EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LAO-HMONG PEOPLE FOR THEIR LOYALTY AND FRIENDSHIP

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Lao-Hmong American Coalition to thank my colleagues in both the House and Senate for their unanimous vote in favor of a National Lao-Hmong Recognition Day. Mr. Yang Chee, president of the Lao-Hmong American Coalition, has asked me to relay his own deep gratitude to the United States Congress for passing this historic proclamation.

During the Vietnam War, the Lao-Hmong people were one of this country's most loyal allies. They fought alongside U.S. soldiers against the communists and the North Vietnamese, sacrificing their lives for freedom and democracy. Many of these brave people now call the United States their home, becoming an integral part of American society. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Chee and all of the Lao-Hmong people for their dedication to this country and its ideals.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution proclaiming National Lao-Hmong Recognition Day was passed unanimously through both houses of Congress. Once again, I thank my colleagues for their support, and it is my hope that President Bush will join us in expressing the gratitude of this nation to the Lao-Hmong people.

This long-overdue day of recognition will take place in July. May it promote a sense of understanding and appreciation for the sacrifices made in the name of freedom and democracy. I urge all Americans to take a moment on this day to thank our brave and loyal friends, the Lao-Hmong.

RECOGNIZING THE SUCCESS OF HMSHOST OF BETHESDA, MARYLAND

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2002

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the expansion of HMSHost in Bethesda, Maryland, and to commemorate its commitment to the State of Maryland. This 100-year-old company is the fifth largest company by revenues in Montgomery County, Maryland, and it is greatly expanding its operations in the County.

HMSHost's presence in Maryland remains strong despite the travel slowdown resulting from events related to September 11th. Operating in 74 airports worldwide, HMSHost is the world's largest food, beverage, and retail concessions provider to the travel industry with revenues of $1.6 billion and a total of 26, 000 employees. The company serves 350 million customers a year and is top ranked by the International Air Transportation Association for concessions programs.

The success of HMSHost is due to the hard work of its associates, the leadership of John J. McCarthy, and the outstanding service that the company provides to travelers throughout the world. In its operations at Baltimore-Washington International Airport and Maryland Turnpike travel plazas, the company has delivered quality food, beverages, and merchandise to more than one hundred and fifty million travelers.

Our state is well served by the presence ofHMSHost.

H.R. 4737

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2002

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4737 in its current form. The bill the proponents have brought to the floor today is totally inadequate in regard to family child care. H.R. 4737 puts families in an entirely untenable position between their desire and need to work, on the one hand, and their need for quality child care during their working hours, on the other hand. In addition, the bill places very costly, unfunded mandates on the states.

Currently, an estimated 15 million children in America who are eligible for child care assistance lack coverage because states do not have the financial resources. Many states are facing budget deficits arising from the recession of 2001–2002. In my home state of Connecticut, for example, the government is already experiencing a deficit in excess of $500 million dollars, and, accordingly, child care assistance for low-income families who have been off welfare for 2 or more years has already been frozen. Even worse, as of June 1, Connecticut will no longer be able to provide child care assistance to families just leaving welfare. Regardless of income, they will not receive any child care assistance at all.

The unfunded mandates created in this bill add to the states' child care burden without providing the resources required to meet this critical need. Indeed, the child care funding in H.R. 4737 is barely enough to keep up with inflation, never mind provide for the roughly 35 percent increase in work hours called for in this bill.

CBO estimates that the unfunded mandates in this bill will require states to spend an additional $11 billion dollars over the next 5 years. Of that $3.8 billion dollars is mandated for child care—four times more than the proponents are willing to provide. Connecticut's share will be $66.5 million over 5 years, substantially adding to Connecticut's deficit.

The bill's proponents may say that they support child care, but their rhetoric is meaningless when they don't provide the necessary resources.

Without providing more money for child care, this bill will:

Keep families and states from meeting the new welfare requirements.

Keep children from reaching school ready to learn.

Keep families from getting and keeping jobs.

Keep increasing state deficits and financial problems.

And, most regrettably, keep families from getting off and staying off welfare—defeating the very purpose of this legislation.

Work is critically important, and I support strengthening the welfare work requirements, just as I supported the original passage of welfare reform in 1996. That's not the issue. The issue is: more work requires more child care. All working parents know that you can't keep a job without also having child care. Yet that's what the proponents of this bill ask families, and our states, to do.

My motion to recommit would help more working families afford quality child care, so that parents can be employed and their children can learn. Specifically, this motion to recommit adds an additional $11 billion over 5 years to meet the unfunded mandates of this bill. This will allow states to provide child care for the approximately 80 percent of eligible families who are currently on waiting lists, and it will allow states to provide child care for the families who will be moving to work or expanding their work hours under this legislation.

I support strengthening work requirements, but we must provide families with appropriate child care resources to allow parents to increase their time at work without leaving a child home alone.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes on this motion to recommit, so that the bill can be returned to us containing the child care funding it, our families, and our states, so clearly need.

HONORING DR. ELLEN CAMPBELL FOR A LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2002

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, It gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the Marymount College family in congratulating Dr. Ellen Campbell as she is honored with their Lifetime Achievement Award. An outstanding educator, dedicated colleague, and dear friend, this award is a reflection of her many contributions both professionally and personally.

This year marks her fiftieth reunion year as an alumna and you will find many who remember Dr. Campbell in at least one of the many roles she assumed at Marymount. Whether at the Tarrytown campus or in London with the Study Abroad program, Dr.