

to ensure profits for health plans. Those beneficiaries who remain in fee-for-service Medicare will be isolated in an underfunded program and they will see their premiums skyrocket as a result of phony "competition." Finally, the new law includes a "cost containment" provision that actually shifts rather than contains costs. By combining the Part A and Part B Trust Funds and creating a new definition of insolvency that caps Medicare's use of general revenues at 45 percent of total Medicare costs, this provision would force government to cut benefits or raise payroll taxes if this limit is exceeded. More than any other element of the new law, this provision would undermine the entire Medicare system as we know it, shifting the burden of the program onto those least able to afford it.

The bill I am introducing today will modify these damaging aspects of the new Medicare law. First it will authorize the HHS Secretary to use the purchasing power of 40 million seniors and disabled Americans to negotiate lower drug prices. Second, it will guarantee seniors the choice of a nationally available, defined benefit within Medicare. The premium, deductible, copays and stoploss will be set by law, not by private insurers. Third, my bill will fully reimburse employers for the cost of qualified retiree drug coverage and it will permit their costs to count toward seniors' catastrophic limits. Fourth, it will repeal the premium support demonstration and help ensure that Medicare remains a national program with equal access for all seniors. Fifth, it will eliminate the "stabilization" fund for private health insurers and dedicate these funds to strengthening the traditional Medicare program for seniors. Finally, it will eliminate the "cost containment" provision of the bill, which will harm both working families, seniors, and health care providers.

Mr. Speaker, the Medicare prescription drug provisions of this bill will not take effect until 2006. We have time to fix the structural problems that prevent this law from benefitting today's beneficiaries and those who will depend on Medicare in future years. I urge my colleagues to support this effort and help keep the promises we've made to our seniors.

POSTHUMOUS TRIBUTE TO THE
LATE EUGENE "WHITEY" WHITE,
A TRACK STAR AT FLORIDA
A&M UNIVERSITY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the late Eugene "Whitey" White, a legendary track star at Florida A&M University. It is indeed a sad day for the entire Florida A&M University family, particularly those involved with the Athletic Department. He will be laid to rest on Saturday, January 24, 2004 at Dade Memorial Park in his hometown of Miami, Florida.

His untimely demise this past Thursday, January 15, 2004, leaves a great void in our historic institution. He is survived by his beloved daughter La Donna, grandson Ryan Smith, sister Cora L. White, nephew Eugene Randall White, and the rest of his loving family.

Eugene White was born in Miami, Florida on December 24, 1937, the oldest of three children born to parents, Eugene and Corine White. He attended Phyllis Wheatley Elementary School and Booker T. Washington High School where he was a star athlete. He was a running back for his school's Tornadoes Football Team, and was a sprinter and relay team track member. Graduating with the Class of 1957, he was awarded a four-year scholarship to Florida A&M University where he excelled in sports, and became an acclaimed running back for the Rattlers Football Team. Upon graduation in 1962, he was drafted by the Miami Dolphins and later played for the Oakland Raiders. His illustrious football career continued as he played with the Canadian Football League.

Though he was merely a freshman, Mr. White's most salient feat in the annals of Track and Field competition was that then-Coach Pete Griffin marveled at his amazing speed by winning the 100-yard dash at the Florida A&M Relays in a record 9.4. As he went about garnering many more excellent records, he entered the South Carolina State Invitational Meet. He was clocked by six official timekeepers at an unprecedented 9.5 for the warm-up, and, before the official hundred run, Mr. White pulled a muscle. Despite this apparent debacle that would have incapacitated many an athlete, he was able to finish second, clocking in at 9.7.

White's magnificent contributions to the personal and professional growth of countless youth in his native Miami are well-known, as he was admired for his quiet spirit and loving demeanor, always exuding a great many gentlemanly virtues that endeared him to the community and to his church family. His records on the athletic field have become legendary, and they now emblazon the fond memories of countless FAMU alumni. Young men and women who came to admire his athletic prowess also found him to be a caring professional who personified an indomitable example of excellent discipline and genuine compassion for his fellowmen. His colleagues highly regarded him as a confidant and the epitome of utmost urbanity and gentlemanly behavior. Nowhere has this advocacy role played out succinctly in the lives of many youngsters than in the indelible mark he left on many students, who were inspired by him to excel both in their academic pursuits and athletic endeavors.

Indeed, our FAMU family is genuinely touched and comforted by the undaunted leadership, resilient example and personal warmth he exuded to those who came to know and admired him. This is the genuine legacy he bequeathed to those of us he left behind. In a special way, I am privileged to be a grateful alumnus of Florida A&M University, a great institution of learning graced bountifully by his remarkable contributions, both on and off campus.

HONORING DR. ESSIE L. BAILEY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today on behalf of the Great Lakes Baptist District Woman's Auxiliary of Michigan, to

honor Dr. Essie L. Bailey for 33 years of dedicated service as President of the Great Lakes Baptist District Woman's Auxiliary, an auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. On Saturday, January 10, 2004, the Great Lakes Baptist District Woman's Auxiliary will recognize Dr. Bailey's accomplishments during a dinner to be held at the Metropolitan Baptist Tabernacle, A.J. Pointer Family Life Center located in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Dr. Essie L. Bailey was born and raised in Mississippi. Upon relocating to Flint, Michigan she became a faithful member of the New Zion Missionary Baptist Church, where she is currently serving as a Sunday school teacher, leader of the Missions Union and a Deaconette. Dr. Bailey was granted an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Humanities from the Urban Bible Institute of Religious Studies. She has served the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. as the President of the Great Lakes Baptist District Woman's Auxiliary for thirty-three years, President of the Wolverine State Baptist Woman's Auxiliary for eight years, Chairwoman of the Great Lakes Baptist District Foreign Mission Board, and Chairwoman on the District Presidents' breakfast committee. These roles have allotted Dr. Bailey with the opportunity to spread spiritual enrichment to women throughout the world. Her work has taken her to Africa, where in 1973, she served as the Great Lakes Baptist District Association General Ambassador to Africa. She also traveled on missions to Canada, and Israel. Dr. Bailey faithfully served the convention until failing health caused her to recently step down from her position as President of the Great Lakes Baptist District Woman's Auxiliary. During her tenure, Dr. Bailey was, and still is a positive religious influence within the Christian community. She is a true foot soldier for the Lord.

Dr. Bailey has received numerous accolades for her dedicated service. To name a few, she received the City of Flint Drum Major Award, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Woman of the Year Award, and the State of Michigan Outstanding Service Award. Aside from being an outstanding leader and role model, Dr. Bailey is also a loving wife, mother and grandmother.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, I ask my colleagues in the 108th Congress to please join me in honoring my constituent and friend Dr. Essie L. Bailey for her outstanding service to the Christian community.

RECOGNIZING CAROL BRILL, PH.D

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Carol Brill, Ph.D., an exceptional woman who is retiring after serving as Executive Director of the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) for 32 years. I am proud of Dr. Brill's many accomplishments and would like to recognize her contribution to the field of social work and her community.

The overall mission of the Massachusetts Chapter of NASW, the professional organization in the field of social work, is to provide human rights, social and economic justice, and unimpeded access to services for everyone. Under Dr. Brill's leadership, the membership of the Massachusetts Chapter grew from