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House of Representatives

Rep. Michael C. Burgess

Extension of Remarks

June 23, 2011

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the National Library of Medicine. What began in 1836 as a small collection of medical books on a shelf in the library of the U.S. Army Surgeon General is now the world's largest biomedical library. The National Library of Medicine, part of the National Institutes of Health, is located in Bethesda, Maryland.

Today, the National Library of Medicine is much more than a collection of books. The National Library of Medicine is dedicated to the innovative use of communications and medical information to enhance public access and understanding of human health as well as to provide valuable information resources for medical research. Whether it is serving to facilitate advances in medical technology, empowering the public to play an active role in managing health and health care, developing groundbreaking electronic health records, or responding to national emergencies with disaster management research, the National Library of Medicine is the world's most trusted resource for health information and innovation.

This historic anniversary is an opportunity to recognize the valuable contributions the National Library of Medicine has made to scientific discovery, health care delivery, and public health response. It is with great honor that I congratulate the National Library of Medicine on 175 years of excellence in medical and health information and look forward to seeing the positive effects its continuing innovation will have in the future.