

Vesely the best in retirement. He told *The Times* on May 13 that he was “plan(ing) to do a lot of fly-fishing”; that sounds like a great start.

AMENDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A HEALTH SURVEY REGARDING NATIVE HAWAIIANS AND OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDERS

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, today I introduced legislation to amend the Public Health Service Act for the purposes of providing the resources necessary for the Department of Health and Human Services to survey the health of Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders (NHOPI). Specifically, the bill I have introduced today would amend Part B of Title III of the Public Health Service Act to authorize the award of a contract or grant by the Secretary of Health and Human Services for the express purpose of developing a health survey targeting Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders residing in the United States and the Freely Associated States in the Pacific Region.

In 1997, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) revised federal data collection standards to recognize the significant demographic, historical, cultural, and ethnic differences that exist between Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders and Asian Americans. These important distinctions are not simply cultural or historical, but also encompass unique health and socio-economic challenges among the different populations. The standard requires that Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander data be collected, disaggregated and reported separately from Asian American data by all federal agencies no later than January 1, 2003.

As of 2007, however, not all federal agencies are in full compliance with OMB Revised Directive 15. In the places where limited agency data do exist, they are not made publicly available or it takes years to release. On a national level, the sample size of the NHOPI population in studies and reports is not represented because of a lack of data—resulting in meaningful information and statistics being unavailable to health organizations, federal, state, territorial and local agencies and policymakers.

Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander communities are eager to move forward with their efforts to improve public health. This scientific survey would establish baseline health information to inform health policy and interventions so that individual and community health can be properly tracked and evaluated. Additionally, it would provide critical information for both NHOPI communities' health care providers and organizations that work with these communities to develop appropriate health care strategies for public health education and resources.

I look forward on working with my colleagues in addressing this need and advancing the larger cause of eliminating health disparities.

TRIBUTE TO ALL VETERANS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, President Abraham Lincoln said a Gettysburg, “The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.”

I rise today to honor those who have fallen in defense of our country, and I do so recognizing that history won't remember what a guy like me has to say.

But it's important for those who served, and those who serve, to know we will always take the time to remember, and say thank you.

I rise to recognize the sacrifices of the Soldier holding the line in Gettysburg, the Sailor defending the fleet in the South Pacific, the Marine landing at Inchon, South Korea, and the Airman patrolling the skies over Vietnam.

Madam Speaker, we mark this holiday at a time when our sons and daughters are keeping watch over the streets of Baghdad and the mountains of Afghanistan.

We mark this holiday as a reminder that in conflicts past, present, and future, a generation of Americans will answer the call and pay the price of freedom.

While there is never doubt that they will do their duty and serve their country, let there never be doubt that we will stand by them and remember their service and their sacrifice.

You may know that my hometown, Chicago, has one of the nation's largest Memorial Day parades.

But you probably don't know about another, smaller, commemoration.

Dan Wenserski is a gentleman from my district who knows about paying tribute to his brothers and sisters who wore the uniform.

For as long as many can remember, Dan has paid his respects to those who served this country since its inception.

Each year, Dan unpacks flags that had draped the caskets of the fallen to create an Avenue of Flags at Rosehill Cemetery.

He believes it is important to pay tribute to all who sacrificed and served.

As an 85-year-old veteran of World War II, Dan shuns the spotlight, preferring to honor his fallen colleagues than receive honor himself.

But this Memorial Day, I ask all to join me in honoring and thanking Mr. Daniel Wenserski.

Mr. Wenserski saw combat in the European theater and returned from World War II as a 21-year-old with three purple hearts.

He is commander of Amvets Post 243.

Dedicated veterans like him are a national treasure.

We must remember them not only with memorials but in how we dedicate ourselves to the unfinished work of our Republic.

We must remember Lincoln's pledge to, “care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan.”

That means we can't just use this day to pay homage to those who are lost.

We need to remember those who remain behind.

We need to remember the mother or father who has to raise a family alone, and the children who are left with only a photo.

We have, and must continue to make great strides during this Congress to help that mother and that father.

We must not allow the lessons learned during this day go unheeded during every other.

We must dedicate every day to taking care of our veterans and their families, as they have taken every one of their days to dedicate to us.

I'd like to thank all of our veterans for the freedoms we all take for granted, and wish you and your families all the very best on this Memorial Day.

CLOUD AND LAKEVIEW HOSPITALS BEING NAMED AMONGST THE TOP 100 HOSPITALS BY THOMSON REUTERS

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I congratulate and honor St. Cloud Hospital and Lakeview Hospital in Stillwater, Minnesota for being named to the Top 100 Hospitals list by Thomson Reuters. The people of St. Cloud and Stillwater know how great their hospitals are and I'm thrilled to see the staff members and administrations receive this recognition.

The Top 100 Hospitals evaluates short-term, acute care and non-federal hospitals on the overall care of a patient, including rate of medical complications and adherence to clinical standards, fiscal responsibility and patient satisfaction. We are fortunate to have high medical standards in this country and St. Cloud and Lakeview Hospitals demonstrate day in and day out that they take the Hippocratic oath to “do no harm” very seriously.

Lakeview Hospital was listed as a Small Community category winner. St. Cloud Hospital was recognized for its work in the Teaching Hospitals category, which only makes this hospital's achievements that much more important as it is a place where future doctors and administrators can learn how to create the best patient experience. St. Cloud Hospital was also one of 23 hospitals to receive the Everest Award, which recognizes the hospitals with the most improvement over a five-year period.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor these two institutions, St. Cloud and Lakeview Hospitals, as some of the top hospitals in the nation. Their recognition by Thomson Reuters as Top 100 Hospitals validates the pride Minnesota takes in their hospitals and other care facilities. As a small business owner working closely with the medical community, I am pleased to see that the people of St. Cloud and Stillwater have some of the best hospital care available to them in the country. Congratulations to everyone who works with these hospitals and to the communities that support them as their own.