

today, and their families face many hardships, many challenges, and this ought to be a priority. It's something that everyone in this body should embrace, and I'd like to commend you for standing up for our men and women in uniform and their families. Thank you very much.

□ 1820

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I just simply want to thank both the staff of the Financial Services Committee as well as the House Veterans Affairs Committee for all their work in this legislation and putting this together. I hope we can pass this bill to help all the families of our service men and women.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MINNICK. I would like to thank the gentleman from Alabama for his remarks and the gentleman from Minnesota for his leadership.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. MINNICK) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6058.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING SICKLE CELL DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1663) supporting the goals and ideals of Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1663

Whereas Sickle Cell Disease is an inherited blood disorder that is a major health problem in the United States and worldwide;

Whereas Sickle Cell Disease causes the rapid destruction of sickle cells, which results in multiple medical complications, including anemia, jaundice, gallstones, strokes, and restricted blood flow, damaging tissue in the liver, spleen, and kidneys, and death;

Whereas Sickle Cell Disease causes episodes of considerable pain in one's arms, legs, chest, and abdomen;

Whereas Sickle Cell Disease affects an estimated 70,000 to 100,000 Americans;

Whereas approximately 1,000 babies are born with Sickle Cell Disease each year in the United States, with the disease occurring in approximately 1 in 500 newborn African American infants, 1 in 1,000 newborn Hispanic Americans, and is found in persons of Greek, Italian, East Indian, Saudi Arabian, Asian, Syrian, Turkish, Cypriot, Sicilian, and Caucasian origin;

Whereas more than 2,000,000 Americans have the sickle cell trait, and 1 in 12 African Americans carry the trait;

Whereas there is a 1 in 4 chance that a child born to parents who both have the sickle cell trait will have the disease;

Whereas the life expectancy of a person with Sickle Cell Disease is severely limited,

with an average life span for an adult being 45 years;

Whereas, though researchers have yet to identify a cure for this painful disease, advances in treating the associated complications have occurred;

Whereas researchers are hopeful that in less than two decades, Sickle Cell Disease may join the ranks of chronic illnesses that, when properly treated, do not interfere with the activity, growth, or mental development of affected children;

Whereas Congress recognizes the importance of researching, preventing, and treating Sickle Cell Disease by authorizing treatment centers to provide medical intervention, education, and other services and by permitting the Medicaid program to cover some primary and secondary preventative medical strategies for children and adults with Sickle Cell Disease;

Whereas the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Inc. remains the preeminent advocacy organization that serves the sickle cell community by focusing its efforts on public policy, research funding, patient services, public awareness, and education related to developing effective treatments and a cure for Sickle Cell Disease; and

Whereas the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, Inc. has requested that the Congress designate September as Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month in order to educate communities across the Nation about sickle cell and the need for research funding, early detection methods, effective treatments, and prevention programs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month; and

(2) promotes education of teachers, school nurses, and school personnel in educational strategies such as distance learning and tutoring that will ensure children with Sickle Cell Disease can continue to access and pursue their education.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Hawaii.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1663 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Hawaii?

There was no objection.

Ms. HIRONO. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1663, which supports the designation of the month of September as Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month. Sickle cell disease is an inherited blood disorder that affects between 70,000 and 100,000 Americans and many more around the world.

While there is no cure, there have been recent advancements in the search, giving hope to millions affected by the disease. Researchers believe that with continued research and funding, sickle cell disease may become more manageable within the next two decades and no longer interfere with

the activity, growth, or mental development of those affected. In addition, education and public awareness can play a critical role in fighting the disease, as early diagnosis can often help those who suffer from sickle cell disease manage its effects.

I want to thank Representative FUDGE for introducing this resolution. Once again, I express my support for House Resolution 1663, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

Two million Americans have the sickle cell trait, including 1 in 12 African-Americans. Children born to parents with the sickle cell trait have a 1 in 4 chance of having the disease.

Sickle cell disease is devastating to those who suffer from it. The rapid destruction of sickle cells can result in anemia, jaundice, gallstones, strokes, and possible liver, spleen and kidney damage. As a result, individuals with the disease often experience considerable pain in their arms, legs, chest, and abdomen as well as shortened life spans.

Once again I express my support for House Resolution 1663 which designates the month of September as Sickle Cell Awareness Month. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1663, supporting the goals and ideals of Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month.

Sickle cell anemia is a serious disease in which the body makes sickle-shaped red blood cells. Sickle shaped means that the red blood cells are shaped like the letter "C." Normal red blood cells are disc shaped and look like doughnuts without holes in the center. They move easily through your blood vessels. Red blood cells contain the protein hemoglobin. This iron-rich protein gives blood its red color and carries oxygen from the lungs to the rest of the body. Sickle cells contain abnormal hemoglobin that causes the cells to have a sickle shape. Sickle-shaped cells do not move easily through your blood vessels. They are stiff and sticky and tend to form clumps and get stuck in the blood vessels. The clumps of sickle cells block blood flow in the blood vessels that lead to the limbs and the organs. Blocked blood vessels can cause pain, serious infections, and organ damage.

This disease affects an estimated 70,000 to 100,000 people in this country. Approximately 1,000 babies are born with sickle cell disease each year in the United States. More than 2 million Americans have the sickle cell trait, and 1 in 12 African Americans carry the trait. There is a 1 in 4 chance that a child born to parents who have the trait will have the disease. The life expectancy of a person with sickle cell disease is about 45 years of age. Researchers have yet to find a cure for this disease. However, there is hope that sickle cell disease, when properly treated like other chronic diseases, will not interfere with activity,

growth, and development of affected children.

Today we recognize the importance of prevention, treatment, research, and education on sickle cell disease and support the designation of September as Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I simply want to close by saying that this is primarily a disease of African Americans. For years it has been known that they tend to have, by far, the largest number of sickle cells in their bodies; and, therefore, there is a real demand, a great need to find out what the source of this disease is and what can be done to prevent it because it has a dramatic affect on the African Americans in our Nation. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HIRONO. In closing, I too want to ask my colleagues to support this important resolution, as it affects so many thousands and thousands of people, particularly the African American community.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1663.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH 2010

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1637) supporting the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2010 and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should continue to raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States and its devastating effects on families and communities, and support programs and practices designed to prevent and end domestic violence, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1637

Whereas domestic violence affects people of all ages as well as racial, ethnic, gender, economic, and religious backgrounds;

Whereas females are disproportionately victims of domestic violence;

Whereas 6 in 10 Native American women will be physically assaulted in their lifetimes;

Whereas on average, more than 3 women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends in the United States every day;

Whereas approximately 40 to 60 percent of men who abuse women also abuse children;

Whereas approximately 15,500,000 children are exposed to domestic violence every year;

Whereas children exposed to domestic violence are more likely to attempt suicide, abuse drugs and alcohol, run away from home, and engage in teenage prostitution;

Whereas a large study found that men exposed to physical abuse, sexual abuse, and adult domestic violence as children were almost 4 times more likely than other men to have perpetrated domestic violence as adults;

Whereas women ages 16 to 24 experience the highest rates, per capita, of intimate partner violence;

Whereas approximately 1 in 3 adolescent girls in the United States is a victim of physical, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds victimization rates for other types of violence affecting youth;

Whereas teen girls who are physically and sexually abused are up to 6 times more likely to become pregnant, and more than 2 times as likely to report a sexually transmitted disease, than teen girls who are not abused;

Whereas 1,500,000 high school students nationwide experienced physical abuse from a dating partner in a single year;

Whereas young people who are physically abused perform worse in school;

Whereas adolescent girls who reported dating violence were 60 percent more likely to report one or more suicide attempts in the past year;

Whereas primary prevention programs are a key part of addressing teen dating violence, and many successful community examples include education, community outreach, and social marketing campaigns that account for the cultural appropriateness of programs;

Whereas one-quarter to one-half of domestic violence victims report that they have lost a job due, at least in part, to domestic violence;

Whereas the annual cost of lost productivity due to domestic violence is estimated at \$727,800,000 with over 7,900,000 paid workdays lost per year;

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2003, the costs of intimate partner violence exceed \$8,300,000,000 and \$1,200,000,000 in the value of lost lives;

Whereas even 5 years after the abuse has ended, health care costs of women with a history of intimate partner violence remain 20 percent higher than those for women with no history of violence;

Whereas in addition to the immediate trauma caused by abuse, domestic violence contributes to a number of chronic health problems, including depression, alcohol, substance abuse, and sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS, and often limits the ability of women to manage other chronic illnesses such as diabetes and hypertension;

Whereas men are the perpetrators in at least 85 percent of domestic violence cases and prevention programs should address their needs;

Whereas research demonstrates that men are willing to help prevent violence against women, particularly through shaping the attitudes of younger men and boys;

Whereas a multi-State study shows that domestic violence shelters are addressing victims' urgent and long-term needs and are helping victims protect themselves and their children;

Whereas there is a need to increase funding for programs aimed at intervening and preventing domestic violence in the United States; and

Whereas individuals and organizations that are dedicated to preventing and ending do-

mestic violence should be recognized: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the House of Representatives—

(A) supports the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month; and

(B) recognizes the National Safe Child Initiative as an awareness-raising campaign to educate the public about the prevalence and problem of child abuse, and commends the National Safe Child Coalition for bringing awareness to and working to protect children from batterers; and

(2) it is the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should continue to raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States and its devastating effects on families and communities, and support programs designed to end domestic violence.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Hawaii.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1637 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Hawaii?

There was no objection.

Ms. HIRONO. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1637, which supports the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month to be recognized this October. National Domestic Violence Awareness Month is an important time to raise awareness of domestic violence and its devastating effects on our families and communities. In addition, this month offers organizations, social workers, and public officials a chance to spread the word about the resources which help victims seek the help they desperately need.

I would like to thank Representatives POE and GREEN for introducing this important measure. And once again, I express my support for House Resolution 1637.

Domestic violence is defined as the willful intimidation, assault, battery, sexual assault or other abusive behavior perpetrated by an intimate partner against another. It is an epidemic that affects women, men, and children in every community regardless of age, sex, economic status, nationality, or educational background.

One in four women and one in six men will be victims of domestic violence in their lifetime, and 15½ million children are abused every year. Children exposed to domestic violence are more likely themselves to commit acts of domestic violence when they are adults, and to commit suicide, abuse drugs, and engage in teenage prostitution. It is critical that our communities have the resources they need both to help prevent domestic violence from occurring and to support victims when abuse has occurred.

During this month, communities and groups nationwide hold events to increase awareness