

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHIPACC BILL CHILDREN'S PROGRAM OF ALL-INCLUSIVE, COORDINATED CARE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about an issue of concern to all families, and everyone who has ever known a sick child.

The Children's Program of All-inclusive, Coordinated Care, ChiPACC, program serves the needs of Medicaid-eligible children who suffer from potentially terminal illnesses or conditions. The legislation I am introducing will make ChiPACC a state option under Medicaid.

Medicaid-eligible children—like all children who suffer from potentially terminal illnesses or conditions—need comprehensive, coordinated care. Currently, nearly 30 percent of the children in the United States who have life-threatening conditions qualify for Medicaid. These children are forced into a system that will only treat them on an emergency basis, sending them home to wait until their next health emergency.

Based on the highly effective, collaborative model of care developed by Children's Hospice International, CHI, the Children's Program of All-inclusive, Coordinated Care provides each enrolled child an individualized treatment plan that includes and manages services from providers across the health care spectrum. ChiPACC's services will improve upon the often inconsistent care that is currently available to seriously ill children under Medicaid, doing so at a savings to taxpayers.

With appropriate comprehensive and coordinated services under ChiPACC, many emergency episodes can be avoided or anticipated and managed, such that children receive appropriate care in their homes instead of in hospitals, and so that even when they require critical care they can enter the hospital through the front door instead of the emergency room, significantly reducing health care costs.

Under the former Medicaid model, individuals could receive only "hospice" services and only after their doctors give them a prognosis of six months to live. Children, however, are much more likely than adults to go in and out of terminal phases multiple times. No family should be forced to give up curative care for their child in order to receive services that are predicated on accepting that their child has no more than 6 months to live. I am very pleased that the Affordable Care Act amended this policy to allow curative care for Medicaid eligible children in hospice. But ChiPACC goes beyond curative care and combines medical and support services currently available in Medicaid with counseling, respite, and other care that have previously only been available as hospice services.

Please join me in sponsoring this very important legislation.

TO RECOGNIZE THE FAIRFAX COUNTY YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE AND THE 2012 FAIRFAX COUNTY FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME HONOREES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fairfax County Youth Football League and to congratulate the 2012 Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame honorees.

The importance of youth sports cannot be overstated. Participation in organized sports instills in our youth many values that will serve them well throughout life. These values include sportsmanship, teamwork, honesty, a sense of belonging, and maybe most important, the work ethic developed by striving for success and working to achieve a common goal. Organized youth sports also contribute to our society. Studies have shown a correlation between participation in sporting activities and increased academic performance. Some studies indicate that a reduction in gang activity can be partially attributed to refocusing at-risk children into organized, supervised activities such as youth sports.

I commend the Fairfax County Youth Football League for providing opportunities for our children to succeed and be a part of a team. I also congratulate the following students, coaches and community leaders who are being recognized at the 22nd Annual Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame:

Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame 2012 Inductees—Owen Schmitt (NFL Philadelphia Eagles, West Virginia University, Fairfax High School), Tom Verbanic (Fairfax High School and Westfield High School), and Angela Hay and Adam Wiles (Founder, Prince William County Clubs in FCYFL).

Football Official of the Year—Youth Sports—Kanyon MacRae (Fairfax County Football Officials Association).

Karl Davey Community Achievement Award—Jasmine Faubert (Volunteer, Herndon Optimist Club, FCYFL).

Tom Davis Meritorious Service Award—Taylor Dixon (Community Outreach Specialist, Neighborhood and Community Use).

Gene Nelson Commissioner of the Year Award—Derrick Spearman (Fort Hunt Youth Football and Cheerleading).

FCFHF \$1,500 Scholarship Recipients: Dymond Cooper (Edison HS), Matthew Pisarcik (Westfield HS), Evan Jacquez (Madison HS), Michael Tobias (West Springfield HS).

High School Players of the Year: Stephen Trivieri (Stone Bridge HS), Hayden Knudson (Hayfield HS), Devin Vandyke (South County HS), Ken Ekanem (Centreville HS), Erich "Hunter" Windmuller (Flint Hill School), John Byrd (Manassas Park HS).

High School Coaches of the Year: Gerry Pannoni (South County HS), Chris Haddock (Centreville HS).

Youth Sports Players of the Year: Aaron Lahah (Gainesville/Haymarket Football), Clark Thomas (VYI), Kenny Dodson (MYFL), Wiley Counts (VYI), Brandon Burdick (CYA), Hagan Biddison (SCAA), Brandon Hilton (Fort Belvoir Youth Sports), Hunter Baldwin (FHYAA), Wil-

liam Cusic (FHYAA), Zach Burdick (CYA), Nathanael Lomboy (APYFL), Benjamin Garcia (LFFL), Kyle Richbourg (SYA), Bryce Simpson (Alexandria Rec), Andrew Fall (BRYC), Tyler Scanlon (SYA).

Youth Sports Coaches of the Year: Thomas Digges (MYF), John Hetzer (MYF), Jim McGrath (VYI), Steve Ross (LFFL).

Youth Sports Cheerleaders of the Year: Lakyn Fearson (APYFL), Agnis Alessandrino (Herndon Optimists), Samantha Culin (SYI), Graciela Perez (SYA), Keenan Patricia Parker (VYI).

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Fairfax County Youth Football League as well as those students, coaches and community leaders who are being honored at this 2012 Hall of Fame celebration.

MORE DEMOCRATIC SETBACKS IN UKRAINE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last week, former Ukrainian Interior Minister Yuriy Lutsenko was sentenced to four years imprisonment in yet another politically motivated trial. This comes after the imprisonment—also the result of an unfair trial on specious charges—of his ally, former Prime Minister Yuliya Tymoshenko, who continues to languish in prison in ill health.

The sentencing of Mr. Lutsenko is a further confirmation that the regime of President Viktor Yanukovich is not taking its OSCE human rights and democracy obligations seriously. The imprisonment of opposition leaders Tymoshenko and Lutsenko prohibits their participation in October's parliamentary elections, raising serious questions about whether Ukraine will meet OSCE election standards. This could be especially troubling given Ukraine's assumption of the OSCE Chairmanship in January, 2013, two months after these elections. As Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, it is also of concern to me and my colleagues, who have long advocated an independent, democratic, and free Ukraine.

Mr. Lutsenko's conviction is disconcerting in that it starkly illustrates the deterioration of human rights, democracy and the rule of law under the presidency of Viktor Yanukovich, who has pressed the pause button on Ukraine's once-promising advance towards democracy—and increasingly it seems he is switching to the reverse button. Instead, what we now see is something increasingly reminiscent of the kind of authoritarianism that exists in Russia, Belarus and elsewhere in the post-Soviet space.

Ukraine's democratic backsliding is harming relations with the EU and the United States, and both have repeatedly made clear that for relations to improve, respect for human rights and the democratic process must improve. Most importantly, this now two-year deterioration negatively affects the Ukrainian people, who, following the Orange Revolution, had tasted the fruits of freedom, and are now increasingly experiencing the burden of its undoing.

It is time for President Yanukovich to show respect for the dignity of his own people by