

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SENATOR DOLE'S CALL FOR RECOGNIZING ENGLISH AS AMERICA'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 1995

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, many of us in this House—indeed, close to 200 of us—have joined in sponsoring various legislative measures that would declare English as our country's official language. Beyond mere declaration, and depending on the particular proposal, these bills and resolutions contain various mechanisms of implementation and enforcement.

The movement behind recognizing English as our official language, I believe, is growing by the day. I continue to receive communications from my constituents, asking that we, in Congress, take action accordingly, and I am pleased to be a cosponsor of two such English language measures, H.R. 123 and H.R. 1005.

And, Mr. Speaker, it is with this emerging English energy in mind that I take particular pleasure in making available excerpts from a speech by the distinguished majority leader of the U.S. Senate, BOB DOLE, in which he stressed the unifying role of one language. Senator DOLE addressed the American Legion Convention in Indianapolis, IN, earlier this week on Labor Day.

You are Freedom's heroes and American patriots, and I'm proud to be among you. Each of you has answered America's call—whether it was to fight for our freedom, or to defend the peace in which we have prospered for so many years. Each of you knows what it means to wear the uniform of your country, to put your country first and to be willing to bear any sacrifice to keep her free.

Because of you, and those who came before you, we Americans are the freest people on earth. And you know as well as I do how we stay that way; we must remain the strongest country on earth.

That's what I want to talk with you about today. Keeping America strong—in her might and in her heart, in the face of external enemies and in the presence of threats from within. America is still the land of the free and the home of the brave, and a great century of hope and opportunity is about to unfold before us. But to claim that future, America needs your help. For some in America believe our might is no longer needed, and some think our definition of what it means to be an American is out of date.

Of course, neither is true. Can there be any doubt that the world is still a dangerous place? Yes, the Cold War is over. We won one of humanity's greatest struggles against totalitarianism and oppression. But today peace is threatened and dark forces are multiplying in almost every corner of the world.

For the demands of freedom require us to modernize our forces, to maintain our technological edge, and to ensure that America remains the world's one and only superpower. We will never apologize for that. Our goal is not just to be strong enough to turn back a threat. We must be so strong no one

ever again is even tempted to threaten us, at all.

But if we are to return this country to greatness, we must do more than restore America's defenses. We must return as a people to the original concept of what it means to be American. This means tackling subjects the arbiters of political correctness don't even want discussed: For example, English must be recognized as America's official language. Western tradition and American greatness must be taught in our schools. And the Federal government just end its war on traditional American values.

America has always been more than just a place on a map, it has held a claim on our hearts. We are a nation dedicated to a proposition: that all men and women are created equal, endowed by our Creator with certain, inalienable rights. Our forefathers rejected race and religion as the forces to form a nation, choosing instead the ideals of freedom and democracy. It was a radical gamble, and ever since we have held it to be an article of faith that those who would be Americans must first abandon lesser allegiances. As Franklin Roosevelt once said, "Americanism . . . is not, and never was, a matter of race and ancestry."

Succeeding waves of immigrants have been drawn to America by this idea. Lacking the centuries-old, primal bonds of other nations, we have used our language, our history and our code of values to make the American experiment work. We have used them to forge millions of diverse individuals into one people with a common purpose. Language, history and values: these are the strings that bind our hearts to America. These are the forces that have held us together—allowing us to be diverse and yet united, to absorb untold millions of immigrants while coming the closest any country ever has to the classless, upwardly mobile society of our ideals.

But these keys to unity are under attack from our government and from intellectual elites who seem embarrassed by America. What we see as opportunity they see as oppression. Where we see a proud past, they see a legacy of shame. What we hold as moral truth, they call intolerance. They have false theories, long dissertations and endless studies to back them up. But they know so much they have somehow missed the fact that the United States of America is the greatest force for good the world has ever known.

Yes, we have our faults. But part of what makes me so proud to be an American is the constant effort of our people to do better—to make our country right and good and just. Unfortunately some policies and programs born out of that desire have gone awry. Begun for the best of reasons and then hijacked by the Embarrassed-to-be-American crowd, certain Federal programs are untying the strings of citizenship.

LOBBYING

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, August 9, 1995, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The report follows:

LOBBYING AND SPECIAL INTERESTS

Governing in America has become increasingly difficult in recent years. Part of the problem is that the country is much bigger than it used to be. Since World War II, the population of the U.S. has grown from 130 million people to 260 million. The country has become much more diverse: more than half of all California voters in the 1996 election will be non-white, and some of my colleagues will barely speak a word of English during their next congressional campaign. The country also faces difficult policy issues—from balancing the budget to the challenge of cheap labor abroad. But part of the problem is also the increasing role of special interests in the political process.

Special interests groups have become much more numerous and well-organized in recent years. Washington, of course, has always had lobbyists, and contacting Members of Congress is a basic form of political expression. But we have far more lobbyists now than ever before and they have become very sophisticated and aggressive. Lobbying is one of the biggest growth industries around. There are more than 12,000 registered lobbyists in Washington today, three times more than 20 years ago, but studies show that there are actually close to 100,000 people in Washington who conduct lobbying activities. I used to hear from just a few farm groups on agricultural legislation, for example. Today there are dozens of groups that represent every commodity; not long ago I was visited by people representing Hawaiian Macadamia nut growers. Many lobbyists now also represent foreign governments or companies.

In recent years lobbyists have also greatly expanded their grassroots efforts—trying to persuade ordinary voters to advocate by their letters and contacts with legislators. They use the technologies of the electronic age and can quickly reach and recruit thousands of Americans. With their increasing numbers and influence, lobbyists have become a real power in Washington. They can organize mass demonstrations and flood Members' offices with phone calls, fax messages, and letters.

BENEFITS OF LOBBYISTS

In some ways the growth of these interest groups and lobbying efforts is healthy. I sometimes walk through the halls of Capitol Hill and think I am in the middle of a convention or jamboree. Americans of all persuasions are clamoring to be heard. No single group dominates and freedom of expression is widespread and vigorous.

Lobbyists can play an important role in the legislative process. They help to facilitate the flow of information between legislators and their constituents, and they are well-informed and have detailed knowledge of the issues and Washington politics. They are often skillful in bringing contending parties together and building coalitions. With their growing numbers, they are also able to organize constituent interests and get broad numbers of people involved in grassroots lobbying. Lobbyists often play an integral role in representing less prominent interests by publicizing their causes.

DRAWBACKS

But the current lobbying system does have drawbacks. Sometimes it seems that everybody is represented except the average man

• 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.

and woman, and that their interests can be lost in all the special pleading.

Hoosiers are rightly concerned about the influence lobbyists have in our federal government. The efforts of lobbyists can at times go too far—giving lavish gifts to influential Members, helping to funnel large contributions to campaign coffers, using strong-arm tactics to get action on their particular agenda, and drafting entire sections of bills or official committee reports. Current lobbying regulations requiring the public disclosure of lobbyists' expenses and activities are vague and are generally considered inadequate.

Lobbyists' efforts can cancel each other out. Members of Congress often witness a clash of sophisticated and aggressive interest groups attempting to achieve contradictory policy goals. They push and pull in so many different directions that nothing seems to move anywhere. They add many issues to the public agenda and that just makes it much more difficult to get legislation passed—hence gridlock and a greater level of public dissatisfaction.

NEED FOR REFORM

All of this has brought about more pressure for lobbying reform. I support several reforms. We should require disclosure of who is paying the lobbyist, how much is being paid, what federal agencies and congressional committees are being lobbied, and the issues involved. Lobbyists should be required to identify how much is being spent on activities such as mass mailing campaigns. We should prohibit Members of Congress and their staffs from accepting gifts from lobbyists. Voters have a right to be skeptical about some of the gifts Members can now legally take. We should also require the public disclosure of bill language or committee report language drafted by lobbyists. The Senate recently passed measures to impose a gift ban and to improve lobbying disclosure; the House should follow suit.

Lobbying reform is needed, but it must be balanced. We must not reach too far and try to restrict legitimate lobbying activities and public contact with Members of Congress. Almost any attempt by the government to limit private and nongovernmental entities from using their own private funds to lobby will be difficult due to the First Amendment. Individuals who lobby on their own behalf or volunteers who lobby on behalf of a group should not be covered. In regulating lobbyists we have to be very careful to protect free speech and specifically careful to exclude from regulation contacts from churches and related groups.

CONCLUSION

Lobbying will always remain an important part of our political process because of the First Amendment right to petition the government for redress of grievances, but there are abuses that need to be checked. Our goals should not be to try to stamp out lobbying entirely, but to improve the current system so that it becomes more open and accountable and enables us to take the multiplicity of interests in this country and forge them into the national interest.

TRIBUTE TO DON BOSCO TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 1995

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Don Bosco Technical Institute.

Bosco Tech is celebrating 40 years of service to the San Gabriel Valley and the Greater Los Angeles area. Since 1955, young men have tackled the rigorous and challenging curriculum that this notable high school offers.

Like most high schools, Bosco Tech offers college preparatory academic courses, interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities. What sets this school apart from the rest is the intensive instruction and practical experience in technology. Students specialize in technological areas such as, design, electronics and computer, graphic communication, manufacturing, materials science, power and transportation, and construction technology. Students select one of these areas to concentrate on after first taking introductory courses in at least four of the previously mentioned subjects. Based on their preference, as well as faculty and parental consultation, students select a final technological major.

Bosco Tech students also have the option of remaining at the school for a fifth year of study. During this time, they can attain an associate of science degree in their selected areas of specialization. Whichever option a student chooses, he will be significantly more prepared for the challenges that await than many of his peers.

The methods used at Bosco Tech are a definite success. Their acceptance rate at major colleges and universities for graduates is unparalleled in the Greater Los Angeles area. Bosco Tech alumni are leaders in their fields and communities. It is no surprise that they attribute much of their success to their time spent at Bosco Tech.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this widely recognized and respected school. For 40 years, Don Bosco Technical Institute has invested in the future of America by preparing tomorrow's leaders.

SALUTE TO THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL RECTORY

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 1995

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the centennial anniversary of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory.

In 1896, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory was established on 2319 South Third Street, in South Philadelphia. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory has witnessed many changes throughout the years. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory has been blessed with 10 pastors since its creation including the founding pastor, the Rev. Bernard F. Gallagher, to the present pastor, the Rev. Gerald D. Canavan. Today the church hosts many organizations to reach out to its parishioners: Catholic Youth Organization, Senior Citizens' Club, Parish Choir, Pastoral Council. The parish also maintains a grammar school of 457 pupils which will lead Our Lady of Mount Carmel into the next century.

In April 1996, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory's parishioners will proudly celebrate their 100th anniversary with events beginning in October 1995, and lasting through Sunday, April 14, 1996, with a concelebrated Mass at which the Most Reverend Anthony J.

Bevilacqua, Archbishop of Philadelphia will be the main celebrant.

I hope my colleagues will join me today in wishing Rev. Gerald D. Canavan and the congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory a very happy 100th anniversary. I wish Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory the very best in its next 100 years of service to the American Catholic community in South Philadelphia.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 1995

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, although I intended to vote for S. 21, the Bosnia and Herzegovina Self-Defense Act, on August 1, 1995, my vote was recorded in the negative. As my voting record reflects, I have consistently supported all efforts to lift the arms embargo on Bosnia and Herzegovina.

TRIBUTE TO EUPHRATES ABBITT, OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to join the family, friends, and coworkers of Euphrates Abbitt in recognizing her 33 dedicated, consecutive years of service to our community. Her retirement from Key Biscayne Elementary on June 23, 1995, was truly a loss for the Dade County Public Schools.

Euphrates graduated from Middle Township High School in Cape May Court House, NJ, in 1957. She began her higher learning at Edward Waters College period in Jacksonville, FL, and received a BS degree from Florida A&M University. Euphrates continued her studies in the field of education as she graduated with honors from Indiana University with a master of science in Education. She continued her postgraduate work in education at the University of Miami and Florida International University.

Euphrates Abbitt began her long career in education as a creative fourth grade teacher at Poinciana Park Elementary. She eventually taught all elementary grades. Through her hard work and willingness to learn new techniques, Euphrates soon became known among her peers for her dedication to teaching excellence.

In 1969, when integration was introduced into the Dade County Schools, Euphrates Abbitt was among those teachers who made it happen. She felt close to the students she taught, and they had confidence in her. She expresses, "If I can reach just one child, then my efforts are worth it."

Over the many years of Euphrates' career, she successfully carried out various assignments including serving as assistant principal and acting principal of Key Biscayne Elementary School. She has been the recipient of numerous awards, certificates, plaques, proclamations, and mementoes through the years from her community, colleagues, and students.