

the cultural perception of women and their place in Kuwaiti women in society.

It is my hope that the Crowley Resolution will give the State of Kuwait the recognition of having accepted a basic principle of democracy, that the women of Kuwait have the same right to vote as the men of Kuwait.

THE EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION EDUCATION ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am proud to introduce the Emergency Contraception Education Act. By improving education among the public and health professionals about emergency contraception (EC), my bill will help protect women's reproductive health, reduce unwanted pregnancies, and prevent abortions.

Each year in the U.S., there are 3 million women who must contend with the reality of an unintended pregnancy. Half of these end in abortion. Experts estimate that widespread use of EC could prevent as many as 50% of these unintended pregnancies, which would dramatically reduce the number of abortions in this country. The Alan Guttmacher Institute has documented its effectiveness—estimating that increased use of EC accounted for up to 43 percent of the total decline in abortion rates between 1994 and 2000.

Emergency contraception is a concentrated form of the daily birth control pills taken by nearly 12 million women in the U.S. It does not cause abortion, but instead stops the release of an egg from the ovary. EC is a safe and effective means of preventing pregnancy—it has low-toxicity and no potential for overdose or addiction; it is not harmful to an existing pregnancy; and because there are no important drug interactions, there is no need for medical screening allowing for self-identification of the need. Furthermore, EC will not harm an established pregnancy. If taken within 72 hours after unprotected sex or contraceptive failure, EC can reduce the risk of pregnancy by as much as 89 percent. But because of the narrow window of effectiveness, timely access to EC is critical.

In light of its safety and efficacy, the American Medical Association and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists have supported more widespread availability of EC. Yet, many patients and health care providers remain uninformed about this important contraceptive option. Only 1 in 10 women of reproductive age in the U.S. are aware of EC. In 2003, the Kaiser Foundation conducted a survey to examine teens and adults' knowledge and opinions of EC in California. What they found was very disconcerting—nearly 40 percent did not know that EC was available in the U.S., and half of adult women who had heard of EC, mistakenly thought that it was the "abortion pill," also known as RU-486. Only 7 percent of adults who have heard of EC learned about it from their health care professional. Even women who had a gynecologic exam in the last year were no more likely to have learned about EC from their doctor.

Unfortunately, lack of knowledge and the failure to provide patients with information on

EC is a familiar trend throughout this country. Only one in five ob/gyns in the U.S. routinely discuss emergency contraception with their patients. Less than 18 percent of hospitals provide emergency contraception at a woman's request without restrictions. And, tragically nearly 50 percent of hospitals do not provide EC to a woman who has been sexually assaulted, even though it is often the only contraceptive option for the 300,000 women who are raped each year.

Healthy People 2010, published by the Office of the Surgeon General, establishes a 10 year national public health goal of increasing the proportion of health care providers who provide emergency contraception to their patients. My bill will move us much closer toward achieving this goal. The Emergency Contraception Education Act will initiate a large-scale education campaign to better inform women and health care providers about emergency contraception. Specifically, this bill will direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop and disseminate information on EC to health care providers, including recommendations on the use of EC in appropriate cases, and how to obtain copies of information developed by HHS for distribution to patients. The Secretary will also be required to develop and disseminate information on EC to the American public.

EC could help drastically reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies and abortions in the United States. However, barriers to information and access hinder this preventative contraceptive method from reaching its full potential. We can and we must do more to protect women's reproductive health by increasing knowledge of emergency contraception and expanding access to this critical preventative solution.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to cosponsor my bill today.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS LONGHORNS BASEBALL TEAM

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Mr. McCAUL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this year no team in college baseball could play the game better than the University of Texas Longhorns. The men of the UT baseball team have again won the College World Series. The University of Texas Tower is surely glowing burnt orange in honor of their great accomplishment.

With the win, the Longhorns claimed their sixth national title and their second College World Series trophy in the last four seasons.

The thirty young men on this championship team won the best-of-three series by sweeping the Florida Gators by a 2-0 margin. In fact, the Horns did not lose a game during the semi-final or final rounds of the College World Series.

In their win, we witnessed an aggressive Longhorn offense which put together a four-run sixth inning in the final game to lead Texas to a 6-2 victory over the Gators. I should also mention that the Longhorns scored 24 runs in 5 games—amazing.

UT's offense was equipped with an equal amount of outstanding defense as Longhorn

pitchers made it nearly impossible for the Florida Gators to put a bat on the ball, and Longhorn infielders and outfielders presented an insurmountable obstacle for the Gators' hitters and base runners.

Mr. Speaker, the University of Texas Men's Baseball Team has made its home city of Austin, my hometown, and the entire Lone Star State proud. Tonight, the entire team and their coach Augie Garrido deserve our congratulations and recognition.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE HON. ROBERT B. DOYLE, JR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, the City of Mobile, Alabama, and indeed the entire First Congressional District recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory.

Mayor Robert B. Doyle, Jr., was a devoted family man and dedicated public servant throughout his entire life. A native of Mobile, he was a graduate of Murphy High School and the University of Alabama. In 1968, he began his first term on the Mobile Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners, and one year later was elected as the Place 2 representative on the Mobile City Commission. At that time, the office of mayor was held on a rotating basis by members of the city commission, and as a result Mayor Doyle held that office several times during his three terms in office.

During his time in local office, Mayor Doyle was an extremely effective and responsive member of the city commission who took a tremendous amount of pride in his job, his employees, and his community. His three terms in office were marked by several crises and strikes which directly affected the operation of city government, but through each situation he maintained a strong level of integrity and concern for the well-being of Mobile. He was a strong and consistent supporter of the city's public safety force, and believed strongly that the best interests of the city would be served by a strong program of downtown redevelopment for both business and residential interests.

In addition to his public responsibilities, Mayor Doyle also found time to become actively involved in many local and statewide organizations. He served as the president of the Alabama League of Municipalities in 1979. In Mobile, he and his late wife, Ramona, were very involved in activities at Providence Hospital, and he also was a member of both the Comic Cowboys Mardi Gras organization and the Reception Committee of the Mobile Carnival Association. His work also garnered a great deal of praise and recognition from his colleagues and peers, and in 2004 he was elected as a member of the Murphy High School Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated public servant and friend to many in Mobile. Bob Doyle will be deeply missed by his family—his children, Robert B. Doyle, III, Britt Doyle, Lynette Doyle Betty, and Dr. Ramona L. Doyle; his sister, Caroline Shedd; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild—as well as the countless