

Nationally, Hope For The Warriors provides comprehensive support programs for service members, veterans, and military families that are focused on transition, health and wellness, peer engagement, and connections to community resources.

Hope For The Warriors understands the challenges, pride, and joy of being a military family. For today, tomorrow, and years to come, they will strive to meet the changing needs of service members and their families. Hope For The Warriors is a family, united by our shared conviction of honor and sacrifice. In Karen's personal life, she is active in her community as a retired Firefighter and currently elected Fire Commissioner for Hinsdale Volunteer Fire Department. Karen is a retired Registered Nurse with a certification from American Association of Critical Care Nurses.

Karen has often cited that her greatest accomplishment is that she and her late husband Jerry have two daughters, Amy and Kristin, along with six grandchildren, Ariana, Emyrson, Ayva, Camryn, Brooklyn, and Dylan.

I am honored to share the admirable work that Mrs. Hilaire has devoted to helping care for our Veterans.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN
OPERATIONS, AND RELATED
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2025

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment No. 44—which has been included in the En Bloc amendment—to help ensure that the U.S. remains focused on helping to end female genital mutilation around the world at a time when some countries are considering repealing existing bans.

Female genital mutilation (FGM) involves procedures that alter or injure the female genitalia for non-medical reasons and is recognized internationally as a violation of the human rights of girls and women.

As the person who led efforts to outlaw female genital mutilation in the State of Wisconsin, I am too keenly aware that this remains a pressing issue.

More than 200 million girls and women alive today have undergone female genital mutilation. And it is estimated that 4.4 million girls are at risk of experiencing this harmful practice this year alone.

This is a practice that has no health benefits but harms girls and women.

I share concerns that have been raised about the overall funding levels in this bill that have been so well articulated and the deep cuts to a range of programs that are vital to our Nation's interest and national security efforts.

I am also troubled by a number of policy riders that have been inserted into this bill. The bill defunds agencies like the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) that have been working to address female genital mutilation for years. Agencies like the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) that have also been engaged in helping to move the world towards the elimi-

nation of this practice. The Department of State has annually provided about \$5 million to UNICEF to support a Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation.

While we have not yet eliminated the practice of FGM, our investments and those of our international partners have seen results. As noted by the UN, over the last three decades, the prevalence of FGM has declined globally.

It wasn't by accident.

It took hard work by dedicated partners at all levels from the international community to the local community working to reframe laws and attitudes.

But the work must continue.

For example, the parliament in The Gambia is considering repealing the FGM ban enacted in that country in 2015.

The repeal campaign began after the government dared to actually enforce the law a few years ago.

Overall, there is concern that if The Gambia repeals its law, this could inspire other countries to do likewise.

But more importantly, is what it would mean for the women and girls in Gambia, where some estimated that up to three-quarters of the women and girls have undergone the procedure.

In February of this year, when the world commemorated the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation, our Secretary of State Antony Blinken said, "FGM, in all forms, is a human rights abuse that harms all women."

We cannot roll back the U.S. commitment to ending this human rights abuse and that includes ensuring that we adequately fund these efforts.

Our commitment to eliminating FGM—working with international organizations, such as UNICEF and UNFPA, countries, survivors, and other stakeholders—will only go as deep as our resources take it. My amendment would send a message that we still think this is important even in a bill that makes harmful cuts across the board to development, diplomacy, and humanitarian assistance.

I urge support.

RECOGNIZING THE BEREA CITIZEN

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2024

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Berea Citizen, a newspaper in Kentucky's Sixth District. The Berea Citizen was founded in 1899. It has been a trusted news source for the people of Madison County for 125 years.

The idea for the newspaper originated with Berea College President William G. Frost and at first it served as the school newspaper. It remained connected with Berea College until 1984, when it became a private newspaper. It was first delivered on Chestnut Street along a dirt road. The newspaper survived the Great Depression, two World Wars, and a global pandemic, delivering local news to the community without interruption.

The Berea Citizen staff recognizes that freedom of the press is critical in our society. They prioritize fair and balanced coverage of local meetings and events. The Berea Citizen

reached more than 10,000 readers each week. They are currently owned by Nolan Group Media from Manchester, Kentucky. Keith Taylor, the publisher, began in 2020 as the pandemic was beginning. The owner is Jay Nolan, and the Vice President is Glenn Gray. The Berea Citizen is one of the few locally owned newspapers in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and it is printed in Kentucky at J. Frank Publishing in London, Kentucky.

In an era when many community newspapers are declining and no longer able to print news for the citizens, The Berea Citizen continues its mission to be a voice in the community. I congratulate them on their 125-year anniversary, and I am honored to recognize them before the United States Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2024

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my vote on Roll Call Nos. 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, and 335. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on No. 327, NAY on No. 328, YEA on No. 329, YEA on No. 330, NAY on No. 331, YEA on No. 332, NAY on No. 333, YEA on No. 334, and NAY on No. 335.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIRNESS
IN FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRIS-
ONS MEDICAL CARE ACT OF 2024

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2024

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Fairness in Federal Bureau of Prisons Medical Care Act of 2024. This bill would eliminate the copay the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) imposes on individuals in its custody when they visit a health care provider.

Under BOP rules, individuals in its custody are required to "pay a fee for health services of \$2.00 per health care visit." While \$2 may seem insignificant, when such individuals earn only twelve to forty cents per hour on their work assignments, \$2 is substantial. That money could better be used to pay for the cost of necessities. Moreover, while copays can reduce unnecessary appointments, we should be encouraging such individuals to seek medical care before their conditions become worse and more expensive for taxpayers. Early care is better for patients and much less expensive for the federal government than costly treatments that could have been avoided by a simple health care visit earlier in the process.

Under BOP rules, if an individual in BOP custody is found responsible through the Disciplinary Hearing Process of having caused an injury to another person in BOP custody that required a visit to a health care provider, the offending individual is required to pay the \$2 copay for the injured individual's visit. That rule would not change under this bill.

Removing this unnecessary copay would encourage early treatment and would save the federal government money.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN MEMORY OF ERNEST L.
HESTER, JR.

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2024

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to lift up the life of a great American. Ernest L. Hester, Jr., known to most as Tim, who passed away on April 16, 2024.

Mr. Hester was born June 28, 1939. He served in the United States Army Reserves in the early 1960's and was stationed at Fort Drum and at Fort Sill. He served as a contractor with the United States Department of Defense in a classified capacity in the United States and abroad. He was involved with design work regarding national and international security. Mr. Hester used his talents to serve our Nation in a quiet but very important way.

Mr. Hester was married to his wife Barbara Ann Banks Hester for 59 years. They have one son, Peter, and two daughters, Jennifer and Aimee. Their family also includes ten grandchildren. Mr. Hester was a Christian and a patriotic American. A true gentleman, he always treated others with kindness, generosity, and respect. Mr. Hester was known for his resourcefulness and his ability to get things done.

Mr. Hester was a generous, faithful, and intelligent man who served our country well. I am honored to recognize Ernest L. "Tim" Hester before the United States Congress.

HONORING MRS. MARTHA ANN
SANDERS

HON. CORI BUSH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2024

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of St. Louis to celebrate the 80th birthday of Mrs. Martha Ann Sanders.

Eighty years is a remarkable milestone and worthy of great celebration. Mrs. Sanders has seen and lived through segments of history that most of us can only learn about through being in close community with our elders. Her trials, triumphs, and everything in between, are a beautiful testament to a remarkable life.

As we honor and celebrate her birthday, I would like to recognize Mrs. Sanders' family and friends who are celebrating this milestone occasion. Mrs. Sanders' unwavering strength and profound love for her family is evident and today serves as a reminder of the impact she has had on her family and broader community.

On behalf of Missouri's First Congressional District, I wish Mrs. Martha Ann Sanders peace, blessings, and a joyous start to her 80th year.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate com-

mittees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 9, 2024 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 10

10 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold an oversight hearing to examine digital commodities.

SR-328A

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Shannon A. Estenoz, of Florida, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

SD-366

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the state and federal response to the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse on March 26, 2024.

SD-406

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jeffrey Samuel Arbeit, of the District of Columbia, Benjamin A. Guider III, of Louisiana, and Cathy Fung, of California, each to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court.

SD-215

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Permitting Council, focusing on improving transparency and coordination.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine certain pending nominations.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine war crimes and complicity from Syria to Ukraine.

RHOB-2247

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To received a closed briefing on the Columbia River Treaty.

SVC-217

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Subcommittee on Rural Development and Energy

To hold hearings to examine the state of rural infrastructure, focusing on emergency response, recovery, and resilience.

SR-328A

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 2783, to amend the Micosukee Reserved Area Act to authorize the expansion of the Micosukee Reserved Area and to carry out activities to protect structures within the Osceola Camp from flooding, S. 3406, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to make a technical correction to the Navajo Nation Water Resources Development Trust Fund, to amend the Claims Resolution Act of 2010 to make technical corrections to the Taos Pueblo Water Development Fund and Aamodt Settlement Pueblos' Fund, S. 3857, to take certain land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Jamul Indian Village of California, and S. 4365, to provide public health veterinary services to Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations for rabies prevention.

SD-628

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold hearings to examine personnel vetting, security clearance reform, and Trusted Workforce 2.0.

SH-216

JULY 11

9 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Tonya Parran Wilkerson, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Intelligence and Security, and Michael Louis Sulmeyer, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Defense.

SH-216

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Business meeting to consider 302(b) Subcommittee allocations, and to markup an original bill entitled, "Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2025", an original bill entitled, "Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2025", and an original bill entitled, "Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2025".

SD-106

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Christy Goldsmith Romero, of Virginia, to be Chairperson and Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Caroline A. Crenshaw, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Kristin N. Johnson, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and Gordon I. Ito, of Hawaii, to be a Member of the Financial Stability Oversight Council.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the need to protect Americans' privacy and the AI Accelerant.

SR-253

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine what Congress can do to end the medical debt crisis in America.

SD-562

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 1306, to reauthorize the COPS ON THE BEAT