

Atlanta to witness firsthand the result of this investment.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROTECTING HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT AND COMMUNITY CLINIC SERVICES ACT OF 2008 (H.R. 7219)

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, on September 29, 2008, I introduced legislation, the Protecting Hospital Outpatient and Community Clinic Services Act of 2008 (H.R. 7219), which would prohibit the U.S. Secretary for Health and Human Services (HHS) from taking any action before April 1, 2009, to implement a proposed regulation related to the redefinition of Medicaid outpatient hospital services. This initiative was developed by HHS' Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and was published on September 28, 2007 (72 Federal Register 55158).

The proposal is designed to limit the definition and scope of Federally reimbursable Medicaid outpatient services provided in a hospital clinic or facility as well as those offered in a rural health clinic. CMS has stated that it is unable to determine the fiscal impact of the rule and that they believe this measure would not significantly alter current practices in most states. However, the National Association of State Medicaid Directors (NASMD) reports that the proposed regulation "would significantly affect the Medicaid program in every state." According to one source, in New York State alone, health care providers would lose over \$452 million. It is important to note that this estimate, large as it is, excludes the costs encountered by hospital settings. By way of example, New York's 23rd Congressional District, which I have the privilege of representing, would lose over \$2.6 million in Federal funding. Moreover, even after attempting to fully analyze this complex regulation, New York State is still unable to fully assess the total magnitude of its impact.

Needless to say, such a loss of funding would have a devastating impact upon the health care infrastructure, and thus the residents, of Northern and Central New York. Specifically, several constituent providers have estimated the proposed rule would not only reduce their ability to provide critical services to some of our nation's most vulnerable individuals but also literally force these providers out of business.

As stated above, CMS readily admits, it does not fully understand the impact of its actions. The State of New York has documented that the proposal would result in significant negative consequences. In the face of such circumstances, prudence demands that the rule's actual consequences be thoroughly examined, and well understood, before its implementation. H.R. 7219 would provide CMS, and Congress, until April 1, 2009, to closely examine the proposed rule and act accordingly. Thus, I urge my colleagues to join with me to enact this legislation before the conclusion of the 110th Congress.

IN SUPPORT OF TITLE H.R. 6503, TO AMEND THE VIOLENT CRIME CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1994 TO REAUTHORIZE THE MISSING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE PATIENT ALERT PROGRAM

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, thank you for your leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I support H.R. 6503, to amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Thousands of vulnerable older adults go missing each year as a result of dementia, diminished capacity, foul play or other unusual circumstances. The Alzheimer's Foundation of America estimates that over 5 million Americans suffer from Alzheimer's disease, and that 60 percent of these are likely to wander from their homes. Alzheimer's diseases and other dementia related illnesses often leave their victims disoriented and confused and unable to find their way home. According to the Alzheimer's Association, up to 50 of wanderers risk serious illness, injury or death if not found within 24 hours. The problem can be exacerbated greatly by national disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina, that can, in a matter of hours, increase the number of missing persons by the thousands.

H.R. 6503 reauthorizes the existing Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program. The bill authorizes \$5 million for each fiscal year through 2015 for competitive grants to nonprofit organizations. The money may be used to pay for the "costs of planning, designing, establishing, and operating locally based, proactive programs to protect and locate missing patients with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and other missing elderly individuals." The bill states a preference for "national nonprofit organizations that have a direct line to patients, and families of patients, with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias."

When I consider the necessity of this bill, I am reminded about the time when I was personally called upon by a constituent in the 18th Congressional District in Texas. A few years back, the family of Mr. Sammy Kirk, enlisted my help in searching for Mr. Kirk. Mr. Kirk was an elderly man, suffering from Alzheimer's and he had wandered away from his family in Houston. He was lost. His family called me to help search for him. I, along with his family, searched many hours and many days. In total, I searched for 3 days for Mr. Kirk. Finally, Mr. Sammy Kirk was found. He was found and he was dead. He wandered many miles away from his family and was found dead along the bayou. It would have been so much easier, and his life could have been spared if there was an electronic monitoring service that could have been used to help keep Mr. Kirk close to his family and it would have certainly aided in our search for Mr. Kirk. An innocent, yet vulnerable, life could have been saved. This bill is necessary and I encourage my colleagues to support it.

IN RECOGNITION OF LIFETIME TELEVISION'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FIGHT AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Lifetime Television for its vigorous and effective educational programs that help promote efforts to combat the epidemic of sexual assault that has afflicted our nation. Among other measures, Lifetime Television mounted an extraordinary campaign to inform its millions of viewers about the Debbie Smith Act that was enacted into law in 2004 as part of the Justice for All Act. A reauthorization bill passed both the House and Senate this year and awaits the President's signature.

Founded in 1984, Lifetime Television is a national leader in women's television that now serves 96 million households across America. One of the top-rated basic cable television networks in the world, Lifetime is committed to offering the highest quality entertainment and information programming, and educating viewers about a wide range of issues affecting women and their families.

Lifetime Television and its top leadership have also been remarkable in their commitment to serving their viewership through public education and outreach efforts. Countless not-for-profit and community-based organizations have benefitted from Lifetime's commitment to addressing critical issues in our society, increasing public awareness of violence against women, breast cancer, race relations, school bullying and AIDS. Many Members of Congress and government decision-makers from both sides of the aisle have praised Lifetime Television for helping to use its expansive reach as the most popular women's television network in the world to help generate support to enact sound public policies.

Lifetime Television's educational outreach efforts played an instrumental role helping to pass the Debbie Smith Act in 2004. Their educational efforts helped generate a groundswell of support from the public.

I was honored to name that bill after a courageous, determined advocate named Debbie Smith when I first introduced it in the 107th Congress. A rape survivor, she had been invited to testify before the House about the lack of resources to test DNA samples collected in rape and sexual assault cases. Her compelling testimony and relentless advocacy were instrumental in garnering support for the bill. The legislation increased federal spending on DNA evidence processing to \$151 million annually from fiscal year 2005 through 2009, and created a new grant program providing resources to sexual assault examiners and acquiring forensic equipment. It was called "the most important piece of anti-rape legislation that Congress has ever passed" by the Rape Abuse and Incest National Network, or RAINN.

Lifetime has maintained that degree of commitment throughout the course of its Emmy Award-winning "End Violence Against Women" campaign over the last seven years. Lifetime Television later dramatized Debbie Smith's inspirational activism in an original

movie, "A Life Interrupted: The Debbie Smith Story."

Madam Speaker, I rise to request that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing Lifetime Television for its tireless efforts to educate and inform the American public about important issues confronting women in our society and to achieve equality and justice for women all over the world.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND
PUBLIC SERVICE OF STAN
MAYFIELD

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and public service of Stan Mayfield—a native Floridian, civic leader, and defender of the taxpayer. Florida lost a dear friend on September 30, 2008, when Stan Mayfield's hard fought battle with cancer came to an end.

As a businessman, school board member, and a state legislator, Stan's community leadership is a testament of his commitment to public service. However, his greatest role was that of husband and father. I extend my deepest and most heartfelt sympathies to his wife, Deborah, and their three sons—Evan, Samuel, and Coleman, at this difficult time.

Stan's community involvement was expansive, from his service on the Indian River County School Board to his tenure in the Florida State House of Representatives. Stan was known for his tenacity to hold government accountable for greater transparency, and his determination to cap spending and fight for lower taxes, but his passion for greater infrastructure, conservation, and Indian River County is what his friends and colleagues will remember.

Most recently, Stan was preparing for a new chapter in his life after winning his primary election for Indian River County Tax Collector. A model of strong perseverance, Stan refused to allow his illness to deter him from public service and doing what he loved—serving people. It was this motivation and resolve that Stan put toward every challenge that truly exemplifies his character.

My thoughts and prayers are with Stan's loved ones, his friends, and his many colleagues who served with him throughout his many years in public service.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
BUD CRAMER AND THE HONORABLE
TERRY EVERETT ON
THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, the people of Alabama will be losing two outstanding public servants at the end of this session with the retirements of Congressman BUD CRAMER and Congressman TERRY EVERETT.

During the time that I have served in the House, I have been honored to call them both colleagues and friends. They have served the constituents in their own districts extraordinarily well, and have been a key part of securing the reputation of the Alabama delegation as a group that works together on a bipartisan basis for the good of our State.

Congressman CRAMER has had a long and distinguished record of service. One great legacy is his stalwart support of our space and missile defense programs. Whenever questions on those programs came up in the House, we looked to BUD CRAMER for his knowledge and guidance. As a result of his efforts, facilities in the Fifth District like NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command, and the Redstone Arsenal have become not just important employers in Alabama but true national assets.

We admire and respect BUD CRAMER for another reason: his great compassion for children and deep concern about the tragedy of child abuse. Each year, the National Children's Advocacy Center in Huntsville that he founded teaches thousands of people how to recognize and help at-risk children.

For years, it has been my pleasure to work with Congressman TERRY EVERETT of the Second District. He has always been the type of representative who makes this House work. He holds firm to his principles, but works across the aisle to find solutions.

With his duties on the Armed Services and Intelligence Committees, Congressman EVERETT developed a well-earned reputation for expertise in defense and intelligence issues. Whenever my staff or I had a question about these matters, our response was: "Ask TERRY what he thinks." His support of the excellent work being done at Fort Rucker and the Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base has benefited both the constituents in his district and the people of our country by strengthening the national defense.

All of us in the Alabama delegation have been privileged to work with BUD CRAMER and TERRY EVERETT. While we'll no longer be congressional colleagues, we will always remain friends. Both of these leaders, I know, will continue to have much to share with their communities and our State of Alabama in the years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in order to state for the record an explanation of my absence and how I would have voted on several of the bills that were considered by the House of Representatives while I was in Texas helping the relief and recovery effort after Hurricane Ike damaged my district and communities so hard.

As my colleagues and those in the gallery know, Hurricane Ike made landfall along the Upper Texas Coast early in the morning of Saturday, September 13. The effects of this storm stretched from Alabama to Texas, with the 11 counties that I represent landing right in the middle of the storm's path. The resulting

damage was widespread and in some cases very significant. Many of the people that I represent are still without power and for many, especially in Orange County, life will never be the same. Their homes were completely flooded and many will never be livable again. It is a testament to the hardworking and self-reliant people of southeast Texas that they are already picking up the pieces and helping themselves and others in the recovery. I want to thank those first responders, the local governments, the State of Texas, and selfless individuals that have helped during the evacuation and recovery process.

We have worked tirelessly since Hurricane Rita to ensure that Texas' first responders were better prepared for the next time a hurricane hit the Texas coast. I have spent my time since September 13, meeting with individual citizens, FEMA, officials from Texas and local communities, utility providers and others to identify shortcomings, offer help and support, and ensure the best level of service is provided now and the next time a hurricane strikes Texas or we are affected by some other emergency situation.

While I was working in Texas after Ike made landfall, the House voted on several important pieces of legislation for which I would like to register my views.

First, H.R. 6899, the Comprehensive American Energy Security and Consumer Protection Act; despite the bill's name, H.R. 6899 would actually harm our nation's energy security, and accordingly, I would have voted against passage of the bill.

This bill opens a sliver of our offshore resources to development, while permanently closing off the rest. In fact, the Department of Interior's Mineral and Management Service calculated that this bill would ban most of our nation's outer continental shelf oil and gas natural resources from development. This bill is the equivalent of cracking open the gate, bolting the front door shut and then throwing away the key. It is the wrong energy policy for our country.

Moreover, in addition to this bait-and-switch approach to the offshore moratorium on energy exploration, the bill neglects to provide for revenue sharing among the states for offshore leasing. Without a revenue sharing incentive from the federal government, states are highly unlikely to allow the drilling that our country desperately needs. This is not the energy solution the American people want, and Congress should not replace the current temporary ban on offshore exploration with a permanent one.

House Democrats also offered another gimmick on energy policy instead of providing real relief at the pump to my constituents recovering from Hurricane Ike and all Americans. H.R. 6604 was billed as a way to cut speculation in energy markets, while in reality it did nothing but paper over Democrat's inaction on offering real solutions to America's energy problems. I voted against largely the same bill this summer and would have done so here as well. This bill was nothing more than window dressing and a thinly veiled attempt to placate the American public. In reality, it does little more than insult the intelligence of the American public; but the American public won't be fooled.

But Democrats are starting to buckle to pressure from the American public. In the House-passed stop-gap funding bill, the