A TRIBUTE TO A GREAT SURGEON GENERAL

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, it was just a little over 3 years ago that a former staffer of mine, Antonia Novello, was before the Labor and Human Resources Committee for her confirmation hearing as Surgeon General of the United States. I am proud of what she did on my staff, but even more proud of what she contributed to the Nation.

She served her country well, not only as Surgeon General of the U.S. Public Health Service, but in other capacities as well. She served as one of the Federal health chiefs, the Veterans' Administration Chief and Surgeon General of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, and a member of the U.S. delegation to the World Health Organization.

But was her service as Surgeon General that brought her the most satisfaction and generated for all of us a great health agenda.

Toni Novello's desire to have the best health care for all Americans probably began as she was growing up in Puerto Rico. She came from a small town. Her father died when she was a child. Her mother, a school principal, instilled in her the right values, to help others less fortunate. She brought those values with her to her new home in the United States.

Mr. President, I would like to outline a few of her many contributions. She saw the problems and tried to address them as this country's 14th Surgeon General.

A MAJOR HEALTH ISSUE TODAY

One of the major health hazards facing us today is the menace of AIDS—and how to put a stop to this horrible disease.

No other public health problem in modern history has had the impact that HIV-AIDS is having on everyone in our society—but especially on our youth. Young people who engage in unprotected sex at an early age and with multiple partners, and those who use alcohol and other drugs are at special risk for HIV transmission.

Surgeon General Toni Novello has spoken out about the challenge to come up with solutions to this killer, but she is hesitant to advocate abstinence as the best prevention. She is taken her story all over this country and in numerous other countries.

As Surgeon General, she chaired the PHS Panel on Women, Adolescents, and Children with HIV infection and AIDS and has provided HHIS with pertinent information that will help guide policy. She is currently finishing a report on adolescents and HIV-AIDS for use in every State and local community.

WOMEN'S HEALTH

Dr. Novello has always emphasized that the health of our Nation's families is dependent on the health of women. She has been particularly concerned about the prevalence of domestic violence, something hardly recognized as a health problem before she brought it to the forefront.

Her reports indicate that there were more women who died of violent attacks by men than there were soldiers who died during the entire Vietnam War. And sadly, violence perpetuates more violence; children of violent parents are much more likely to become violent spouses themselves.

As Surgeon General, Dr. Novello tried to get some answers to some very distressing statistics: Every year 250,000 women die of heart disease. It is known that heart disease is the second leading cause of death for women; and, after age 65, it is the leading cause.

Breast and lung cancer are two killers of women. Breast cancer remains the leading cause of death in women ages 46 to 44. But, early detection can increase disease-free survival by 96 percent.

And while Toni has asked women to start to take control of breast cancer by early screening, she has also warned women to stop smoking in order to defeat lung cancer. Lung cancer has surpassed breast cancer as the leading cause of cancer among women. And, Dr. Novello believes prosmoking advertising is pushing that death toll even higher.

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH

In private life, Toni is a pediatrician, so it is no surprise that child and adolescent health is a cornerstone of her agenda. She's been active in many children's organizations and campaigns throughout the world to help give children's health the importance it should have. She participated in a children's vaccination program in her native Puerto Rico and throughout much of the United States.

ALCOHOL—ILLEGAL UNDERAGE DRINKING

In addition, Dr. Novello has pointed out the danger of teen drinking. Ten million adolescents drink alcohol, including 90 percent of our high school students. This serious health problem has been underscored wherever Toni has spoken. She has been a tireless crusader on this subject. As a result, many teenagers are beginning to recognize the dangers of disease and injury caused by alcohol consumption and have taken steps to stop or curtail their drinking.

Likewise, she has tried to put a halt to underage smoking. She has been a leading critic of the tobacco industry's attempts to corner the youth market with the use of cartoon characters and other promiscuous devices.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY-RELATED ASSISTANCE ACT

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, yesterday the Senate passed legislation to reauthorize two programs that are of vital importance to thousands of Americans with disabilities: the Developmental Disabilities Act and the Technology-Related Assistance Act. I was pleased to be a cosponsor of these measures.

I want to congratulate Senator Hatch, chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Disability Policy, and Senator Durenberger, the ranking minority member, on developing legislation that has won broad support from the disability community as well as the unanimous support of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee. I sincerely appreciate their leadership in this area.

As some of my colleagues may know, I have an active advisory committee in Utah on disability issues. The committee is made up of representatives from virtually all the State's public and nonprofit organizations with interest and expertise in these matters. I have relied heavily on their advice, and I have appreciated the opportunity to discuss their recommendations with

MINORITY HEALTH

Dr. Novello was among the first Surgeons General to focus on the health care needs of minorities in America and the first Surgeon General to convene a national workshop on intra-Asian American and Latino health. She successfully developed five health concerns critical to the Hispanic community. A comprehensive research, health promotion, and disease prevention agenda was developed. Five regional meetings have taken place, and from those meetings health strategies and agendas pertinent to those living in the regions were developed.

Toni Novello has also been active in health programs devoted to organ donations, mental health, aging, and farm safety.

It is no wonder that I, like millions of Americans, am very proud of Toni Novello.

With the office of Surgeon General comes a great and somber responsibility for health matters, but Toni has managed to keep her sense of humor. By virtue of her vibrant and refreshing personality, I believe Toni has been an inspiration to all of us who sometimes need reassurance more than lectures and positivism more than doom and gloom. Toni managed to stay very down-to-earth, while at the same time, pursuing a necessary agenda and accomplishing all she did in such a very down-to-earth, while at the same time, pursuing a necessary agenda and accomplishing all she did in such a
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Senator HARKIN and Senator DURENBERGER as this legislation was being developed. I have joined as a cosponsor of the amendment and extend their recommendation. I do, however, want to take this opportunity to share with the Members of the Committee the observations of that Senator from Iowa and the Senator from Minnesota to work with me on these provisions.

However, in expanding the role of the P&A, I believe that the P&A is aimed at guardianship of a few who cannot speak for themselves; and, to the extent that the taxpayers' money pays for the P&A, I am concerned about the best interests of the taxpayers to have the P&A helping to provide proper oversight of these programs.

I appreciate the willingness of the Senator from Iowa and the Senator from Minnesota to work with me on these provisions, but I do not turn the program against itself. A dedicated P&A organization can ensure the efficacy of the programs, an out-of-control P&A can eat up precious resources in unnecessary litigation and destroy the credibility of institutions and the program itself.

There was no consensus on the Utah Advisory Committee that the P&A function was necessary and worthwhile, there were many opinions on how it should be structured in this legislation.

We have adopted these provisions, which are strongly supported by many organizations in the disability community, but not the entire disability community. I believe we should give the provisions for an expanded P&A role in both the DD and Tech Acts a chance to work. But I also believe that we should not be reticent to make changes of these changes do not work the way we intend them to work.

Mr. President, again, I want to complement my colleagues on the Labor and Human Resources Committee, Senators HARKEN and DURENBERGER, as well as their staffs, Bob Silverstein and Susan Heegaard, for the fair and efficient manner in which they worked on this legislation. I believe that the BLM was not serving the lease-holding public by arbitrarily taking time off in the middle of the afternoon.

It is clear to me that the P&A is aimed at guardianship of a few who cannot speak for themselves; and, to the extent that the taxpayers' money pays for the P&A, I am concerned about the best interests of the taxpayers to have the P&A helping to provide proper oversight of these programs.

However, in expanding the role of the P&A, it is equally important that we do not turn the program against itself. A dedicated P&A organization can ensure the efficacy of the programs; an out-of-control P&A can eat up precious resources in unnecessary litigation and destroy the credibility of institutions and the program itself.

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