUTE TO LT. COL. DAVID WORLEY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel David Worley, who is retiring after forty-two years of distinguished service with the United States Air Force.

Born in Los Angeles in 1953, Dave grew up in Woodland Hills, California. An excellent student and astronomy enthusiast, he attended Serrania Avenue Elementary School, Parkman Jr. High and Taft High School. Dave met his future wife, Gayle, in Sunday School, and after their high school graduation, they attended Pierce College together. In 1975, Dave enlisted in the United States Air Force (USAF) and he and Gayle married shortly after his enlistment. Upon completion of his basic training, he was assigned to the Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi for technical training. After finishing his technical training, he was assigned to Dover AFB for a one year assignment. He was reassigned back to Keesler AFB in Biloxi, where their children, Valerie and Bryan were born.

Dave served as an Air Traffic Controller Manager for seven years, after which he received his commission. Upon completing training as an Air Battalion Manager, then-Second Lieutenant Worley was stationed in Germany

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

for eight years, where he served as a mobile Theater Air Control specialist and evaluator and was promoted to the subsequent ranks of First Lieutenant and Captain. In 1992, Captain Worley served as a Flight Commander at the Squadron Officer School at the Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama and in 1994, he was stationed in Korea where he was promoted to Major and worked as Battle Director for aerospace control. In 1995, Major Worley returned to the Squadron Officer School as Chief of Plans and Programs, then attended college in Virginia, and after college, began a three year tour at the U.S. Central Command Headquarters in Tampa, Florida. While in Florida, he served as the Chief of the Theater Air and Missile Defense Branch as Executive Officer to the Director of Operations, where he received the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In 2000, Lt. Col. Worley returned once again to Alabama as Commander of the 30th Student Squadron Officers School, where he commanded hundreds of USAF officers, international officers and U.S. Department of Defense civilian personnel as an airpower and leadership education scholar, before his retirement in 2002.

In 2003, Dave became a Senior Aerospace Science instructor at Crescenza Valley High School in La Crescenza, California. Lt. Col. Worley was responsible for administering the Air Force Junior Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC) program, a citizenship-based program for nearly 100 high school student "cadets," who are expanding their aerospace science and leadership education to become better leaders and citizens.

During his illustrious career in the United States Air Force, Lt. Col. Worley has received several decorations including the Joint Service Commendation Medal, five Meritorious Service Medals, a Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and two USAF Commendation Medals, and was honored in 2007 and in 2008 with the AFJROTC outstanding instructor award, which is presented annually to the top twenty percent of all AFJROTC instructors worldwide.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me in thanking Lt. Col. Worley for his many years of dedicated service to our country, the AFJROTC students at Crescenza Valley High School, and the greater foothills community.

HONORING THE JOHNSTOWN ROTARY CLUB'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Johnstown Rotary Club's 100th Anniversary.

Since its founding in May 1917, the Johnstown Rotary Club has aided many community organizations such as scouting, child relief agencies, arts and theater organizations, police and fire departments and health and service organizations. It has also sponsored Interact Clubs at local high schools and awarded scholarships to outstanding high school students. In addition to providing dictionaries to every third grader in the Johnstown area, Johnstown Rotarians are also involved in various literacy initiatives such as the One Book, One Community Program.

The Johnstown Rotary Club has also been actively involved in international service initiatives such as supporting clean water projects in developing nations. They have been very involved in hosting high school exchange students from numerous countries including Spain, France, Slovakia, Turkey, Venezuela, Mexico, Ecuador, Argentina, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic and Japan. Since 1968, when Rotary International first took on the challenge of eradicating polio, the Johnstown Rotary Club has participated in various projects, which helped to bring the number of countries experiencing the polio endemic from 122 down to two.

I thank the Johnstown Rotarians for their dedication to improving both the Johnstown community and the international community through their commitment to supporting education, providing clean water, promoting peace, saving mothers and children, growing local economies and fighting disease. Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Johnstown on its 100th Anniversary.

IN HONOR OF THE COMMEMORATION OF THE GREAT FALLS LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the commemoration of the Great Falls Library Community Room in honor of Marge Gersic and also to recognize her tremendous contributions to not only the Great Falls Community Library, but the entire 10th District of Virginia over the course of her 20 years of public service.

Growing up as the child of two German immigrants in Queens, New York, Ms. Gersic often found herself in her local library, reading books written in English. There she not only gained an appreciation for books, but she also learned about the impact libraries can have on a community. Ms. Gersic began her work in the Great Falls community after moving to the area in 1971 with her husband and then newborn son. As both a member of the Library Board and as President of the Great Falls Citizens Association, she was instrumental in placing a library in Great Falls and also in preserving it throughout the years.

In both 1989 and 1996, as a skilled and dedicated public organizer, Ms. Gersic led community movements to keep the Great Falls mini-library open amidst budget cuts that would have eliminated numerous mini-libraries across Fairfax County. By organizing drives, collecting signatures, and leading these movements, she was able to keep the local mini-library open. In fact, during the 1996 budget cuts, four mini-libraries across Fairfax closed, but due to her initiatives the Great Falls library remained open. In addition to her efforts to preserve the library throughout the years, as a member of the Fairfax County Library Board, Gersic was also integral in the funding and the eventual expansion of the library to its current location, which opened in October of 2000.

Honoring the life of Ms. Gersic with a room in the library, which she worked so hard to maintain and expand is only fitting, and I am thankful for the Great Falls Citizens Associa-

tion's dedication to preserving her legacy. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Marge Gersic and the commemoration of the Great Falls Library Community Room, which will serve as a permanent reminder of all her contributions to both the library and the community at large.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE & LEGACY OF FATHER JOHN K. RING

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life and legacy of a dear friend and beloved pillar of the San Francisco community, Father John Ring, who served for 25 years as Pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church.

Born and raised in San Francisco, Father Ring's leadership and compassion were invaluable to our parish and our community, in times of joy and sorrow alike. In the suffering of the Loma Prieta earthquake, Father Ring bound up the wounds of our community, consoling and encouraging us, tending his flock.

During his entire Pastorate, we saw the creation of a mass for young adults, a group of Home Visitors to care for the sick and home-bound in the parish and beyond, and for the first time girls were allowed to be altar servers. He also poured himself into the service of the parish's children, and the strength of the St. Vincent de Paul school will be an enduring part of Father Ring's rich legacy.

My husband Paul, my family and I were deeply saddened to hear of Father Ring's passing. Our family has been parishioners at St. Vincent de Paul for generations, since Paul's parents John and Corinne Pelosi became parishioners in the 1930s. We count ourselves deeply blessed to have known Father Ring, and it was a special privilege to join in celebrating the Golden Jubilee of his priestly service in 2011. He will remain an inspiration to our family.

Father Ring once said that Christ's farewell to his disciples was one of his favorite parts of Scripture. In the Gospel according to John, Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful." Truly, Father Ring was an instrument of God's peace.

The families of Father Ring's parish were blessed with a Pastor who strengthened their church and school, built community, and inspired their love for service and their love for God. May it bring comfort to all those who loved and admired Father Ring that so many join in remembering this extraordinary man and the blessing he was to our community.

CELEBRATING ANGEL DEL VILLAR FOUNDER AND CEO OF DEL RECORDS

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Angel Del Villar on his service as