

States in the workplace, on roads and highways, and in our homes and neighborhoods.

Each week of National Safety Month focuses on a different aspect of safety: traffic, workplace, home, and community. This year's National Safety Month themes are teen driving, fall prevention, overexertion, and distracted driving. The statistics on the types of safety that comprise this year's National Safety Month are jarring.

According to the National Safety Council, NSC, traffic crashes are the number one cause of teen fatalities, accounting for 38 percent of all teen deaths. In 2007, 20,600 people died from falls in U.S. homes and communities. Moreover, the U.S. Department of Labor documented that 8 percent of all occupational fatalities from trauma were caused by falling. Overexertion, particularly in the form of back injuries, affects over 1 million workers. Lastly, 80 percent of automobile crashes are the result of distracted driving. Given these drastic statistics, I believe that National Safety Month is an important effort to improve the well being of our country.

Injuries and loss of life due to preventable accidents are tragedies that traumatize workplaces, families, and communities. In addition to the suffering of the victims and their families, accidents in the home and on the road created over \$600 billion in costs to Americans. Accidents in the workplace created over \$175 billion in costs for workers and employers. I believe that National Safety Month will help to improve our national economy as we climb out of the economic downturn.

In my home State, the Texas Chapter of the National Safety Council is working hard to educate and influence the public in order to prevent accidental injury and death. The Texas Chapter contributes to Texas' public safety through events such as National Seat Check Saturday, National Child Passenger Safety Week, National Preparedness Month, and the Texas Safety Conference & Expo. I am proud of the work that the Texas Chapter of the NSC does to train safety professionals, reach out to the public for safety education, and raise awareness of safety.

By raising awareness and educating the public on safety, National Safety Month honors the work of safety experts and professionals. Safety experts research, analyze, and publish information on improving safety in many aspects of our daily lives. Safety professionals provide training in schools and colleges, workplaces, and communities, as well as to drivers across the country. The work of these men and women save countless lives each year, and through this resolution, we honor their contribution to society.

In addition to supporting National Safety Month, we must also recognize the achievements of the National Safety Council, NSC. The NSC was established in Illinois in 1913 to promote industrial safety. Since then, their mandate has expanded to include traffic safety, home safety, community safety, and workplace safety at large. In 1953, the NSC received a Congressional Charter. Today, over 51,000 labor organizations, businesses, schools, public agencies, private organizations, and individuals comprise the NSC. The NSC and its 40 member local chapters coordinate safety events, educate the public, analyze safety research, and raise awareness about safety issues. The NSC inaugurated the first National Safety Month in June 1996. In

addition to National Safety Month, the NSC holds an annual Congress & Expo to exchange information among safety experts, safety professionals, and the safety industry. Their work is an invaluable contribution to the well-being of our country.

Mr. SABLAN. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 459.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1445

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF SENIOR CAREGIVING

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 59) supporting the goals and ideals of senior caregiving and affordability, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 59

Whereas 8,000 people in the United States turn 60 years old every day;

Whereas an estimated 35,900,000 people, 12.4 percent of the population, are 65 years of age and older;

Whereas the United States population age 65 and older is expected to more than double in the next 50 years to 86,700,000 in 2050;

Whereas the 85 and older population is projected to reach 9,600,000 in 2030 and double again to 20,900,000 in 2050;

Whereas it is estimated that 4,500,000 people in the United States have Alzheimer's disease today;

Whereas it is estimated that number will increase to between 11,300,000 and 16,000,000 by 2050;

Whereas 70 percent of people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias live at home, and these individuals are examples of individuals who need assistance in their homes with their "activities of daily living";

Whereas currently over 25 percent of all seniors need some level of assistance with their "activities of daily living";

Whereas in order to address the surging population of seniors who have significant needs for in-home care, the field of senior caregiving will continue to grow;

Whereas there are an estimated 44,000,000 adults in the United States providing care to adult relatives or friends and an estimated 725,000 nonfamily private paid senior caregivers;

Whereas both unpaid family caregivers and paid caregivers work together to serve the daily living needs of seniors who live in their own homes;

Whereas the Department of Labor estimated that paid caregivers for the year 2006

worked a total of 835,000,000 hours, and the projected hours of paid senior caregivers are estimated to increase to 4,350,000,000 hours by 2025; and

Whereas the longer a senior is able to provide for his or her own care, the less burden is placed on public payment systems in State and Federal governments: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes caregiving as a profession;

(2) supports the private home care industry and the efforts of family caregivers nationwide by encouraging individuals to provide care to family, friends, and neighbors;

(3) encourages accessible and affordable care for seniors;

(4) reviews Federal policies and supports current Federal programs which address the needs of seniors and their family caregivers; and

(5) encourages the Secretary of Health and Human Services to continue working to educate people in the United States on the impact of aging and the importance of knowing the options available to seniors when they need care to meet their personal needs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Concurrent Resolution 59 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands?

There was no objection.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 59, which is a bill that supports the ideals of senior caregiving and addresses the important issue of affordability.

Research professionals tell us that our seniors are living longer than any previous generation. The number of people over the age of 65 will double in the next 50 years, and the demand for senior care will rise to unprecedented levels. Currently, 25 percent of all seniors need some level of assistance with their daily living activities. Families, neighbors, and private care serve this role for many seniors. As demand increases, so does the need for affordable and quality care.

There are between 30 and 38 million adult caregivers age 18 and older. They are our friends, family members, partners, and neighbors. On average, they work 21 hours per week. Not only do these unpaid caregivers provide long-term services to persons of all ages, but they contribute to the economy. In 2006, the AARP estimated that caregiving services have an annual economic value of \$350 billion.

Many caregivers put their own health at risk while caring for others. Caregivers are more likely to report chronic illnesses at twice the rate as non-caregivers. Though they save the country billions of dollars, caregivers report having higher medical bill expenses than noncaregivers.

Providing better support for caregivers is essential to the well-being of our health care system, our long-term care system, and our economy.

I want to express my support for this resolution and thank Congressman TERRY for bringing this resolution forward. I urge my colleagues to support me on this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today and am proud to do so in support of House Concurrent Resolution 59, supporting the goals and ideals of senior caregiving. I also want to take the opportunity to thank my colleague from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY) for introducing this resolution.

According to the Administration on Aging, the number of people age 65 and older was 37.9 million in 2007, an increase of 3.8 million since 1997. The population of those 65 and older is projected to increase from 40 million in 2010 to 55 million in 2020. The number of those 85 and older is projected to increase from 4.2 million in the year 2000 to 6.6 million in the year 2020.

In the United States today, it's estimated that 4.5 million people have Alzheimer's disease, and this number is expected to increase to between 11.3 million and 16 million by 2050. Seventy percent of people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias live at home and need assistance to perform normal daily activities.

Today, a quarter of all seniors need some level of assistance with their daily activities, and according to the Administration on Aging, persons reaching age 65 have an average life expectancy of an additional 19 years.

Caregiving for these individuals takes many forms. Caregivers may be full- or part time, live with their loved one, or provide care from a distance. Caregiving ranges from simple help such as shopping to conducting medical procedures.

There are an estimated 44 million adults in the United States providing care to adult relatives or friends. The longer a senior is able to provide for his or her own care, the less burden is placed on our public systems. Caregivers keep individuals out of institutions and help them live out their lives in familiar surroundings and with dignity. It is appropriate that we take a few minutes today to honor these individuals who give so much of themselves to provide care for our aging population.

I stand in support of this resolution recognizing the profession of senior

caregiving and supporting the private home care industry, and I ask for my colleagues' support.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in full support of H. Con. Res. 59—supporting the goals and ideals of senior caregiving and affordability. Our national population of seniors is growing at unprecedented rates. National statistics reveal that 8,000 people turn 60 each day. Moreover, an estimated 44 million adults in the United States currently provide care to their senior relatives and friends. In light of these trends, it is our responsibility to ensure that senior citizens, especially those suffering from Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, have access to the quality and professional care they need to live their lives to the fullest. I commend Rep. LEE TERRY for bringing this measure before the floor.

This resolution demonstrates that Congress is concerned about our senior citizens and we are actively engaging and learning more about the senior caregiving industry. Today, 35.9 million people, roughly 12.4 percent of the U.S. population, are aged 65 years and older. Moreover, 25 percent of all seniors require some level of assistance with their daily life activities. At this rate, the population of seniors is expected to increase each year and is in danger of exceeding the availability of qualified professionals and trained caregivers. Therefore, it is important that we now begin to take the necessary steps to effectively manage the needs of our aging population.

We can accomplish this objective by providing some much needed support to family caregivers across the country. Family caregivers expend a lot of time, energy, and resources caring for their senior relatives. And many families that do not provide care within their homes rely on non-family private caregivers. In this regard, Congress must help to foster a private home care industry environment that supports enterprises that provide accessible and affordable caregiving services to seniors. This must also include standardized training to paid caregivers with the opportunity for their ongoing professional development. Additionally, Congress must examine and continue to fund current federal programs that address the affordability and accessibility challenges our seniors and their family caregivers face.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to add my voice of support for H. Con. Res. 59—supporting the goals and ideals of senior caregiving and affordability. And I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure we continue to provide the necessary resources toward senior caregiving and improve affordability so that all our senior citizens will have access to quality caregiving when they need it.

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, thank you for conducting this debate on H. Con. Res. 59. This important concurrent resolution supports the goals and ideals of senior caregiving. I would like to thank the distinguished Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Education and Labor Committee as well as the Chairwoman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities for their role in bringing this concurrent resolution to the House Floor. Furthermore, I would like to particularly thank the 42 cosponsors of this important resolution.

Seniors are one of our most precious resources. In order to take care of our seniors, we need a nation of caregivers.

On March 30, 2009, I introduced H. Con. Res. 59 in order to help promote the goals and ideals of senior caregiving. The idea for this concurrent resolution was brought to me by the world's large senior care provider, Home Instead Senior Care, which is located in my congressional district in Omaha, Nebraska. Home Instead understands first hand the importance of senior caregiving. Its over 800 franchises worldwide provide care to over 60,000 seniors. Home Instead is just one of hundreds of companies who provide care to seniors. In addition to these paid caregivers, you have millions of individuals who provide care to their elderly parents, siblings, friends etc.

To illustrate the need for senior caregivers, today in the United States, there are more than 38 million people who are 65 years of age or older and this number is expected to more than double by 2050. For this reason, it is critical that we as a nation are prepared to meet and manage the needs of our aging population. We must work to educate people in the United States on the impact of aging and the importance of knowing the options available to seniors when they need assistance to meet their personal needs.

In 2006, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported a total of 767,000 paid personal and home care aides providing more than 835 million hours of care to a senior population of 38 million. These statistics speak to the point that seniors prefer to remain in their homes if their needs are met with affordable and safe homecare. I firmly believe the longer a senior is able to provide for his or her own care, the less burden is placed on public payment systems in state and federal governments.

This important concurrent resolution pledges to study the needs of an aging population and seeks alternatives which can make caregiving more affordable. Moreover, this resolution importantly recognizes the caregivers who provide these homecare services. This resolution will draw attention to our everyday heroes who enhance the lives of our senior population. This resolution also focuses on those caregivers who are excited to have an employment opportunity to work with our seniors.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the three national associations who are supportive of this legislation: National Family Caregivers Association; the National Association for Home Care and Hospice; and the National Private Duty Association. These three groups illustrate the widespread support for this resolution amongst the caregiver community.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 59 is an important step in recognizing the important work of caregivers. I encourage my colleagues to support this important concurrent resolution.

NATIONAL PRIVATE DUTY ASSOCIATION,
Indianapolis, IN, July 1, 2008.

The National Private Duty Association formally endorses the Concurrent Resolution which Home Instead Senior Care has circulated. This Resolution does an excellent job of promoting the goals and ideals of senior caregiving and affordability.

The National Private Duty Association is supportive of the intent of this Resolution which is to increase the visibility of senior caregivers in a positive manner. Moreover, the National Private Duty Association believes the six recommendations listed in the Resolution are important steps forward in our effort to educate the public on senior caregiving.

We encourage other associations to support this Resolution effort and we look forward to becoming a part of the coalition in support of this. I would be happy to discuss the merits of this Resolution at any time.

Sincerely,

SHEILA McMACKIN,
President,
National Private Duty Association.

NATIONAL FAMILY
CAREGIVERS ASSOCIATION,
Kensington, MD, September 1, 2008.

PHYLLIS HEGSTROM,
Secretary of Industry Affairs, Home Instead,
Omaha, NE.

DEAR PHYLLIS: The National Family Caregivers Association supports your resolution to bring attention to the work of the private pay homecare industry. Although family caregivers provide 80% of all longterm care services, we can't do it alone. We need a healthy homecare industry that we can turn to for help on a regular or intermittent basis.

As the country continues to age, and as the number of people 85 and older increases, the ability of our nation to support caregiving in the home will increase exponentially. Given that services to assist people with activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living are not covered by Medicare, and long-term care insurance is not a realistic solution for many Americans, it is incumbent on all of us to work together to find solutions to the problems that face us individually and as a nation.

Thank you for making this effort on behalf of families, homecare providers, and the caregivers who are the lifeblood of your industry.

Sincerely,

SUZANNE MINTZ,
President/Co-founder.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR
HOME CARE & HOSPICE,
Washington, DC, December 1, 2008.

PHYLLIS HEGSTROM,
Secretary of Industry Affairs, Home Instead
Senior Care, Omaha, NE.

DEAR PHYLLIS: The National Association for Home Care & Hospice is the nation's largest organization that advocates on behalf of providers of home care and hospice services, their employees, and their clients. We congratulate you and heartily endorse your efforts to secure enactment of a Congressional resolution that supports family and professional caregivers, calls for continued funding for programs that provide vital community-based services, and recommends broader education of the public and policymakers on the needs of our growing senior population.

In recent years our nation's health care needs have changed considerably, and one of our greatest challenges at this time is the development of more effective means of caring for individuals with multiple chronic conditions. This challenge can only be effectively met by greater emphasis on the services and supports that allow our population to enjoy maximum functioning in the least restrictive environment possible. For most individuals, that environment is the home. We strongly support any efforts that help to raise awareness and expand access to home and community-based services, as well as to ease the burden on informal caregivers.

Many thanks for your commitment to the disabled and infirm citizens of our nation. Please feel free to call upon us if we can be of any assistance to you.

Sincerely,

VAL J. HALAMANDARIS,
President.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests

for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my support for this concurrent resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support its passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 59, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO REDUCE INFANT MORTALITY

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 260) supporting efforts to reduce infant mortality in the United States, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 260

Whereas the infant mortality rate of a nation is an important indicator of that nation's overall health;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have found that the United States ranked 29th in the world in infant mortality in 2004, falling from 12th in 1960;

Whereas there are more than 28,000 deaths to children under 1 year of age each year in the United States;

Whereas preterm birth has a considerable impact on the United States infant mortality rate, in 2005, 68.6 percent of all infant deaths occurred to preterm infants, up from 65.6 percent in 2000;

Whereas the United States infant mortality rate for non-Hispanic Black women was 2.4 times the rate for non-Hispanic White women in 2005;

Whereas in 2005, the United States infant mortality rates were above average for non-Hispanic Black women at 13.63 deaths per 1,000 live births, for Puerto Rican women at 8.30 deaths per 1,000 live births, and for American Indian or Alaska Native women at 8.06 deaths per 1,000 live births;

Whereas in Memphis, Tennessee, the infant mortality rate is three times higher than that of the United States (higher than any other city in the country), and the 2005 infant mortality rate in the 38108 zip code of Memphis was deadlier for babies than that of the countries of Vietnam, Iran, and El Salvador with 31 deaths per 1,000 live births, 5 times that of the 2005 national average of 6.86 deaths per 1,000 live births;

Whereas adequate prenatal care has a studied, positive effect on the health of the baby;

Whereas prenatal care is one of the most important interventions for ensuring the health of pregnant women and their infants;

Whereas 29 percent of mothers 15 to 19 years of age received no early prenatal care

in 2004 according to the Department of Health and Human Services;

Whereas non-Hispanic Black mothers were 2.6 times more likely than non-Hispanic White mothers to begin prenatal care in the third trimester, or not receive prenatal care at all;

Whereas babies born to mothers who received no prenatal care are three times more likely to be born at low birth weight, and five times more likely to die, than those whose mothers received prenatal care, as stated by the Department of Health and Human Services;

Whereas the United States' high infant mortality rate reflects in part racial disparities in premature and low birthweight babies; and

Whereas the racial disparities in infant mortality may relate to socioeconomic status, access to medical care, and the education level of the mother: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives supports efforts to understand racial disparities and the rate of infant mortality in order to lower the rate of infant mortality in the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 260, a resolution that supports efforts to reduce infant mortality in the United States.

The United States amazingly enough ranks 29th in the world in the incidence of infant mortality. That is a shocking figure. And while there are a lot of reasons for infant mortality—there's education, there's health care, there are certain other issues that may be existent—health care is the primary one. And as we discuss health care in this Congress, it is hard to submit looking at the United States being 29th in the world in infant mortality, that we don't have a problem somewhere with our health care system.

The extremely high incidence of infant death in the African American community is particularly troubling. In Shelby County, Tennessee, the county which I represent, African American babies die at three times the Nation's infant mortality rate. Prematurity is the number one cause of infant death in the United States, accounting for at least 60 percent of those deaths. Poor women are much more likely to deliver a premature or a low-weight baby as they cannot afford prenatal care or are simply not educated about what is required for women during pregnancy or have access to health clinics or inner-