

This bill repeals the funding for the Exchanges and eliminates that flexibility.

Repeal would deny Illinois and every other State the funding needed to setup a unique State solution for improving and fixing broken insurance markets.

This bill undermines the work already being done in Illinois and, given the State budget situation, will likely mean Illinois would be unable to run its own State-based health insurance Exchange.

In September, Illinois received a \$1 million grant to begin planning and establishing its Exchange.

Without funding to move to implementation, we won't have the resources to get our Exchange up and running and millions of Illinoisans will lose access to affordable, adequate health insurance coverage.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MAYOR
DEBORAH DUNCAN DuBOIS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 4, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Deborah Duncan DuBois, who passed away on April 30, 2011. Mrs. DuBois, known to family, friends and admirers as "Desca," was serving her second term as Mayor of the Town of Lake Park, Florida at the time of her death, having been re-elected without opposition. Mayor DuBois loved her town and Lake Park citizens loved her. Her dedication to good government was made clear by her longtime service on the town's Code Compliance Board, including six years as its chair, and her work with the Florida League of Cities. She also served on the League of Mayors and as one of the Palm Beach County League's Legislative Voting Delegates. Lake Park residents are also indebted to Mayor DuBois for helping to establish the local Historical Society, serving as its volunteer President for several years.

A native of Barnwell, South Carolina, Desca DuBois attended the University of South Carolina on a theater scholarship. She also studied at the Columbia Museum School and, most recently, attended Palm Beach Community College, where she was accepted to the Honor Society. Mayor DuBois was a professor at the prestigious American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York City, where she taught stage and theatrical movement. During her career, she also worked with the Educational TV Network in South Carolina and appeared on CBS Network Morning News.

Among her many talents, she was known as an accomplished artist, having presented a dozen solo art exhibits and participated in 34 group art shows. She was proud to have individual mural and major group mural projects in her curriculum vitae.

Mr. Speaker, Deborah Duncan DuBois was a truly remarkable lady who represented everything that is great about America. She was a credit to her town, my district and our nation. Her absence will be felt by everyone who appreciates good government, the arts and devotion to making our world a better place.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PRIVATE
BRANDON T. PICKERING

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 4, 2011

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Private First Class Brandon T. Pickering, from Ft. Thomas, Kentucky, who lost his life on April 10, 2011 from wounds he suffered while fighting enemy forces in Wardak Province, Afghanistan on April 8th.

A 2008 graduate of Highlands High School, Brandon joined the Army in September 2009.

After completing basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia he was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, based in Fort Polk, Louisiana. He deployed with his unit to Afghanistan in October of 2010.

His awards and decorations include: the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the NATO Medal and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Today, as we celebrate the life and accomplishments of this exceptional Kentuckian, my thoughts and prayers are with Brandon's family and friends, especially his parents.

We are all deeply indebted to Brandon Pickering for his service and his sacrifice. By giving his life for the freedom of others, we are reminded of the great price at which our freedom is preserved.

TRIBUTE TO JIM BAILEY

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 4, 2011

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the career of Jim Bailey, who has served the City of Plattsburgh, New York for almost two decades the city's historian. Jim stepped down from his post in April last month.

Jim has both kept and contributed to the history of the city of Plattsburgh—and our region as a whole—for almost two decades. A native of Elizabethtown, he is a true product of the North Country. After graduating from SUNY Albany, Jim taught at Beekmantown Central School for more than a decade and also served as an adjunct professor in Mathematics at Plattsburgh State.

Jim's dedication to his community is shown every day through his professional and personal relationships. He is well regarded throughout Clinton County and is spoke of highly by everyone he knows.

Through his steadfast resolve and dedication to preserve the past events of the City of Plattsburgh, Jim Bailey has become a part of its history.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude and congratulations to Jim Bailey upon his retirement as the history of the City of Plattsburgh for his years of service to those around him.

REPEALING MANDATORY FUNDING
FOR SCHOOL HEALTH CENTER
CONSTRUCTION

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1214) to repeal mandatory funding for school-based health center construction:

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chair, I voted against H.R. 1214, which would repeal the grants for the construction and expansion of school-based health centers. The Affordable Care Act included funding to expand school-based health programs across America so that we can provide better care for our children. Students who are healthy are ready to learn.

School-based health centers provide our children with quality, comprehensive care that includes mental health services, social services and preventative care. A survey conducted by the National Assembly on School-Based Health Care found that when properly funded, school-based health centers help fill the gap in access to health services, especially for rural and underserved populations.

These centers are accountable to their communities through an advisory board made up of local representatives, family organizations and parents. These programs bring health care to our kids and provide service without concern for whether or not they can afford it.

In my state of Oregon, we are part of the School Mental Health Capacity Building Partnership to examine and improve mental health programs to be used in school-based health centers. As an early-adopter state for these centers, Oregon was selected to be one of four states to lead the way on this research. This important work, focused on tailoring mental health care to better meet our children and youths needs, relies on the school-based health center funding and will be jeopardized by this legislation.

H.R. 1214 would prevent us from investing in our children and driving down future health care costs. At the start of this Congress, the only alternative the Republicans offered to the Affordable Care Act was a repeal-and-do-not-replace approach that is irresponsible at best.

The Affordable Care Act is not perfect, but Congress should be focused on implementing the Act, and refining—not repealing—its provisions. I oppose this legislation.

HONORING WILLIAM DOTSON—
WEST VIRGINIA AFFORDABLE
HOUSING HALL OF FAME IN-
DUCTEE

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 4, 2011

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a fellow West Virginian, William Dotson, who is the honored inductee of the West Virginia Affordable Housing Hall of Fame.

It is fitting that the community of housing professionals honor Bill because of his sterling