

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

AMERICA'S TRAVEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY: CONGRESSMAN ROTH'S VISION

HON. BARBARA F. VUCANOVICH

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, last January the members of the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus selected Congressman TOBY ROTH to be its new chairman. The wisdom of our choice is underscored by the fact that just 11 months later, TOBY ROTH has doubled the size of the caucus, to 305 members. Travel and Tourism is now the largest caucus in Congress.

This is but one measure of TOBY ROTH's tireless efforts to invigorate the caucus and to provide our Nation's \$400 billion travel and tourism industry with an effective voice on Capitol Hill. I applaud Chairman ROTH's efforts, because the travel and tourism industry, as vibrant as it is, very much needs an effective advocate within the Congress.

It is clear that with TOBY ROTH's energetic leadership, the caucus will meet this need. This same judgment also has been reached by the leadership of the travel and tourism industry. Two weeks ago, Congressman ROTH addressed the annual meeting of the Travel Business Roundtable, which is comprised of the Nation's top 100 travel industry executives.

TOBY ROTH's speech sets forth a clear vision and specific goals for the travel industry, our Nation's second largest employer. I urge all Members of the House to read his insightful address.

REMARKS BY CONGRESSMAN TOBY ROTH

It's an honor to be here, because in this room, we have the leaders of America's fastest growing, most dynamic industry. Last year, your companies brought in \$400 billion in revenues. That makes travel and tourism the second-largest industry in America.

The 44 million international visitors that come to use your facilities bring in \$78 billion in revenues. That means you generate 11 percent of all our exports. You employ 6 million people directly. And another 7 million jobs depend on you. So you account for 13 million American jobs. Do you know that today, there are 40 million children in this country under the age of 10. Over the next two decades, we have to find jobs for these people, or we will face a social and economic catastrophe.

When people ask where the jobs will be in the 21st century, the answer is: Travel and tourism. So you are vitally important to our country's future—and that's no overstatement. These figures are impressive, but when I say you are the most dynamic industry in America, I am really talking about you, as business people, as industry leaders and as a real force in the American economy. That's what has always impressed me about travel and tourism—the people.

What's more, that is what is attracting so many Members of Congress to our Travel and Tourism Caucus. In January, when I became chairman, we had 127 members. Today, we have 305—making Travel and Tourism the

largest caucus in Congress. We have had an aggressive organizing effort these past 10 months. But what has brought us the new members is really your industry. And on behalf of the caucus, I want to tell that we are ready to work with you.

But my friends, I must tell you something that you may not realize about your industry. After having worked for years in Capitol Hill for travel and tourism, I have come to the realization that the industry is a sleeping giant. The whole is not the sum of its parts. How many people in America know how big you are? How many Americans realize that you are the Nation's second-largest industry? And how many people in the media are writing about travel and tourism as the key element in our future economic growth? The answer is, not enough.

That's what makes this organization so important. Simply put, the industry needs you, and we in Congress need you. That's not to put down the current industry representation in Washington. Travel and tourism has a number of very effective voices in Washington, both in the companies and in the associations. I know them and I work with them. But the Travel Business Roundtable brings an ingredient that, frankly, has been missing: the active involvement of the industry leaders.

We need a sharper focus on a few top priorities. We need the clout and the access that you bring. And we need the visibility, in the media and in the Halls of Congress, that only top executives like you can attract. It is your active involvement that will set the roundtable apart—and make it an effective force for the industry. Later on in the agenda, you will focus on setting a couple of priorities. I think this is a wise course.

Success will come by taking a couple of issues—issues that really mean something to the industry—and concentrating your time and energy on winning those points. It's the same principle that each of you follows in your own business: focus, concentrate and win. Today I want to suggest what one of those priorities should be, and to propose a game plan for success. As we look to the future, the key question is: where will the growth come from? Today, travel and tourism is a \$400 billion industry—that's 6 percent of our GDP. Our task is to work together to insure that you become even bigger.

To reach that goal, the international market is critical. The industry cannot rely on the domestic travel market alone. That's the underlying message of the White House conference. One of the key recommendations is to strengthen our promotional efforts in the overseas market. As you all know better than I, promotion translates into revenues.

The White House conference proposed a "public-private partnership". The idea is to combine together the creativity and talents of the private sector with the resources of government—local, State and Federal—to better promote the United States as a travel destination. This is an urgent matter. Two years ago, we had 18 percent of the world market. Today, we have 16 percent.

This year, we will have 44 million international visitors. That's down 2 million from just 2 years ago. Yet the world market is growing steadily. It has tripled over the last 10 years, and will double again in the next 10. So we are losing share in a growing market.

The bottom line is: The industry won't grow if we keep on losing ground in the international travel market. And the hard reality is, with our current promotion effort, our share will keep on going down. It is projected to keep on going down, to less than 14 percent by the year 2000.

So the question is: How do we turn this around? And the answer is clear: A stronger, more creative promotion campaign. After all, we are being outclassed and outgunned by all of our major competitors. Our tourism promotion budget is \$16 million, a small fraction of what European countries spend. And we see the result in our declining market share. So the partnership concept was developed and ratified at the White House conference. I have taken that concept and drafted a bill.

In your folder, you have a copy of the bill, a summary and my comments from the Congressional Record. We already have support from the Clinton administration. And, thanks to an effective job by Tom Kershaw, Jon Tisch, Darryl, and a few others, we have support from Newt Gingrich and Bob Dole. But to get something enacted into law, much more needs to be done.

This is where you can play a key role, on a proposal that will bring tangible results to the industry. Now, you are all business people. That's where I come from—a business background. So I thought you would appreciate having a specific proposal for how the roundtable can play the critical role in winning enactment of this legislation. In your folders, you have a one-page "Game Plan for Enactment" of the Travel and Tourism Partnership Act. This lays out a strategy for winning enactment of the partnership plan by next summer. This game plan will work, if we work together and make this a priority.

The plan is to kick off the campaign with a big hearing by my subcommittee and the other House panel which has jurisdiction. This hearing is already in the planning stages. We would use this hearing to demonstrate what we could achieve through the partnership—in other words to show the kind of sophisticated, effective promotional effort that the private sector can produce. Building on that hearing, we would work together to corral the votes to get our bill through the two House committees and onto the House floor.

Just prior to the House floor vote, we would have a concentrated day of Capitol Hill visits by industry leaders. Once through the House, we would use the same strategy in the Senate, working with Senator Bryan, who is our lead Senate sponsor. The idea is to use your contacts and clout at the key points in the game. It would require two visits to Washington and some phone calls at the right time. The bottom line is that a well-conceived plan, together with a modest investment of your time and effort at the right points will win the game.

Let me close with a business proposition. If you will adopt this as a priority for the roundtable and make a commitment to this plan, then I will devote myself to this project in Congress. Together, we can win and achieve something that will bring credit to you and the travel business roundtable—and will be a major achievement for the future of the industry. If travel and tourism is a sleeping giant, then it's time for us to wake up that giant.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Together, we can make a difference for this great industry, for the millions of Americans who work in you companies, and for our country's future.

AMERICA WELCOMES PRIME MINISTER PERES

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome the remarks made earlier today by Prime Minister Shimon Peres before the joint session of Congress.

In appearing before the joint session, Prime Minister Peres joins a small group of foreign leaders who have been asked to speak before the combined House and Senate. Mr. Peres richly deserves this honor. He is the leader of Israel, one of our most important allies, and he now bears the heavy burden of following the footsteps of Yitzhak Rabin in promoting a strong Israel and a lasting peace in the Middle East.

While listening to Mr. Peres's tribute to Prime Minister Rabin, one could not help but remember the great loss suffered by the people of Israel and the cause of peace.

Although Rabin's leadership is sorely missed, I take heart in the thought that the cause of peace continues. Indeed, our most fitting tribute to Mr. Rabin would be a continued effort to promote peace, democracy, and freedom in the Middle East and across the globe.

The United States and Israel must continue to work together toward a brighter future; a future of peace and security. Israel, our steadfast ally in times of peace or war, deserves our strong support in pursuing this goal.

There is now a new impetus toward peace in the Middle East. We should not miss this opportunity to end the hatred and violence that have plagued that region. This would be a fitting legacy to Yitzhak Rabin and everyone who has sacrificed for a just peace.

SENIOR CITIZENS' RIGHT TO WORK ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 1995

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2684, the Senior Citizens Right to Work Act of which I am a cosponsor. This legislation increases the earnings limit of \$30,000 by 2002. It is fair legislation. It is fair to the long-term solvency of the Social Security trust fund by offsetting costs within the program. And, most importantly, it is fair to working seniors, allowing seniors to continue to work without being denied their Social Security benefits.

It is ludicrous that seniors in the work force are subject to this impractical and outdated procedure. Our seniors deserve more. It is time for Congress to vote for changes to this archaic practice of reducing Social Security benefits for seniors that continue to work after

the age of 65. We are robbing seniors of their right to support themselves and live with dignity. In many instances seniors stay in the work force out of necessity, not choice, and should be allowed to earn more without losing a portion of their earned Social Security benefits. The earnings test harms those individuals who do not have supplemental pension income for their retirement and need to work. Therefore, we are penalizing seniors who are trying to be self sufficient rather than rewarding beneficiaries who continue to work.

The Social Security earnings limit sends a message to the elderly community that we do not respect their ability to contribute in the work force after retirement. It is time to give seniors back their dignity. This Congress has already taken the first step with the passage of the Medicare Preservation Act which strengthens and protects the Medicare System and allows seniors access to the same type of health care services as offered to all Americans. By increasing the earnings limit to \$30,000 by the year 2002 seniors will be able to hold up their heads as they continue to work without fear of losing their earned Social Security benefits.

IN HONOR OF FRANCIS ALBERT SINATRA ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Hoboken's favorite native son, Francis Albert Sinatra, who will celebrate his 80th birthday on December 12, 1995. No voice in America today brings with it more sweet memories.

No speech could possibly do justice to the "Chairman of the Board." Sinatra has redefined American popular music with such classics as "Strangers in the Night," "Summer Wind," "The Lady Is a Tramp," "Witchcraft," "Young at Heart," "My Way" and countless others. Every generation of Americans from the late 1930's onward has been wowed by his magnetic voice and unique ability to tell a story through his music.

In addition, to a spectacular singing career, Sinatra has distinguished himself on the big screen, with starring roles in "The Manchurian Candidate," "From Here To Eternity" and "Pal Joey." His performance in "From Here to Eternity" earned him an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor in 1953. Prior to that, Sinatra earned a special Oscar for "The House I Live In," a sensitive documentary that made an eloquent plea for an end to all prejudice.

His accomplishments in the field of entertainment are legendary, but of equal importance, although less well known, are his charitable and philanthropic work. He has performed benefit concerts for among others, the Red Cross, the Palm Springs' Desert Hospital, the New York Police Athletic League, Cabrini Medical Center, the World Mercy Fund, and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Frank Sinatra is a cultural icon, but even more than that he is a hero to millions of Americans of all races and nationalities, most particularly, of course, to Italian-Americans. Please join me in honoring a true American legend, who will always be an honorary citizen

of Hoboken and the 13th Congressional District, on his 80th birthday.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF DR. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, November 28, 1995, at 2 p.m., the family and legions of friends gathered to acclaim the life of their beloved, Dr. George Kenneth Butterfield. A near centurion, he spent 95 years of life before God called him to rest and to reside in a place of total peace.

I regret that official business did not allow me to attend the celebration of Dr. Butterfield's life, however, he has left a lasting impression on me, and the principles which guided him now serve as guideposts for those he leaves behind.

Dr. Butterfield began his legacy in a foreign land, when he was born in St. George's, Bermuda, on February 9, 1900. He left Bermuda in search of a better life and migrated to the United States. He soon enlisted in the army and served in World War I before being honorably discharged on March 18, 1919. During his service, in the midst of a bitter, cold winter, he fought at the battle of Alsace-Lorraine in France.

Following military service, he attended and graduated from Shaw University in Raleigh, NC, and later attended and graduated, with a doctor of dental surgery degree, from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN. Upon graduating from dental school, however, he was not able to afford the equipment to establish a dental practice, and he worked for a period of time in maintenance at a hotel. Fate, however, joined him with an aging dentist in Henderson, NC, and a dental practice which spanned 50 years was launched.

An advocate of justice, equal treatment and fair play, Dr. Butterfield was on the cutting edge of many important changes throughout North Carolina. He fought for integration, pushed for voting rights, led the way in opening up employment opportunities and still managed time for important civic duties. Through it all, he remained a caring friend, a devoted family member, a loving brother, a committed father, and a dedicated husband.

May God comfort and help his family and friends to hold on to treasured yesterdays; and reach out with courage and hope for tomorrow, knowing that their beloved is with God. Death is not the end of life. It is the beginning of an eternal sleep. Rest, Brother George, you have labored long.

LEBANON MAYOR KENNETH COWAN DIES

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, a leading Missouri citizen, the mayor of Lebanon, and a good friend, Kenneth Cowan, died October 17, 1995. He was 79 years of age. During his tenure as mayor, Cowan led the city of Lebanon

into an era of major growth. He was known for his vision and devotion to duty.

Cowan had served on the city council during the administration of mayor Wallace Earp. Earp resigned on April 18, 1977, and Cowan was elected mayor in a special election on June 7, 1977. He was re-elected to office in 1980, 1984, 1988 and 1992.

He was born in Richland, Missouri where he graduated from high school. He attended Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield and served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II.

Cowan entered into public service in Richland in 1948 when he was elected to the city council. He served in that capacity 10 years. He moved to Lebanon in 1958 and bought Burley's Department Store, which he operated until he was elected mayor.

During his years in office, he received the support of Lebanon voters on key issues including a sales tax, transportation sales tax, and a capital improvements sales tax.

Mayor Cowan set a high standard for public service. His ability to lead and to get things done for his community should inspire those who follow. The people of Lebanon have lost an exceptional leader, and I have lost a friend.

DEVELOPMENTS IN LEBANON

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues a recent exchange of letters I had with the Department of State regarding the situation in Lebanon.

I wrote the State Department October 27 to express concerns about the extra-Constitutional means used to extend the term of the President of Lebanon and the role of Syria in this matter. The State Department replied December 5 indicating that our concerns over interference in Lebanon's Democratic processes have been expressed directly to the Syrians.

The correspondence follows:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC, December 5, 1995.

Hon. LEE HAMILTON,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. HAMILTON: On behalf of Secretary Christopher, I am writing in response to your letter of October 27, concerning the extension of Lebanese President Harawi's term and other developments in Lebanon.

We share entirely your view that our interests are served by a free and independent Lebanon, and we have firmly maintained that no peace in the Middle East will be lasting or comprehensive without an agreement between Israel and an independent Lebanon. In an effort to support this objective, we continue to do much to further Lebanese political reconciliation and lend support to the reconstruction of Lebanon's economy and institutions. Last year, we provided Lebanon approximately six million dollars in development assistance and half million dollars to support military training.

We agree that the growth of Lebanon's democratic political institutions requires free elections which the Lebanese people believe to be credible, and the results of which

can be accepted as credible. We have made this point very clear in public positions, and directly to the Governments of Lebanon and Syria. Indeed, Secretary Christopher's concern over interference in Lebanon's democratic process led him to make this point personally at senior levels of the Syrian government, as did other senior U.S. officials in the period leading up to President Harawi's extension. Despite our interest in maintaining Syrian engagement in peace negotiations with Israel, we are not conditioning our policy toward Lebanon on Syrian reaction.

Prime Minister Rabin's recent, tragic death only underscores the fragility of the process we wish to advance in the Middle East. But, as important as we hold the freedom and independence of Lebanon, this is not a goal we can pursue in a vacuum. Lebanon's future, its stability and independence, can only be assured through broader progress toward extending the circle of peace in the region.

We look forward to working with you and other members of Congress to ensure such progress, in Lebanon and the region, during the important year ahead.

Sincerely,

WENDY R. SHERMAN,
Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, October 27, 1995.

Hon. WARREN CHRISTOPHER,
Secretary of State, Department of State, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY, I write to express deep concerns about recent developments in Lebanon and to urge you and the President to speak out publicly in opposition to recent political developments in that country.

The Syrian decision to push for extra-Constitutional means to extend the term of President Harawi for three years undercuts Lebanon's independence. In addition, such a term extension will not be viewed as credible by a majority of the Lebanese people of all faiths who want to preserve Lebanon's independence and who wanted free elections this fall.

There are steps which the Lebanese can and must take to insure their future as a free and independent state. The national interest of the United States is served by a strong, free, and independent Lebanon. Conversely, our national interest is not helped when Lebanon is weak and its independence compromised. Therefore, I believe that it is incumbent upon us to disassociate ourselves from, and express opposition to, such manipulation of the political process in Lebanon. Millions of Lebanese inside the country, and around the world, are looking to the United States for leadership. Silence will send the wrong message to the entire region and only further undermine Lebanon's position.

Lebanon's independence will be eroded if the United States is silent when that very independence is threatened. The Taif Accords became dead letter in part because the United States did not speak out for implementation of the Accords when Syria moved to undercut them. We now risk further undermining that independence again.

United States policy toward, and statements on, Lebanon should not be conditioned by what we think might be the reaction in Syria. We should be acting on the basis of our own interests and what is best for Lebanon and the Lebanese people. On the face of it, this action to extend the President's term does not promote democracy in Lebanon, and

it goes against the wishes of the people. It should be condemned for what it is.

I appreciate your consideration of this letter and hope the United States will speak out on this matter.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

LEE H. HAMILTON,
Ranking Democratic Member.

IN HONOR OF MARIE BOLLINGER VOGT FOR HER PRODUCTION OF "NUTCRACKER" BALLET

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, for 55 years in Toledo, hundreds of young boys and girls have danced and scampered across area stages and dozens of principal dancers have graced the stage with their artistry in a yearly production of "The Nutcracker" ballet. Thousands of northwest Ohioans have delighted in the Christmastime event. A production of enormous proportion has been given to us through the vision and talent of one woman, Marie Bollinger Vogt, who I rise today to honor. This year's production will be her last. Marie is retiring as the artistic director of the Toledo Ballet Association, which she founded.

Intent on imbuing her own love of dance into youngsters, Marie founded the Toledo Ballet School over 50 years ago. Under her direction, the company has performed hundreds of productions throughout our region, "The Nutcracker" being its premiere performance. During her tenure, Marie brought to the school not only her own creative choreography but also that of internationally famous artists. She also brought to northwest Ohio world renowned dance companies and performers.

Altruistic as well as artistic, under Marie's direction, the Toledo Ballet Association is involved in community service. The company stages free performances in the schools and local public housing authority. One performance of "The Nutcracker" is presented at no cost for children. Scholarships are provided by the school for children who could not otherwise afford lessons. These acts are surely fueled by Marie's passionate desire to inspire dance in young people.

Although retiring as artistic director of the Toledo Ballet Association, Marie intends to continue in her first love, that of teaching, and will remain the Toledo Ballet School's director. She also begins the ambitious project of bringing to fruition her lifelong dream of building a professional ballet company in Toledo.

In this, its 55th year, many of Marie's former students are returning to dance under her tutelage one last time. The 1995 "Nutcracker" performance will be a reunion for all who studied dance under her direction. Such a tribute gives testament to her teaching and quiet inspiration.

We thank Marie Bollinger Vogt for her yearly Christmas gift to all of us in northwest Ohio; a family evening lost in the enchantment of "The Nutcracker," her legacy.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2076, DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 1995

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, in September 1994, the Congress passed a historic piece of legislation—the Violence Against Women Act [VAWA]. VAWA passed the House of Representatives with unanimous, bipartisan support. One of the major purposes for VAWA was to assure that the legal system treated domestic violence as the very serious crime we know it is.

A very important provision of the act is entitled “Equal Justice for Women in the Courts.” These provisions assure that the arbiters of justice in our Nation—judges and the courts—treat domestic violence in a serious and fair manner.

It has come to my attention that some Members of the Senate inserted a colloquy into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD challenging the merit of the gender fairness task forces provided for under the Equal Justice for Women in the Courts provisions. I could not disagree more strongly.

Sections 40421–22 of the act allow each Federal judicial circuit to conduct studies of “the instances, if any, of gender bias * * * and to implement recommended reforms.” At this time, a majority of the Federal circuits are conducting gender fairness studies to ascertain whether women receive disparate treatment in the courts, and, if so, how best we can address this critical problem. Clearly, the judicial branch has the authority, and an obligation, to discover any bias in the dispensation of justice in our Nation. There is no place for unequal justice in the United States.

In addition, recently there have been a growing number of press reports—most notably about the O.J. Simpson case in California—about victims of domestic violence who availed themselves of the courts and received little or no protection from their batterers. The failure of the courts to respond to complaints of domestic violence puts the very lives of American women at risk. Further, the mere impression that courts do not take domestic violence seriously will cause some women who desperately need the protection of the legal system to not reach out for help.

Finally, I would like to note that the colloquy entered by the Senators on this issue has absolutely no binding effect on the Federal judicial circuits. The colloquy is merely the opinion of three Members of Congress; it is not law.

The Commerce-Justice-State appropriations bill contains no legislative language barring courts from establishing gender fairness studies. Nor does the conference report, the Senate Appropriations Committee report, or the House Appropriations Committee report. If the Congress intended to bar these very important studies, then we would have done so in the legislative or report language. The judicial circuits clearly have the right under this bill to establish the gender fairness task forces.

When the Congress passed the Violence Against Women Act, we made a promise to the people of this Nation that we would fight to end domestic violence. If the legal system, our first line of defense against his heinous crime, is not properly addressing this issue, then we cannot even begin the process of ending domestic violence. I strongly support any efforts by the judiciary to investigate gender bias in the courts, and to provide for recommendations to eradicate it.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
WALTER B. KIRKWOOD

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute on the true professionals who has represented his employers' interests before Congress for almost four decades. At the end of this month, Walter B. Kirkwood will be retiring after 37 years of service in the banking industry. During this period, Walter has always conducted himself in a way that does credit to his employers and also reflects a broader concern for the public interest.

Many of us came to know Walter's work and appreciate his low-key style over the many years that represented Banc One Corp. of Columbus, OH, as vice president, government affairs, and earlier while he was governmental affairs representative for American Fletcher National Bank in Indianapolis prior to its acquisition by Bank One Corp. Most recently, Walter has been ably representing Bank One Indiana Corp., the successor to American Fletcher in Indianapolis.

Walter has made many contributions to the furtherance of constructive banking legislation. Among his most signal efforts was his active involvement during 1993–94 in the interstate banking and branching bill, while his boss, John B. McCoy, chairman of Banc One Corp., was serving as chairman of an industry task force on the legislation. Walter also worked successfully on key parts of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991 and several important provisions of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery and Enforcement Act of 1989, to mention two other occasions when Walter's knowledge and ability came into play to produce outcomes which had the effect of modernizing America's financial services industry.

The fact that Walter combines the best attributes of a vigorous advocate representing his company's and his industry's interests, coupled with a keen concern for the public interest, is attested to by the fact that he has been widely honored by his peers. Walter served as chairman of the Government Relations Committee of the former Association of Bank Holding Companies as well as chairman of the Legislative Liaison Advisory Committee [LLAC] of the American Bankers Association, a position he currently holds.

On behalf of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, I would like to thank Walter for his thoughtful advice over the years and look forward in keeping in touch.

UNICEF SAVES THE LIVES OF CHILDREN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 11, I was privileged to participate in a ceremony at the Lime Kiln Elementary School in my district in Rockland County to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of UNICEF, at which I made the following remarks:

Today marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of UNICEF, one of the world's most effective organizations for saving and improving the lives of children who are at risk. At a time when the role of many international organizations, including the United Nations itself, is under scrutiny, there is no question about the role of UNICEF.

The years since its founding have seen great strides on behalf of children in health, nutrition, education and child rights. Thanks to UNICEF programs, two and a half million fewer children are dying annually from malnutrition and disease than died in 1990. The number of children who will be disabled, blinded, crippled or mentally retarded is down by 750,000.

Primary school enrollment has gone from 48 percent in 1960 to 77 percent this year, child immunization rates have gone from less than 10 percent in the late 1970's to 80 percent in most countries, and polio, once a scourge of children, is nearing eradication.

As we address the crises in hunger, health and education that beset the world's children, we are improving the circumstances for their parents, as well.

Our progress towards achieving democratic societies will be limited as long as a quarter of the world's population is unable to meet even its most basic human needs. Absolute poverty, which deprives people of their human rights, their dignity, and a voice in the affairs of their society, ultimately is a major obstacle to democracy.

That is why it is so important to recognize that America has vital interests abroad that are advanced by our foreign aid program.

It is in the interest of every American to help avoid and to redress human rights disasters such as we have seen in Somalia and Bosnia. It is clearly in our Nation's interest to see incomes rise in developing countries so that they can afford to buy our exports.

It is in the interest of every American to help countries become economically and politically stable so that we can avoid being drawn into armed conflicts.

UNICEF's programs are now saving millions of children's lives each year. Other powerful and tested strategies that reduce hunger and poverty—such as microenterprise—are also available and affordable to most developing countries.

Rather than merely reacting to situations after they become critical, we now have the opportunity to make effective social investments that can convert despair into hope and prevent future crises while building healthy, stable societies.

That is why UNICEF remains one of the most effective arguments in favor of foreign assistance, and I am pleased that, despite budgetary reductions in other areas, we have been able to provide for an increase in the U.S. contribution to this very important agency, so that it can continue the good work that it began 50 years ago today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER A. DEFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, December 5, 1995, I was unavoidably absent for rollcall vote No. 837. Had I been present I would have voted "yea." This vote was on passage of H.R. 2684, the Senior Citizens Right to Work Act of 1995.

I am pleased to voice my support for H.R. 2684 which will allow our senior citizens to appropriately supplement their income during retirement. Social Security was intended to be supplemented in retirement by pension and asset income. However, under current law, individuals aged 65 to 69 years old with earnings above \$11,280 lose \$1 in Social Security benefits for every \$3 earned. Coupled with standard income taxes and other payroll taxes, this amounts to an overall tax rate of over 70 percent for many of the Nation's working elderly—more than double the rate paid by the wealthiest individuals in America.

I am also pleased that this legislation was brought up as a stand-alone bill, rather than as a provision in the Republicans' budget reconciliation package, which I strongly opposed. In fact, the budget reconciliation package will make this legislation even more vital for America's seniors because the budget package will increase out-of-pocket costs for average Social Security recipients. With their budgets further strained by these increased costs, seniors will need extra earnings just to keep up in the new Republican reality.

I urge prompt enactment of H.R. 2684. Our economy needs older workers. Older Americans deserve the opportunity to continue to enjoy meaningful employment. Last year, Congress eliminated the mandatory retirement age. This year, Congress must act to eliminate this discriminatory policy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TILLIE K. FOWLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in the family, I was not present for rollcall votes Nos. 842, 843, and 844. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 842, "no" on rollcall No. 843, and "yes" on rollcall No. 844.

A TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF GUADALUPE MONTOYA

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. DOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in remembering Guadalupe Montoya, a special woman from my district who died recently after years of contributing to her community.

Lupe came from a family that has roots in California dating back to the early 1800s. Al-

though born in Texas, Lupe's family returned to Southern California in the 1920s, where she spent most of her life. Despite a limited knowledge of English and only an eighth grade education, the example of community activism she set instilled in her children and her neighbors a desire to take part in the political process that endures to this day.

As a neighborhood campaigner for a young Edward Roybal—then a candidate for Los Angeles County Supervisor—Lupe demonstrated how issues important to her Hispanic community could be addressed through political activism.

By trade, Lupe was a seamstress and had several important clients from throughout the Los Angeles area. Along with her job, she managed to raise five children who have become active in their own communities.

When Lupe retired, she became an active senior volunteer, receiving numerous certificates of appreciation from the City of Los Angeles. In addition, she earned a commendation from the California Assembly for her volunteer work. And she was recognized by the United States Retired Volunteer Program and received a letter of congratulations from former Speaker of the House Thomas "Tip" O'Neill.

But perhaps the greatest testament to her legacy is the respect and admiration she commands among her friends and family, and the sense of community involvement she has left behind.

Again, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the memory of Guadalupe Montoya.

RECOGNITION OF THE NEWPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Newport Fire Department—Station No. 5. Located in the heart of historic Newport, RI, Station 5 recently celebrated its Centennial anniversary with a weekend full of festivities.

Station 5 traces its roots back to 1794, when Company 5 was founded. During those days the Station was based on the corner of Spring and Mary Streets. Throughout the next 100 years, the Company would move two times before building its current home on West Marlborough Street. The West Marlborough Street location was dedicated on December 7, 1895, making it the oldest continually operated fire station in the city.

Included in the Centennial celebration was a dinner honoring the station and past members. During the celebration the same menu was served as the original dedication ceremony 100 years ago.

It is my pleasure to pay tribute today to the years of selfless, devoted service that Company 5 has given to the city of Newport.

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, RAY MILAM

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues a unique individual who was honored this past weekend with a surprise appreciation dinner. That person is Raymond Milam. This tribute focused on Mr. Milam's role in the education of the children of New Jersey, especially those children living in urban areas.

Ray Milam coordinates the professional services of the New Jersey School Boards Association's Technical Assistance Unit. The unit helps the 30 special needs school districts identified in a New Jersey Supreme Court decision on the State's school funding laws. In addition, the Technical Assistance Unit services the remaining 32 urban boards of education in 17 of the State's 21 countries. Ray Milam is an active advocate and service provider for parents, children, and urban educators. Mr. Miram is a graduate of Hampton University. He received his graduate degree from the University of Iowa. Throughout his professional career he has been a teacher, consultant, trainer, local school district administrator, and State Department of Education director.

During his tenure with the New Jersey School Boards Association, Mr. Milam has had the opportunity to impact on our urban school districts in many positive ways. Understanding the special needs of our urban young people, he has been able to develop training programs that have helped sensitize members of school boards, as well as school administrators and faculty. More importantly, he has used his position to recommend and introduce highly qualified professionals to urban school districts which were looking for candidates to fill important vacancies. He has been particularly successful in matching school boards with superintendents in many urban districts around the State.

I wish I had the opportunity to share personally with my colleagues the wonderful thoughts, remembrances and sentiments that filled the program and "Memories to Cherish" booklet. It was evident from these expressions of friendship—personal and professional, respect, gratitude, and love that Ray Milam has truly earned and deserves the recognition he received on Saturday, December 9, 1995. What was mentioned time and time again was the gentleness of a man who has been able to consistently and clearly focus on the problem at hand and develop a solution where all are able to rededicate themselves to working for the benefit of our school children. When we talk of the measure of the man; in the case of Mr. Raymond Milam it is his strong commitment to helping our children prepare for responsible and productive citizenry in the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues will join me as I congratulate Raymond Milam for an outstanding career in the field of education and wish him and his family: his wife Jean Stewart Milam; his children Pamela, Maria and Kenneth; and his grandson Damon all the best in the future.

UNREASONABLE SHIPPING RATE PROVISION HARMS OFFSHORE AREAS

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD
OF GUAM
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my concerns with the maritime provisions of H.R. 2539, legislation to abolish the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Federal Maritime Commission. As the conferees meet on this legislation, I urge them to strike the section defining a "zone of reasonableness" for rates.

This provision would allow carriers to raise their rates 10 percent per year, plus 7.5 percent in the version passed by the other body. Such increases would be deemed reasonable and no challenge would be allowed. It does not matter if costs decrease, the price of fuel is cut in half, more efficient ships can do the job at half the price, labor costs are significantly lowered, or economic factors cause all other prices to decrease.

To call this a zone of reasonableness is an oxymoron. I know of no other industry which is guaranteed a yearly increase of 10 percent plus inflation. I know of no other law that guarantees in statute a formula for increasing prices year after year. Such a guarantee is not a move toward deregulation of the transportation industry as the legislation is designed to do.

For those of us who receive a majority of our goods by ocean carrier, this provision would significantly impact our economy. We do not have other transportation options. If enacted, this legislation would encourage businesses on Guam to buy fewer goods from the mainland because of the unprecedented increases in rates. It would result in an increase in the importation of goods from foreign nations because we would have no other choice. People on Guam want to buy goods from the mainland, but not if the shipping costs make consumer prices increase at an astonishing rate.

As the conferees meet on H.R. 2539, I urge the conferees to consider the economic effects of enacting such an anti-competitive provision, under the mantle of deregulation, and the dangerous precedent it sets. I encourage the conferees to strike this provision.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL BRUTON

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness at the recent passing of Michael Bruton at the age of 59. Michael Bruton, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, died Sunday, November 12, from complications caused by cancer.

Michael held numerous positions with the CFL and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. He was elected president of the CFL in 1994, and had been assistant to the president since January 1986. He served as vice president of the CFL.

Michael started his union career in 1954, when he became an apprentice electrician

with Local 134. He was a 1954 graduate of De La Salle High School in Chicago. He attended Washburne Trade School and received his journeyman credentials in 1958. He also attended the Kennedy Electronics School and the University of Illinois Labor Program from 1972 to 1976. In 1989, he was appointed to the board of directors of the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority by Mayor Richard Daley. Michael was a former member of the Illinois State Board of Education. He served as secretary of the board and vice chairman of its Equal Employment Opportunity Committee.

Michael was a member of St. Daniel the Prophet Church on Chicago's Southwest Side and its Holy Name Society. He coached basketball at St. Daniel in the 1980's, and was active in the Boy Scouts of America. Michael served on the board of the United Way/Crusade of Mercy Catholic Charities, the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Planning Council and the Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau. He also was a labor representative on the Chicago Private Industry Council and served several other charitable and civic organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my condolences to his wife, Marilyn; three sons, Michael, Timothy, and Thomas; six daughters, Susan Cerebona, Mary Beth Carroll, Nancy Herbster, Sharon, Denise, and Karen; three brothers, Lawrence, Patrick, and James; and two sisters, Ann Howell and Pauline Thomas.

TRIBUTE TO MR. STEPHEN LEE,
LOCAL FARMER, PATRIARCH,
AND AMERICAN SUCCESS STORY

HON. JIM SAXTON
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 1995

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, several weeks ago our Nation celebrated the Thanksgiving holiday. It was a time to spend gathered with family and being thankful for all that we have. For the family of Stephen V. Lee, Jr., a local cranberry farmer back home in my district, it was a time to truly give thanks.

Stephen Lee is an American success story. After serving his country in the U.S. Navy during World War II, Mr. Lee returned to America and took up the family tradition as a cranberry farmer.

Although his family had successfully farmed their property as early as the 1870's, the Great Depression had forced its closure until Mr. Lee took individual initiative to restore and revive the family's agricultural heritage. After years of hard work, Mr. Lee and his sons reclaimed the land, restored old bogs, and built new ones used for growing the berries. His original loan of a couple thousand dollars in the 1940's has flourished into a multimillion-dollar farm. Throughout this productive return to the family heritage of cranberry farming, Mr. Lee has continued to be a strong father and grandfather as well as a leader throughout the community.

Mr. Speaker, recently Modern Maturity magazine published a story entitled "Crimson Harvest" which details the life of Stephen Lee. I would ask that this article also be included as part of Extension of Remarks as a tribute to Mr. Lee.

[From Modern Maturity, Nov.-Dec. 1995]

CRIMSON HARVEST

(By Mark Wexler)

On a brisk autumn afternoon Stephen V. Lee, Jr., looks out onto a sea of floating red berries and beams like a little boy who has just opened a bag of Halloween candy. "How that's what I call a pretty crop," he says with a big smile. "There's good crimson color on the fruit this year, and that means a sweet Thanksgiving."

Lee is a fourth-generation cranberry farmer living the American dream in the heart of New Jersey's scenic Pine Barrens region. In the late 1940s he used a \$4,000 loan to rescue his historic family farm from the brink of bankruptcy. Now, after years of hard work, he's turned the operation into a million-dollar business.

"This is my life," he says, pointing to the miles of red-colored bogs surrounded by trees and marshes. "I've got cranberry juice running through my veins." Today, at 85, Lee continues to put in long days in what he calls his "labor of love," and his two sons are by his side.

Family farmers like the Lees cultivate most of the world's cranberries on only about 30,000 acres in the United States and Canada. There are 44 other families that grow the berries in the Pine Barrens, a 2,000-square-mile oasis of forests, wetlands and wildlife in southern New Jersey that in 1979 was designated a federal preserve, which protects the area by controlling development. Last year Pine Barrens growers produced more than 53 million pounds of cranberries, a figure only Massachusetts and Wisconsin farmers surpassed. "It's not the easiest way to make a living," says Lee, "but it keeps me young."

The object of Lee's affection is more American than apple pie. European settlers introduced the apple to this continent; the cranberry is native to North America. A slender vine that creeps along the ground, the cranberry plant produces a tart-tasting, finicky fruit that survives only in very specialized conditions: It requires an acid peat soil, sand, plenty of fresh water, and a growing season stretching from April to November. Under those conditions the vines can live indefinitely; some Cape Cod cranberry plants are more than 150 years old.

Cranberries don't actually grow in water. Instead, they blossom on the dense mat of vines that make up impermeable beds in marshy areas called bogs, which glacial deposits originally formed. Native Americans in the Northeast picked the berries from the natural bogs and used them to flavor their food and dye their blankets and clothing. Because raw cranberries have an astringent effect that contracts tissue and stops bleeding, the Indians also used the fruit to make poultices for wounds. And they made a tea from the leaves to use as a diuretic.

Legend has it that when the Pilgrims arrived in New England in 1620, the Wampanoag Indians who greeted them gave the settlers ibimi ("bitter berries") as goodwill gifts. Apparently the word ibimi didn't roll easily off the Plymouth colonists' tongues, so they coined their own names for the fruit. Noticing that the vine's flowers vaguely resembled cranes' heads, they eventually dubbed their new food "crane-berries."

Historians disagree over whether cranberries were actually served at the first Thanksgiving feast in 1621, but one fact is certain: They became a big hit with the English settlers, who found the fruit not only edible and useful as a dye but also "excellent against the Scurvy."

Word of the miraculous berries soon spread back to England, and the colonists recognized a good thing when they saw it. With a

bottle of cranberries fetching several shillings in London, the colonists began picking as much of the wild fruit during autumn as they could get their hands on. They even tried to pacify their king with the berries: In 1677 the colonists sent "tenn barrels of cranburies," along with Indian corn and 3,000 codfish, as a peace offering to Charles II, who was angry with the New World residents for minting their own coins.

In 1816 American Revolution veteran Henry Hall made a discovery that would change the nature of cranberry-harvesting forever. At his seaside farm on Cape Cod, Hall decided to cut down some trees growing on a hill overlooking the beach. Wild cranberries grew in a marsh behind the hill. With the trees gone, the wind whipped sand onto the vines. Hall expected the plants to die, but the opposite occurred: The cranberries flourished under the sand while competing weeds disappeared. Hall began transplanting his vines, fencing them in and covering them with sand.

Thus cranberry cultivation was born.

Stephen Lee, a native of Ireland, bought 2,000 acres of New Jersey pinelands in 1868. The area, he discovered, was perfect for growing the cranberries. Woodlands and freshwater marshes pockmarked the landscape, while he could easily flatten the sandy soil to cultivate the fruit.

During the 1870s Lee and his son, James, carved out a series of cranberry bogs, most of which are still in use. Cranberry farming in those days was not necessarily profitable, and for the next two generations the Lee family struggled. As the Great Depression took hold, the family shut down the farm operation and moved to a nearby town.

Meanwhile, cranberry growers elsewhere had developed new methods to improve their harvest. Around the turn of the century, Wisconsin farmers found they could harvest twice as many berries by flooding their bogs then scooping up the floating fruit. (Flooding also gets rid of insects and protects against frost.) A few years later Boston attorney and cranberry grower Marcus Urann had another idea: a canned sauce made from cranberries that, according to the label, was "like homemade." In 1930 he merged his company with two other firms to form the Ocean Spray cooperative, owned today by the very farmers who grow the berries.

One of those farmers, U.S. Navy veteran Stephen V. Lee, Jr. (great-grandson of the Stephen Lee mentioned earlier), survived both the Normandy invasion and fiery battles in the South Pacific during World War II before returning to New Jersey to pick up the pieces of the family farm.

Lee borrowed \$4,000 from Ocean Spray and began the arduous task of reclaiming the land. Starting with some of the original vines his ancestor had planted, he restored the bogs and constructed new ones. "It takes about seven years to develop a productive bog," he says.

Eventually Lee's cranberry bogs began to pay off, while the industry itself was expanding its product lines to include juices that were, according to the ads, "a food drink that aids digestion."

Then came "Black Monday."

Seventeen days before Thanksgiving 1959 federal authorities announced that some Oregon and Washington cranberries were contaminated with a herbicide that was known to cause cancer in laboratory rats. The Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare suggested that Americans "pass up cranberries this year." Growers protested, claiming a person would have to eat 15,000 pounds of contaminated cranberries every day for years to get cancer. Vice President Richard Nixon solemnly ate four helpings of cranberry sauce on television to demonstrate

that the fruit was safe. But the damage was done. "We took a terrible loss that year," says Lee. "Nobody was buying the stuff. It took a few years for us to recover."

Today, cranberries aren't seen as posing a health threat; in fact, they're widely considered beneficial. In 1994 doctors at Harvard Medical School released a study that confirms an old folk remedy: Cranberry juice really does help prevent urinary-tract infections. The researchers reported that the women who drank ten ounces of cranberry beverage daily for six months were 58 percent less likely to have such infections than the women who drank a placebo beverage. Scientists had thought the berries' acidic nature knocked out infection, but the new study suggests that cranberries contain a compound that prevents infectious bacteria from adhering to the bladder walls. The doctors studied only older women because they are most prone to the infections. (Women in general have a much higher rate of urinary-tract problems than men.)

Motivated in part by such discoveries, Americans now consume more than 340 million pounds of cranberries a year. In the past decade Ocean Spray's sales have nearly tripled to more than \$1 billion annually.

"When I was young, there weren't a lot of choices with cranberries. You ate sauce—and more sauce," says Stephen V. Lee III, who returned home in 1973 to help run the family farm after serving as a flight instructor at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado. Today Stephen III runs the business end of the operation—a task his mother, Marjorie, performed until her death in the early 1970s. "My parent's policy was that their children should go off and try other occupations before deciding on careers as cranberry farmers," he says.

His younger brother, Abbott, decided on his career several years ago after studying agriculture at a nearby college. Today he maintains the family's 125 acres of cranberry bogs, using innovative harvesting equipment he himself invented to reduce manpower needs.

The brothers' father, Stephen V., Jr., bounds across a dirt mound bordering one of the bogs and scoops up a handful of berries from a flooded area. "There's a rule of thumb with a family farm like this," he says. "The first generation acquires the land, the second generation improves it, and the third gets to spend the money."

It didn't quite work that way for the Lee patriarch, however. "My sons are the fifth generation," he chuckles. "And they're the ones who are really getting to enjoy the fruits of all this labor."

EMPLOYER TRIP REDUCTION PROGRAMS

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 1995

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 325. As an original cosponsor of this legislation, I am pleased that this noncontroversial measure can be brought before the House today under the Corrections Day Calendar.

I grew up in a small oil refinery town just outside of Philadelphia. I can remember vividly the smell of burning oil in the air on a daily basis. Because of this experience, I have always supported strong clean air regulations. I voted for the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 [CAA] and believe the goal of reducing air pollution should not be abandoned.

Over time, however, certain provisions of the Clean Air Act have proven to be unworkable. The implementation of employee trip reduction [ETR] requirements of the CAA are of great concern to many businesses and employees in the Seventh Congressional District.

Due to a single air quality reading in Chester, PA, the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] designated the Philadelphia Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area [AMSA] as a severe nonattainment area under the CAA. ETR is one of several strict mandates required by the CAA for regions of the Nation which are classified as severe.

Significant scientific concerns have been raised about EPA's air quality monitoring and the single data point from Chester which places the entire Philadelphia CMSA into the severe category. Based on these and other concerns, I wrote to then-Governor Casey asking him to press the EPA to reclassify Philadelphia from severe to serious. Regions classified as serious are required to clean up the air sooner than those classified as severe, but are not required to establish ETR programs.

The ETR Program—while never fully implemented—would likely have proven costly to businesses with little real significant reduction in air pollutants. Last Spring, Governor Ridge announced that he would not implement the ETR requirements. The EPA concurred and publicly stated it would not force States to implement the program.

The legislation before us today will allow States like Pennsylvania to willingly opt out of the ETR Program without the threat of third party lawsuits based on noncompliance. This legislation is important for areas like Philadelphia where attainment goals are needed for improved air quality but where these goals can be reached without a costly unfunded mandate on businesses in and around the region.

I strongly support H.R. 325 and commend Congressman MANZULLO for his efforts to bring this bill to the floor today.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2076, DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 1995

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the conference report on the bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies has been discussed at some length by a number of my colleagues on this side of the aisle. I share their serious concerns with the deficiencies of this legislation that have been so eloquently expressed by my friend and colleague from Wisconsin, Mr. OBEY, and by my friend and colleague from West Virginia, Mr. MOLLOHAN.

I want to focus my remarks on the serious defects of this bill with regard to the international obligations of the United States. The conference report that we are considering reduces by one-half our Nation's contributions to

international peacekeeping activities. Mr. Speaker, this is an incredibly short-sighted reduction.

BY supporting such peacekeeping activities under the auspices of the United Nations, we are encouraging our involvement and participation in activities to keep the peace in a number of areas around the world. By fostering international peacekeeping, we are encouraging the participation of other nations and the participation of the military forces of other countries in activities that encourage peace and stability in many regions of the world. We have supported and fostered such efforts in a number of areas around the world, areas which are important to the United States—Cyprus, the Sinai, Cambodia—to name only a few. Our contribution to such peacekeeping efforts is an indication of our commitment to international action to maintain stability and encourage respect for appropriate international behavior.

Second, this conference report reduces by almost one quarter, 24 percent, U.S. contributions to international organizations, which fund the U.S. share of activities in the United Nations, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and other such international organizations. These are not good will donations to these organizations; these are international treaty obligations of the United States. These organizations support important national security and foreign policy interests—international sanctions against rogue regimes such as Iran, Libya, and Iraq; efforts to reduce nuclear proliferation and other weapons of mass destruction; common international efforts to maintain Middle East peace and security, including the struggle to maintain the borders of Israel and Kuwait; the promotion of an open international trade framework; the control of diseases, such as the Ebola virus; and the promotion of human rights.

These short-sighted reductions in funding in this legislation impede the ability of the United States to carry out these vital national security and foreign policy objectives. Furthermore, the draconian cuts in funds severely hamper the State Department's ability to press for much-needed reforms at the United Nations and at other international organizations. Under strong pressure from many of us here in this body, the administration—under both Democratic and Republican leadership—has made considerable progress in pressuring for managerial, administrative, and budgetary reform. The unilateral reduction of our contributions seriously undermines our ability to continue to press for these needed reforms.

For half a century—since the end of World War II—the United States has spent enormous sums of money for our military forces to protect our national security and to further our international objectives. We pursued farsighted policies that had broad bipartisan support. Unfortunately, now that the cold war is over, we have not been willing to continue even the relatively modest spending that is required to protect these more cost-effective security and foreign policy interests. This is extraordinarily imprudent. This ought to be changed, and changing this legislation is the place to begin.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose the adoption of this legislation before us today. We can—and we should—do better.

CIVILITY IN CONGRESS

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington report for Wednesday, December 6, 1995, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CIVILITY IN CONGRESS

In his recent press conference announcing why he would not be a candidate for President, Colin Powell mentioned the "incivility that exists in political life today". He's right. In national politics and in Congress we have seen a clear decline of basic civility. This year in Congress there have been mean personal attacks, shouting across the aisle, shoving matches, hissing and booing, and Members going out of their way to antagonize those of the other party. Press accounts have described the situation in Congress as "nasty", "full-scale partisan warfare", and "the politics of poison". Partisan tensions are as bad as I can remember. As one senior Member recently noted, "Boy, it's mean out there."

President Clinton recently called for more mutual respect in public discourse, echoing the sentiments of President Bush who called for an end to the "climate of ugliness" on Capitol Hill. The situation certainly isn't as bad as in other countries where we see brawls and fistfights breaking out among members of parliament, but it does merit some attention.

HINDERS LEGISLATION

The bitter, contentious exchanges in Congress certainly do not reflect well on the institution, lead to public cynicism, and make the job of legislating more difficult. As Thomas Jefferson stated, "It is very material that order, decency, and regularity be preserved in a dignified public body." Excessive partisan bickering poisons the atmosphere of Congress and hurts the ability of Members to come together to pass legislation for the good of the country. In a democracy like ours, the willingness of Members of Congress to listen and to talk to each other in a civil way is essential to our ability to reach a consensus on the difficult policy issues facing our nation—from balancing the budget to sending troops to Bosnia.

Certainly spirited debate is appropriate for the many important policy questions before Congress. Members have strong feelings on particular issues, and naturally get upset when they believe that programs very important to their constituents are being gutted or when they feel the other side is putting up unnecessary roadblocks to their legislative agenda. But Members can carry the legitimate debate too far and argue in ways that undermine serious policy deliberation.

PAST HISTORY

The problem of a breakdown of civility in Congress is certainly not a new one. In past years, especially during periods of national turmoil such as the Civil War or the civil rights movement, there have been major breakdowns in decorum. Over the years, Members have been formally punished by the House for making statements such as describing another Member as one "who is the champion of fraud, who is the apologist of thieves, and who is such a prodigy of vice and meanness that to describe him would sicken imagination and exhaust invective". Heated debate at times led to fistfights, pistol duels, and, a frequent response in earlier days, hitting another Member over the head with a cane.

ENFORCEMENT

Congress has two basic ways of disciplining Members for inappropriate speech. If the remarks occur during debate on the House floor, another Member can object and request that the speaker's "words be taken down". If the words are ruled inappropriate by the Chair, the speaker either can withdraw the statement or be prohibited from speaking on the floor for the remainder of the day. Broader enforcement can come from the House Standards of Official Conduct Committee—the House ethics committee—which has been given wide-ranging powers to punish Members for any actions which do not "reflect creditably on the House of Representatives". Formal charges could be filed against a Member, and the Standards Committee could recommend a range of sanctions. In the past, Members have been formally censured by the full House for disorderly words spoken in debate.

REMEDIES

The vast majority of the contacts between Members of Congress are civil and courteous. But there are intemperate exchanges—often getting extensive media coverage—which hurt the ability of the institution to properly function. Several steps would be helpful in minimizing them.

First, the Standards of Official Conduct Committee should issue an advisory opinion to all Members of Congress spelling out to them what are the proper limits of discourse and what are the consequences of going beyond the limits. The Standards Committee has a separate Office of Advice and Education which was set up specifically for such an advisory role to help head off misconduct before it occurs.

Second, we need more consistent enforcement by the Chair and by the Standards Committee. Rulings by the Chair can be spotty and inconsistent, and the rules requiring penalties for improper remarks have at times been waived. The Standards Committee has failed to act on some fairly egregious cases of improper speech in recent years.

Third, outside groups can be helpful watchdogs in keeping an eye on Members' statements. A bipartisan group like the Former Members of Congress, for example, could play a useful role in monitoring and publicizing proper and improper discourse on the floor.

Fourth, we need tougher enforcement by the voters. At times a Member of Congress might rise to prominence through a negative, confrontational style. If other Members think the nasty approach to politics works, they will emulate it. The voters need to send a clear signal that negative and nasty doesn't work.

Finally, Members must take it upon themselves to uphold appropriate standards of debate. In the end, it is up to each of us in Congress to set the proper tone and to work with our colleagues to maintain decorum.

CONCLUSION

Breakdowns in civility in Congress can reflect the passions of the moment, the polarizing nature of the policy issues, or even a less civil tone in the larger society. But that is no excuse for letting particularly intemperate and inflammatory speech go unchecked. Reining in the excesses can go a long way toward improving the ability of Congress to tackle the tough legislative agenda before us.

(Information was taken from a Congressional Research Service report, "Decorum in House Debate")

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks

section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, December 14, 1995, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 15

9:30 a.m.

Labor and Human Resources

To hold hearings on proposed legislation to amend provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act relating to the minimum wage.

SD-430

2:00 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on Eric James Boswell, of California, to be Assistant Secretary

for Diplomatic Security, and Anthony Cecil Eden Quainton, of the District of Columbia, to be Director General of the Foreign Service, both of the Department of State.

SD-419

DECEMBER 19

10:00 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine trends in youthful drug use.

SD-226

2:00 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings on pending nominations.

SD-226