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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Congress Delivers Gift of Health to Men on Valentine's Day!**

This Valentine's Day, February 14<sup>th</sup>, Congressman Randy "Duke" Cunningham is introducing legislation to establish an Office of Men's Health in the Department of Health and Human Services. There will be a press conference from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm in room H-144.

The office will be designed to monitor and coordinate efforts to improve the health and well-being of men by streamlining government efforts in the areas of prevention, health education, outreach, and research. The resultant progress in the areas of health research and disease prevention should significantly improve the health of men, boys, and their families. This office will mirror the existing Office of Women's Health, which has already saved improved the quality of life for hundreds of thousands of women. This is an issue of significant concern, especially for women who have fathers, husbands, sons, and brothers.

An Office of Men's Health will be well placed to coordinate outreach and awareness efforts on the federal and state levels, promote preventative health behaviors, and provide a vehicle whereby researchers on men's health can network and share information and findings.

Alarming statistics show that American men's health is at great risk and the lives of hundreds of thousands of men will continue to be threatened unless more attention is placed on the growing crisis in men's health. Men die 6 years younger than women, have a higher death rate for the 10 leading causes of death, are less likely to have health insurance, and less likely to see a physician or have regular check-ups. This crisis in men's health not only affects men but it also has tragic implications on their wives and families.

MHN was created in 1991 by nationally recognized men's advocates to provide a voice for those concerned about the growing men's health crisis. It is an informational and educational organization that recognizes men's health as a specific social concern and is committed to promoting issues affecting men's health and the health and well-being of their families.

For more information about the crisis in men's health or to learn more about the Office of Men's Health please visit our website: [www.menshealthnetwork.org/omh\\_talkpoints.html](http://www.menshealthnetwork.org/omh_talkpoints.html)

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