

REIMPORTATION OF FDA-
APPROVED PHARMACEUTICALS**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, due to a personal matter I was unable to be present for roll-call votes last week. I particularly regret not being in attendance for the votes on the amendments to the Agriculture Appropriations bills offered by the gentleman from Vermont (Roll Call no. 216) and the gentleman from Minnesota (Roll Call no. 217) dealing with the reimportation of FDA-approved pharmaceuticals. I would have enthusiastically supported both amendments had I been able to be here last week and I was quite disappointed to see the gentleman from Vermont's amendment rejected and pleased to see the gentleman from Minnesota's amendment accepted by this body.

I appreciate the opportunity to explain why I supported these amendments. As my colleagues are aware, many Americans are concerned about the high cost of prescription drugs. These high prices particularly affect low-income senior citizens because many seniors have a greater than average need for prescription drugs and lower than average income. One of the reasons prescription drug prices are high is government policies which give a few powerful companies a monopoly position in the prescription drug market, such as those restricting the importation of quality pharmaceuticals. Therefore, all members of Congress who are serious about lowering prescription drug prices should have supported these amendments.

As a representative of an area near the Texas-Mexican border I often hear from angry constituents who cannot purchase inexpensive quality imported pharmaceuticals in their local drug store. Some of these constituents regularly travel to Mexico on their own to purchase pharmaceuticals.

Opponents of the amendments offered by the gentlemen from Vermont and Minnesota waged a hysterical campaign to convince members that this amendment will result in consumers purchasing unsafe products. Acceptance of this argument requires one to assume that consumers will buy cheap pharmaceuticals without taking any efforts to ensure that they are buying a quality product. However, the experience of my constituents who are currently traveling to Mexico to purchase prescription drugs shows that consumers are quite capable of ensuring they purchase safe products without interference from Big "Mother."

Furthermore, if the supporters of the status quo were truly concerned about promoting health, instead of protecting the special privileges of powerful companies, they would be more concerned with reforming the current policies which endanger health by artificially raising the cost of prescription drugs. Oftentimes lower income Americans will take less of a prescription medicine than necessary to save money. Some senior citizens even forgo other necessities, including food, in order to afford their medications. By reducing the prices of pharmaceuticals this amendment will help ensure no child has to take less than the recommended dosage of a prescription medi-

cine and no senior has to choose between medication and food.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I once again wish to express my regret for missing the votes on the amendments by the gentlemen from Vermont and Minnesota and urge my colleagues to show they are serious about lowering the prices of prescription drugs and that they trust the people to do what is in their best interest, by supporting future efforts to establish a true free market in pharmaceuticals.

HONORING RON MADSEN, DIRECTOR,
PROVO CITY ECONOMIC REDEVELOPMENT**HON. CHRIS CANNON**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2001

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the work of Ron Madsen, a dedicated public servant who has been Provo City's Economic Redevelopment Director. Ron Madsen has spent the last thirty years working for the City of Provo, and has been an integral part of Provo's downtown revitalization efforts. On July 13 Ron Madsen will retire from the City of Provo, and his absence will be sorely missed.

Mr. Madsen began working with Provo City in August 1971 as a Planning Aide, and was promoted to Redevelopment Agency Manager in July 1973. He also worked as Housing and Redevelopment Manager from 1975 to 1983. Since 1983 he has been Provo's Economic Redevelopment Director.

Throughout his career, Mr. Madsen has worked in a tireless and selfless manner to preserve the character of Provo while at the same time encouraging balanced economic growth. Some of the projects he has worked on include developing Provo City's Historic Downtown into the central point in Utah County for government and legal services, as well as prime office space, and working to bring NuSkin, Inc. international headquarters to downtown Provo. Perhaps the pinnacle of Ron Madsen's career was the development of the East Bay Retail and Business Park. Mr. Madsen succeeded in securing millions of dollars in federal funds that were crucial to completing this premiere business park. The establishment of the East Bay Business Park resulted in key national businesses relocating to Provo, such as Novell, Inc.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Mr. Madsen was well known for his integrity and civility in working with his peers. I am also told that like that great American Cowboy Humorist Will Rogers, Mr. Madsen had a wry, genial common sense that was enjoyed by all who worked with him.

Therefore, I am proud to join with his many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Ron Madsen for his dedicated service to the City of Provo. I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all his future endeavors.

HONORING STATE REPRESENTATIVE
MARCY MORRISON**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor former Colorado State Representative Marcy Morrison for her tireless efforts in improving health care for all Coloradans. This week, the American Medical Association is presenting Rep. Morrison with a Dr. Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Government Service, Member of a State Legislature, for her significant achievements in advancing public health.

Throughout her two-decade career, Marcy has fought to help Coloradans gain greater access to health care. Her efforts include passing legislation to provide health insurance parity for mental health, to guarantee 48 hour extended hospital stays for maternity care, and to make it possible for children up to five years old to receive speech therapy and physical therapy each year for development delay. In addition, Marcy has helped form a task to evaluate the management of chronic intractable pain in Colorado and she served on the Legislative Task Force on Health Care.

When I served with Marcy in the State Legislature, I always admired her for her courage and tenacity. Nearly every piece of major health care legislation that passed the General Assembly and went on to become law had Marcy's mark on it. Coloradans owe a great deal of thanks to Rep. Morrison for helping us get the health care services we need and for helping us stay healthier and happier longer.

So today, Mr. Speaker, I honor Rep. Marcy Morrison and congratulate her for being the recipient of this prestigious award. I hope that her efforts thus far are only the tip of the iceberg.

HONORING STANLEY LATHEN, SR.

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2001

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Stanley Lathen, Sr., on the occasion of his being honored for his lifelong commitment to labor by the United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 373R.

President Emeritus Stanley Lathen Sr., was born on April 30, 1908, in the territory of Arizona. His family moved to Lake County soon after his birth and then relocated to Marin County, where he was raised and educated. Stanley served an apprenticeship under the program of the Plasterers and Cement Masons Union in Marin County as a teenager. While working as a mason, he moved to Vallejo in the early 1930's.

Always active in labor affairs, Stanley assisted in the re-organization of the Solano County Building Trade Council. Stanley served as Chairman of the Building Codes Committee for the revision of city building codes and the establishing of building codes in Solano County. He also served as the first Chairman of a