

COMMENDING THE WORK OF THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO'S BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE ON ADULT HEALTH COVERAGE EXPANSION

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, the national healthcare reform bill passed by this Congress was an historic achievement that will improve the lives of millions of Americans. This reform would not have been possible without the tireless efforts and advocacy of so many individuals and organizations across the country, including local governments whose own healthcare initiatives improved access to medical care and advanced the cause of nationwide reform.

That is why I commend the County of San Mateo's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Adult Health Coverage Expansion. A broad-based coalition comprised of representatives from healthcare providers, labor, chambers of commerce, local governments, and community advocacy groups, the Task Force achieved meaningful gains in the quality and efficiency of San Mateo County's healthcare delivery system and expanded health coverage to more than 2,000 previously uninsured adults through the Access to Coverage for All program. Originally funded in-part through a federal grant, this program has since become a mainstay of the effort to expand access to healthcare in the county.

The work of this Task Force is an enduring symbol of the compassion, commitment, dedication and talent of the residents of San Mateo County and the 12th Congressional District, whom I am fortunate and honored to represent. Madam Speaker, I commend the County of San Mateo's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Adult Health Coverage Expansion for its leadership in helping to solve one of our nation's most pressing issues, and for its courage to think globally and to act locally.

HONORING MARVIN AVERY PALMORE CENTER FOR HOPE, INC. FOR THEIR EXTRAORDINARY WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a nonprofit organization that serves my district, Marvin Avery Palmore Center for Hope, Inc.

Center for Hope has demonstrated an overwhelming amount of commitment to serving the Long Island community. My constituents rely on our nonprofits for the vital services they offer. These organizations' continuous acts of selfless efforts are admirable.

I am proud to honor Marvin Avery Palmore Center for Hope, Inc. for their extraordinary work in the community.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF EARTH DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this resolution to honor one of Wisconsin's greatest Senators, the late Gaylord Nelson, the founder of Earth Day. Tomorrow, we will celebrate the 40th anniversary of this important day, and just as Senator Nelson envisioned, people across the country will reflect on the importance of conservation and environmental stewardship.

When Gaylord Nelson founded Earth Day 40 years ago, environmental protection was an issue of little importance to most Americans. Today, I know he would be proud to see how far we've come. Thanks to his foresight and leadership, environmental stewardship is one of the top issues in American politics and society.

Not only has the issue risen here in Washington, but now American citizens and businesses large and small are doing their part to protect our environment and create the innovative industries of the future. Public and private investment in green technology and renewable energy can reduce our dependence on foreign oil, re-invigorate our economy, and create new jobs. In fact, the area I represent in western Wisconsin has abundant natural resources that could help the area become a leader in clean energy innovation.

As we celebrate the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, it is important to realize that as good stewards of the planet, we must work to do our part to conserve energy, restore our environment and take care of this place we call home. We can all do more to lower our carbon footprints. Simple steps such as using energy-saving light bulbs, increasing the sustainability of our homes, carpooling with others in the neighborhood, and recycling our trash are all important ways we can lessen our energy consumption and preserve our environment for future generations.

Senator Nelson's legacy is alive and well today, especially in Wisconsin and I will continue to carry it forward in Congress and I hope that people in western Wisconsin and across the country will remember it in the work they do and the way they lead their lives. Together we ensure a safe, clean, and abundant natural world for our children.

THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL: A LEGACY OF SERVICE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2009–2010 Congressional Youth Advisory Council. This year 45 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 9 through 12 made their voices heard and made a difference in their communities, their country and their Congress.

These students volunteered their time, effort, and talent to inform me about the important issues facing their generation. As young leaders within their communities and their schools, these students boldly represent the promise and the hope we all have for their very bright future.

President Ronald Reagan said, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

To ensure that the blessing of freedom is passed from one generation to the next, the members of the CYAC spent time interviewing a veteran and documenting the experience for the "Preserving History Project." Today I'm proud to submit the brief summaries provided so the patriotic service of our dedicated veterans and the thoughtful work of the CYAC may be preserved for antiquity in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. A copy of each submitted student summary follows.

To each member of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, thank you for making this year and this group a success. It is not a coincidence that this congressional tribute celebrates two generations of service. Each of you is trusted with the precious gift of freedom.

You are the voices of the future and I salute you. God bless you and God bless America.

The summary follows:

Mr. Marcus Poe is a combat veteran of World War II. He was born in rural Oklahoma. At the time of his enlistment, he was married with two children (Mark and Marcia), and was attending Tulsa Business College, majoring in secretary and accounting. He served for 22 months, from 1944 to 1945. He was in the United States Air Force and was a nose gunner on a B-24 fighter plane. Beginning at the rank of private, he eventually became a sergeant. He served in the 436th unit bomb group in the 15th Air Force. He received basic training in multiple states, such as Oklahoma and Texas. Afterwards, he was stationed in Cerignola, Italy, where he flew missions every third day. He had confirmed hits and was never shot down. He returned home on November 3, 1945, a few months after the atomic bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima that resulted in VJ Day. He moved to Texas in 1970 to be with his son Marcus, and retired in July of 1987, having never been unemployed for a day in his life. He is now 89 years old, and still goes about his daily lifestyle with ease.—Yu-Chun Lin

HONORING ADELANTE OF SUFFOLK COUNTY INC. FOR THEIR EXTRAORDINARY WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a nonprofit organization that serves my district, Adelante of Suffolk County Inc.

Adelante has demonstrated an overwhelming amount of commitment to serving the Long Island community. My constituents