

viewed with stigma, its victims seen as morally weak, often criminal or bad rather than sick people suffering from a chronic biopsychosocial illness.

In my own district, I'm brought face to face with the reality of untreated addiction disease and the difficulty of persons getting appropriate treatment. I recently conversed with representatives from Day By Day Treatment Center located in Selma, North Carolina who informed me that the treatment facility faces tremendous economic pressure due to cutbacks in Medicaid funding, managed care denials of appropriate services, ongoing stigma, and other adversities. This occurs when there is great need and existent studies pointing to the reality that treatment works.

Without appropriate treatment, victims of addiction disease are cost shifted to the criminal justice system or more expensive medical care to address other diseases such as cirrhosis of the liver which are secondary to untreated addiction disease.

It costs about \$6000 to treat a victim of addiction disease as an inpatient at Day By Day Treatment Center or about \$2500 for an outpatient program when appropriate. The tragedy is that our health care system cost shifts to the criminal justice system where the cost is up to \$37,000 annually to keep one person in prison who wouldn't be there in the first place had addiction disease been addressed initially.

As a nation we must:

Treat addiction disease on an equal basis with treatment of other diseases.

Provide for a more well educated citizenry in addiction disease from layman to professional.

Provide for more research aimed at better treatment and more appropriate outcome studies.

Today, so many of our society's ills can be traced directly to addiction disease. Let us not only be acutely aware of the tremendous amount of work that needs to be done in addressing addiction disease, but also of the enormous opportunity and possibility to enhance all of our lives if we will make the effort.

INTRODUCTION OF BIPARTISAN LEGISLATION TO ENSURE WASHINGTON STATE USES ITS SHARE OF THE STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR COVERAGE OF ADDITIONAL CHILDREN UNDER THE MEDICAID PROGRAM

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, the entire Washington State Delegation today introduced legislation that would allow our state to participate in the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The legislation we crafted represents the culmination of more than a year's worth of effort to ensure Congressional action on this issue.

I ask that you exercise your leadership of the Congressional majority to expedite the passage of this measure in a non-controversial manner.

To illustrate the vigor of our Delegation's commitment to advancing this issue, I have at-

tached for your information the text of the following letter which the entire Washington Delegation today sent to The Honorable Donna Shalala, Representative TOM BLILEY, and Senator WILLIAM ROTH:

We are writing to share with you legislation we introduced today that addresses an issue of critical importance to Washington State and its ability to participate in the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).

Washington State has a strong record of ensuring that its low-income kids have access to affordable health care. In 1994, Washington raised its child Medicaid eligibility threshold to 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL). The SCHIP program was developed with this objective in mind by expanding Medicaid funding to states that extend eligibility to provide quality health care to additional children.

During the negotiations of the 1997 Balanced Budget Act (BBA), Congress and the Administration recognized that certain states were already undertaking Medicaid expansions up to or above 200 percent of FPL, and that they should be allowed to use the new SCHIP funds. Unfortunately, this provision was limited to those states that enacted expansions on or after March 31, 1997 and disallowed Washington from accessing the \$230 million in SCHIP funds it had been allocated through 2002. As a result, Washington State cannot use its SCHIP allotment to cover the 90,000 children currently eligible, but not covered for health care at or below 200 percent of FPL. Exacerbating this inequity is the fact that many states have begun accessing their SCHIP allotments to cover kids at poverty levels far below Washington's current or past eligibility levels. Correcting this technicality is the top priority for our delegation as we near the end of the 105th Congress and we plan to push for legislative action in the next few weeks to pass this non-controversial measure.

This bipartisan, bicameral initiative represents a thoughtful, carefully-crafted response to the unintended consequences of SCHIP and brings much-needed assistance to children currently at-risk. Rather than simply changing the effective date included in the BBA, our initiative includes strong maintenance of effort language as well as incentives for our state to find those 90,000 uninsured kids because we feel strongly that they receive the health coverage for which they are eligible.

We respectfully request that you join our efforts to move it through the legislative process. We look forward to working with you during the remaining days of this Congress to ensure that Washington's SCHIP funds are used to increase the health of our children, not wasted due to an unintended technical oversight.

Thank you for your cooperation in this effort and please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide you with additional information.

Sincerely,

Slade Gorton, U.S. Senator; Jim McDermott, Member of Congress; George Nethercutt, Member of Congress; Patty Murray, U.S. Senator; Jack Metcalf, Member of Congress; Norm Dicks, Member of Congress; Rick White, Member of Congress; Linda Smith, Member of Congress; Adam Smith, Member of Congress; Jennifer Dunn, Member of Congress; Doc Hastings, Member of Congress.

REAR ADMIRAL MIKE SULLIVAN

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Rear Admiral Mike Sullivan, United States Navy, as he retires on October 1, 1998, upon completion of over 31 years of honorable and faithful service to our Nation.

Rear Admiral Sullivan, a Supply Corps Officer, has performed in a consistently outstanding manner under the most challenging of circumstances. As the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development and Acquisition) he was responsible for advising the Navy's Acquisition Executive on business and programmatic matters concerning Navy and Marine Corps major weapon systems programs. He also provided policy and oversight for the Naval procurement system which encompasses over 900 activities contracting for more than \$40 billion in weapon systems, supplies and services annually.

Mike, no stranger to anyone in uniform, can reflect on several successful operational tours in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters. He came to his current position after being the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Acquisition and Business Management. His wide range of experience also included, among others', tours at Naval Sea Systems Command, Naval Air Systems Command, the Government Operations Committee of the House of Representatives, and Competition Advocate General of the Navy. And Central Missourians too, know him well: for four consecutive years he traveled to their neighborhood—my congressional district—to counsel and assist small businesses about the requirements of the federal contracts.

A graduate of the University of Kansas, he completed his MBA degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and Carnegie Mellon University's Program for Executives. His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit (three awards), the Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Joint Service Commendation Medal, and the Navy Commendation Medal (two awards). Married to the former Pam Ross of Leavenworth, Kansas, the Sullivan's have one son, Brian.

The Department of the Navy, Congress, and the American people have been defended and well served by this dedicated naval officer for over 31 years. Rear Admiral Mike Sullivan will long be remembered for his leadership, service and dedication. I am proud to call him my friend. Let me wish him, his wife Pam, and their son Brian our very best as they begin a new chapter in their life together.

A SALUTE TO DR. BILLY TAYLOR, ONE OF THE GREATEST MUSICIANS OF JAZZ

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Dr. Billy Taylor—one of the greatest pianists ever, who has touched the lives of many