

allow young adults can stay on a parent's health plan until the age of 26.

If the Affordable Care Act is struck down, insurers could bring back annual and lifetime limits on coverage, adults covered by Medicaid expansion would lose vital health services, young people would be kicked off their parent's insurance, and issuers could sell skimpy plans that don't cover essential health benefits like prescription drugs, emergency room visits, mental health and substance use, and maternity care.

The unprecedented actions by the Trump administration to not defend the ACA jeopardizes the healthcare of all Americans. I believe that accessible, affordable healthcare is a human right. Securing this right has always been a challenge. Democrats will continue to fight for consumer protections and increased access to care that have been guaranteed through the Affordable Care Act. As President Trump refuses to defend the Affordable Care Act, he risks the health and well-being of millions of Americans.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I wish to again express my support for the Affordable Care Act, ACA.

We must continue fighting to protect the safeguards that were put in place by the ACA, which prohibits abusive practices that previously kept healthcare out of reach for millions of Americans, like denying coverage to people with preexisting conditions. About half of all Americans have preexisting conditions and could be forced to pay significantly higher premiums or lose access to coverage altogether if the ACA is overturned. At least 21 million people could lose their health insurance if the ACA is struck down. In my State, Minnesotans would see a loss of \$364 million in premium tax credits, and roughly 272,000 people would lose their coverage.

Earlier this year, I came to the Senate floor to read 100 letters from people in my State and across the country who explained what the ACA has meant to them. These stories are just a small window into the positive impact of the ACA and how so many people would suffer if its protections were eliminated.

Instead of striking down this landmark legislation, we should build on its strengths, defend the critical consumer protections that it provides for so many, and make it stronger. We cannot go back to a time when people who are sick can be denied health insurance coverage. This is not the time to look back and try to tear things down; we should look ahead and work to strengthen our healthcare system moving forward. It is for this reason that we must and will continue to fight against efforts to take away healthcare protections from millions of Americans.

TEXAS SENATE RESOLUTION NO.
816

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, today I ask unanimous consent that a resolution

passed by the senate of the State of Texas be printed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Senate Resolution No. 816 was adopted by the Texas Senate on May 24, 2019, by a vote of 31-0 and urges the U.S. Congress to consolidate disaster recovery housing funding for Hurricane Harvey.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

SENATE RESOLUTION

Whereas, Hurricane Harvey struck the Texas coast on August 25, 2017, causing an estimated \$125 billion in damage; and

Whereas, The second most destructive storm in American history, the hurricane impacted approximately 30 percent of the population of Texas, destroying homes, damaging infrastructure, and displacing thousands of families along the coast; and

Whereas, The Federal Emergency Management Agency received nearly 800,000 applications from affected Texans for some form of assistance; as many as 83 percent of the people whose homes flooded did not have flood insurance, creating unprecedented demand for state and federal disaster recovery assistance; and

Whereas, The FEMA application process is so duplicative and confusing, and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations are so complex, that many survivors give up trying to navigate the system and, therefore, receive no assistance; and

Whereas, Consolidating funding for recovery housing programs into a single Disaster Housing Response and Recovery Block Grant would increase efficiency, save taxpayer dollars, and speed the recovery process by combining FEMA's short-term programs and HUD's long-term programs; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to enact legislation to consolidate disaster recovery housing funding into a single Disaster Housing Response and Recovery Block Grant; and be it further

Resolved, That the secretary of the senate forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 24, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

DAN PATRICK,
President of the Senate.
PATSY SPAW,
Secretary of the Senate.

[State Seal Affixed]

CENTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN
LEGION

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the American Legion as it celebrates 100 years of dedication to serving and advocating for veterans on a local and national level.

Chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919, the American Legion has grown to support veterans nationwide. The American Legion Department of Connecticut was established in the

same year and is home to some of the first posts in the country.

Over the past century, the American Legion has established itself as our Nation's largest veterans service organizations. As a nonpartisan and not-for-profit organization, the Legion uniquely offers a multitude of local programs devoted to our servicemembers and their communities. Through youth mentorship and athletics, reintegration assistance for wounded veterans, and many other critical activities, the Legion plays an important role in their communities throughout the United States.

With around 150 posts across Connecticut, the organization helps bring together and shape the lives of many veterans, their families, and their neighborhoods. The Department of Connecticut follows the four pillars of the American Legion: supporting Americanism, national security, advocating for veterans' affairs and healthcare, and preparing children throughout our state for future success.

In particular, they generously help children of all ages in Connecticut explore their potential with activities such as State Police Youth Week, an oratorical contest focused on deepening high school students' understanding of the U.S. Constitution, American Legion Baseball, and summer government education programs.

As a member who has regularly attended events for the Legion, including several of their youth programs, annual conventions, Veterans Day events, and mid-winter conferences, I can proudly attest firsthand to the impressive work they accomplish on behalf of Connecticut veterans and their families. As the American Legion and its Department of Connecticut recognize and celebrate their rich and productive 100-year history, the dedicated staff and volunteers continue to look toward the future and expand the positive impact of their outreach and programs.

Committed to serving veterans and their communities throughout our State, the American Legion Department of Connecticut provides essential advocacy and services that help to better lives and create new opportunities. I applaud the accomplishments of the American Legion's devoted officers and volunteers, and I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the American Legion and the American Legion Department of Connecticut on a century of excellence.

CHRONIC DISEASE DAY

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize July 10 as Chronic Disease Day and to call attention to the unique healthcare needs of patients from this diverse community. This date is significant due to the fact that it represents the 7 out of 10 Americans who will succumb to some form of chronic illness. Governors and State legislatures across the country will be

working with local chronic disease patient advocates on July 10 to highlight contemporary challenges and opportunities, and I encourage my colleagues to join in this effort.

Chronic illness includes cancers, cardiovascular disease, and many other conditions, some very rare. Some chronic illnesses can be preventable, and Chronic Disease Day is an opportunity to feature healthy lifestyles, the importance of regular health screenings, and proper self-care. In this regard, awareness and education can go a long way towards improving patient outcomes, preventing the progression of disease, and lowering healthcare costs.

Many chronic illnesses are unavoidable though and have genetic components or are simply idiopathic with an unknown origin. These include rare and life-threatening conditions that require near constant access to life-sustaining care or therapies. These patients occasionally rely on voluntary charitable assistance programs to maintain this access when they have no other options.

July 10 is a time to promote the importance of preventing chronic disease while reflecting on opportunities to better serve individuals and families facing serious chronic illness. I call on my colleagues to please join me in recognizing Chronic Disease Day.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE OUTDOOR INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

• Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the 30th anniversary of the Outdoor Industry Association, OIA. Based in Boulder, CO, OIA is the leading trade organization of the outdoor recreation gear and apparel industry.

Founded by a group of 14 brands and specialty retailers, OIA has grown to include 1,300 companies that are the backbone of an \$887 billion outdoor recreation economy supporting 7.6 million jobs across the United States. For the past three decades, OIA has represented American businesses and individuals whose vocations and avocations are connected to this Nation's best idea: our public lands and waters. OIA is motivated by a shared commitment to protecting, maintaining, and expanding outdoor recreation infrastructure and ensuring every person in the United States has equitable access to nature.

From its earliest days, OIA has partnered with conservation organizations to advocate for our public land and water. OIA helped to permanently reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and they continue to press for full funding. They have also supported wildfire funding legislation, rails-to-trails, and similar transportation infrastructure programs and continue to work toward responsible climate and energy policy. The organi-

zation also produces outdoor recreation economy report that highlights the influence of the outdoor recreation sector on the national economy, including statistics on consumer spending, tax revenue, and job creation. This report is an incredible resource for lawmakers, land managers, and local planners. As a result, over the past half decade and following Colorado's leadership, States have created State offices of outdoor recreation to ensure that government leaders and business leaders are working together to grow their recreation economies.

I am honored to continue to work with OIA to protect our public land and water. Earlier this year, OIA announced their support for the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act, S. 241/H.R. 823, our bill to protect 400,000 acres of public land in Colorado while safeguarding existing outdoor recreation opportunities. OIA stated that they are "one hundred percent in support of the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act because it would protect nearly half a million acres of public lands across Colorado and support the state's \$28 billion outdoor recreation economy while honoring its history in protecting Camp Hale, the origin of the 10th mountain division during WWII." I appreciate OIA's support for conserving public land in Colorado.

OIA members exemplify the collaborative and altruistic stewardship at the heart of the outdoor recreation industry. For that, I congratulate OIA on this 30-year anniversary and thank them for their contributions to our American outdoor heritage.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT WILLIAMS

• Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today, I am honored to recognize in the RECORD Mr. Robert M. Williams, Jr., who recently retired after almost half a century as editor and publisher of the *Blackshear Times* in Blackshear, GA.

While he may be a small-town newspaperman, Robert Williams is known throughout south Georgia and across much of our State because of his work ethic, his devotion to the printed word, and his dedication to the newspaper business and what it means to a community. For more than 48 years, Robert has worked to be accurate, fair, and to provide his readers with the news that affects them and the community they all cherish. He has personally written more than 2,000 columns during his career.

It is worth mentioning that the newspaper's motto, printed at the top of the front page of the printed publication and online, is one Robert has also claimed as his own: "Liked by Many, Cussed by Some, Read by Them All." With the weekly newspaper also turning 150 years this year under Robert's leadership, both have long been widely read.

At Just 20 years old, Robert began his career at the *Blackshear Times*

after coming down to the community from the University of Georgia in Athens, GA. He was brought in by two legendary Georgians themselves, Roy Chalker, Sr., and Wilkes Williams of Waynesboro, to turn their investment around. Turn it around he did, settling well into the community at the same time. A short 5 years later, Robert purchased the *Blackshear Times*. Under Robert's leadership during the last 48 years, the newspaper has won hundreds of awards in a variety of categories.

Robert and his wife Cheryl have both loyally and successfully served not only this publication, but the newspaper industry as a whole. The *Blackshear Times* is one of five newspapers that Robert and Cheryl have owned as part of their SouthFire Newspapers organization, which also includes the *Alma Times*, the *Charlton County Herald*, the *Telfair Enterprise*, and the *Monroe County Reporter* in Georgia. Robert and Cheryl have both served as president of the Georgia Press Association, our State's newspaper industry advocacy organization. Robert was also president of the 2,300-member National Newspaper Association in 2014, serving nationally as the voice of small-town newspapers.

Locally, Robert Williams served two terms on the *Blackshear City Council* and served as executive director of both the *Pierce County Industrial Development Authority* and the *Pierce County Chamber of Commerce*. Robert is also a graduate of the *Leadership Georgia* program, an organization we both hold dear and that has guided our service to the State. Robert has found countless ways to give back. Whether it was as a member of the *Georgia Agriculture Exposition Authority* that governs the *Georgia National Fairgrounds* in Perry or the local college foundation board, Robert and Cheryl have made an impact well beyond *Blackshear* both professionally and personally.

Last week, Robert announced the sale of the *Blackshear Times*, bidding farewell after one of the longest editorial tenures in Georgia. With his final column as editor and publisher, Robert was incredibly gracious, thanking his colleagues, employees, mentors, and the fine bankers who gave him those first loans.

I speak for all Georgians when I say thank you to Robert and Cheryl for the difference you have made in our State. I count myself lucky to call you a friend, and Dianne and I wish you both the very best as you plan your future.●

REMEMBERING CHRIS CLINE

• Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I can't express enough what Chris Cline meant to our home State of West Virginia. He represented the very best of the Mountain State, which is saying a lot. Born in McDowell County and raised a stone's throw from the train tracks in the coalfields of Beckley, Chris's family was wealthy beyond measure in the