the PMA by a 9–0 vote. From this point on-
ward, the FDA engaged in an obvious pattern of
delay and deception and even went as far as to re-
ject TMJ Implants’ Fossa-Eminence Prosthesis from the market, which had been available for almost 40 years. This had done nothing more than to cause harm to patents
and cost the company millions of dollars.
This was done at the same time that the ap-
plication for TMJ Concepts, a competitor of TMJ Implants, sailed through the process.

The agency went so far as to reconvene a new Medical Devices Advisory Committee late last year, with a clear majority of its members lacking the required expertise, which denied the company’s application.

It was not until Mr. Bernard Statland, the new Director, Consumer Office of Device Eval-
ation (ODE) was brought in that the logjam was broken the PMA was quickly approved.

As the above demonstrates, several con-
cerns remain about the process that has taken place over the last two years. It is no secret that everyone involved in this case believes that there have been significant questions raised about the process—the sluggish pace of the review of the engineering data for both the total and partial joint and, more impor-
tantly, the constant “moving of the goal posts”
during the review of both PMAs.

Over the last two years, my office has re-
ceived numerous letters from physicians all across the country—from the Mayo Clinic to the University of Maryland—each describing the benefit of the partial joint and the fact that the partial and total joint results in immediate and dramatic decrease in pain, an increase in range of motion and increased function.

While I am, of course, pleased that the ap-
plication has been approved by the FDA after
much delay, the circumstances of the last two years cast doubt, in my view, the integrity of the agency and, it is for this reason that I bring it to the House’s attention.

Dr. Christensen is a true professional and a
pioneer in his field and holder of the first pa-
ents. His implants are widely accepted as ef-
cfective and safe throughout the dental and
surgery community—indeed, several of my
constituents have literally had their lives
changed by the procedure. I am convinced
that the work of TMJ is and always has been
based on solid, scientific principles and the re-
moval of the implants from the market had been erroneous, contrary to the Agency’s ear-
lier findings and the statutory standard that
should be applied. This was devastating to
thousands in the general public and dev-
astating to the financial status of the company.
Later this year, the House of Representa-
tives will consider legislation reauthorizing the Food and Drug Administration and I would like
to urge the House Commerce Committee to
hold hearings on the TMJ Implant case and to
carry through a thorough investigation into the
FDA’s review of the Premarket Approval Ap-
plication of TMJ Implants’ Fossa-Eminence Prosthesis. I would like to take this opportunity to sub-
mit into the record two articles from FDAWebview which shed light on the TMJ Im-
plant case.
EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Benjamin Green of Morenci, Michigan
RaeAnn Herman of Manitou, Michigan
Alexander Kennedy of Michiana, Michigan
Chelsey McConnn of Bronson, Michigan
Ingrid Meye of Pittsford, Michigan
Martin Muntz of Manchester, Michigan
Rebekah Preston of Quincy, Michigan
Lisa Sellers of Battle Creek, Michigan
Kristen Taddionio of Manchester, Michigan
Bethany Wheeler of Morenci, Michigan

The finalists of the LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship Program are being honored for showing that same generosity of spirit, depth of intelligence, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan. They are young men and women of character, ambition, and initiative, who have already learned the value of hard work, discipline, and commitment.

These exceptional students have consistently displayed their dedication, intelligence, and concern throughout their high school experience. They are people who stand out among their peers due to their many achievements and the disciplined manner in which they meet challenges. While they have already accomplished a great deal, these young people possess the talent and the drive to learn the keys to success in any endeavor.

I am proud to join with their admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to the finalists of the 2001 LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship Program.

SPEECH BY AHMET ERTEGUN

HON. ROBERT WEXLER
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 12, 2001

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following speech given by Ahmet Ertegun, Chief Executive Officer of Atlantic Records, on May 18, 2001, after receiving the Prestigious Federation of Turkish American Associations (FTAA) Cultural Lifetime Achievement Award during the FTAA’s Turkish Cultural Week.

As co-founder of the House Caucus on U.S.-Turkish Relations and Turkish-Americans, I believe there is no individual more deserving of the FTAA Cultural Achievement Award than Ahmet Ertegun who is a leading voice in the Turkish-American community and an extraordinary humanitarian.

It would be an understatement to say that Mr. Ertegun is the epitome of the American dream. As a successful businessman and self-starter, he co-founded one of the most successful international recording studios, Atlantic Records. Mr. Ertegun has also been deeply involved in many worthwhile philanthropic activities. Thousands of individuals in the United States and throughout the world have benefited from his commitment and involvement in charities and civic organizations.

The Turkish-American community should be extremely proud to have Mr. Ertegun as a leading spokesman to promote Turkish culture and history in the United States. He, along with the Federation of Turkish American Associations, are the heart and soul of a dynamic Turkish-American community. Finally, I want to thank Mr. Ertegun and the FTAA for their commitment to strengthening the relationship between the United States and Turkey.

I believe that the friendship and strategic partnership between America and Turkey are essential to both countries and will grow even more important throughout the 21st century. Again, I join the Federation of Turkish American Associations and the Turkish-American community in celebrating Mr. Ertegun’s extraordinary achievements and congratulate him on receiving the FTAA Cultural Lifetime Achievement award.

Thank you.

Your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen:

It is a great honor for me to be recognized by the Federation of Turkish American Associations.

I deem it a great honor to have been introduced by my dear friend, Arif Mardin.

Arif, as our musical director, has produced the key monumental record hits that have been the highlights of Atlantic’s history: “Respect” by Aretha Franklin, the Saturday Night Fever album by Bee Gees, and “Winds Beneath My Wings” by Bette Midler just to name a few.

I was recently invited to a white-tie gala banquet in Nashville to get a music citation. This was a period when I was using crutches to walk.

As they called my name and I started to walk up to the podium to receive the award, this southern lady turned to me and said: “You must be mighty proud. This is the first time we’ve given this award to a foreigner.”

But to be serious, it is wonderful to see such a large group of Turkish Americans. Each and every one of you is an important part of what has become the beginnings of a group which could have some political influence in the near future, both here in America and also in Turkey, through our family and friends.

It is most important that we, as Turkish Americans, champion the causes of freedom and democracy, both here and in Turkey.

As you all must know, Turkey is now going through a terrible time because of economic mismanagement. We are all aware of the rumors and accusations in the Turkish press of chaos and corruption, in both the public and the private sector.

But what has been the savior of Turkey has been the selfless and honest dedication of so many of its citizens, and the ever-present vigil of the Turkish Army, to protect the legacy of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk. They have been our saviors through the many difficulties since the formation of the Republic in 1923.

With the coming of the current crisis and the devolution of the Turkish lira, President Bulent Ecevit sent for a top economist from the World Bank, Mr. Kemal Dervis, to establish reforms and to encourage economic help from our friends in America and Europe.

He has been promised over 16 billion dollars with stringent conditions, which require drastic changes in the economic and political systems initiated by Ataturk at the beginning of the Republic.

Ataturk’s dream was to bring his country and its people into the modern world’s mainstream, and shortly before he died, he left this important message and I quote: “I am leaving no sense of dogma, nor am I leaving as my legacy any commandant that is frozen in time or cast in stone.

TRIBUTE TO 2001 LeGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP FINALISTS

HON. NICK SMITH
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 12, 2001

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is a sincere pleasure to recognize the finalists of the 2001 LeGrand Smith Scholarship Program. This special honor is an appropriate tribute to the academic accomplishment, demonstration of leadership and responsibility, and commitment to social involvement displayed by these remarkable young adults. We all have reason to celebrate their success, for it is in their promising and capable hands that our future rests:

Nicole Albain of Deerfield, Michigan
Laura Battles of Adrian, Michigan
Zoe Bills of Jackson, Michigan
Jonathan Chapman of East Leroy, Michigan
Bethany Decker of Adrian, Michigan
Elizabeth Flack of Jackson, Michigan

13257