

methods such as discriminatory product standards and testing methods to control their ceramic tile imports and, in some cases, to divert ceramic tile manufactured in third countries over to the U.S. market by imposing restrictions on those third country exports to the EU.

I am in support of the reauthorization of the GSP Program and trust that import-sensitive products such as tile will not be subject to GSP.

MORE THAN A DIFFERENCE OF DEGREES

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, a respected leader of California's agriculture community, Bill Mattos, has hit the nail on the head. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, the rule he rightly ridicules is one that tolerates as fresh chicken sold to consumers that is frozen so stiff it could drive nails.

For the enlightenment of our colleagues and to illustrate once again the folly of letting frozen masquerade as fresh, because that is what Government says, I take pleasure in presenting the following editorial expression by Mr. Mattos that was published in the Capital Press Agriculture Weekly on October 27, 1995.

POULTRY LABEL CHARADE CONFIRMS PUBLIC'S CYNICISM ABOUT POLITICS
(By Bill Mattos)

When is a frozen chicken fresh?

One newspaper says, "When it's got the political muscle of the 800-pound gorilla that is the poultry lobby."

I guess that's the same frozen poultry thawed on its way to California from some of the nation's largest poultry processors.

Believe it or not, Congress spent more than four hours recently debating chicken labeling, then barred the U.S. Department of Agriculture from enforcing truth in labeling.

Congress just doesn't get it. Voter anger, so visibly demonstrated in the last two federal elections, was not simply about one party vs. the other. Rather, it was directed at the status quo—a sense that in Washington, the concerns of deep-pocketed special interests outweigh the common good.

Recent action in both the House and Senate shows the lengths members will go to please special interests. In the midst of hefty debate on a welfare "revolution" and Medicare "overhaul," Congress found it necessary to vote on whether chicken that has been frozen to rock-solid temperatures can be thawed and called "fresh."

After weeks of serious debate, with California's representatives arguing the merits of freshness, Congress decided that yes, indeed, it should be legal to label defrosted poultry as "fresh."

This legislative squawking is ludicrous. But it means serious, added profits to a few big chicken producers in the Southeast who use these "fresh" labels to sell chicken to unsuspecting consumers nationwide at a higher price.

Consumers who buy fresh food believe it has never been frozen. That's why USDA officials in August announced that chicken producers can no longer put deceptive "fresh" labels on poultry that has been iced to below 26 degrees, and subsequently thawed for sale in grocery stores.

USDA policymakers didn't create this rule overnight. Two years ago, they began study-

ing the issue. They tested the freezing point of poultry—and discovered the meat becomes crystallized at 26 degrees. They held field hearings in cities throughout the country. They drafted a rule and published it in the Federal Register to solicit public comments.

And the public responded: USDA's mailbox received thousands of letters from irate consumers, all of the leading consumer advocacy organizations, as well as chefs, who felt the rule was important enough for them to write in.

Congress held its own hearings, which included testimony by noted chef Wolfgang Puck, who pounded a so-called "fresh" chicken that was rock-solid on a table in front of a House committee. Members participated in chicken bowling with "fresh" chickens that were hard as bowling balls.

The point consumers were trying to make was simple: A "fresh" chicken has never been frozen. Shoppers in search of fresh vegetables bypass the freezer case and go to the produce department. Likewise, those in search of fresh seafood head straight for the lobster tank. So why on earth did the Senate vote to provide an exception for poultry?

The answer: It puts lots of dollars in the pockets of giant poultry corporations in a few states like Arkansas and Mississippi, and costs 40 cents to \$2 more per pound for consumers who buy this "fresh" (actually, thawed) chicken.

Southeastern senators whose constituents include the largest chicken-producing conglomerates went to the Senate floor to say it was them vs. California, a state where consumers purchase lots of fresh chicken. Maybe they had a point—but only on the Senate floor. Off the Capitol grounds, it was the Senate vs. millions of consumers, and consumers lost.

In fact, the vote in the Senate was 61 to 38 in favor of defrauding consumers. Senators from the frozen-chicken states locked arms and relied on the old network to reverse a scientifically based USDA rule that was two years in the making. Subsequent objections to this ridiculousness raised elsewhere in Congress were overruled.

Kudos to Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., and Sen. Dale Bumpers, D-Ark., or this legislative feat. Cochran is the chairman of the Senate subcommittee on Agriculture Appropriations, the panel that holds the purse strings for the USDA. He got the ball rolling by slipping language into an appropriations bill before his committee that would prevent the department from using its funding to implement or enforce its truth-in-labeling rule.

But it was Bumpers who, during debate in the Senate, revealed the true thrust of the big chicken lobby's argument: economics. He said it was difficult to ship chickens from Arkansas without freezing them, claiming that "economically, that is not doable." So in pursuant to additional profits for several large companies, Congress overruled conventional scientific wisdom.

These actions typify what is wrong with Washington. The Congress overturned in a matter of weeks a pro-consumer, common-sense ruling by the USDA that took two years and many hours of public input, to make.

In the end, Congress chickened out and voted for the best interests of special interests, hoping consumers didn't notice.

Well, consumers and fresh poultry producers did notice, and we were disgusted.

This isn't a choice between fresh and frozen. It's a choice between consumers' interests and hard-ball politics as usual. What will it be, Washington?

SCHWARTZ, KARSIF & CO., P.C.
MARKS 35 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

Mr. FOX. Mr. Speaker, when Bill Karsif and Sid Schwartz decided to enter into an accounting partnership, the two CPAs flipped a coin to determine the name of the firm. Sid Schwartz won the toss.

Since that time, some 35 years ago, Sidney A. Schwartz and William Karsif, both 67, have never looked back and have been consistently progressive in operating this CPA and financial planning corporation which still carries their names.

Schwartz, Karsif & Co., P.C., currently has offices at the Executive News, Building L, 2300 Computer Avenue, in Willow Grove, PA.

These two talented CPAs who have specialized in providing accounting services and financial planning for small businesses, will mark their 35th anniversary together on December 12 of this year with a special reception for all of their clients, business associates, and friends.

The two became friendly as a result of their membership in the Adelphi Lodge of B'nai B'rith and their neighborhood association in the East Oak Lane section of Philadelphia.

Schwartz is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School and Karsif is a graduate of Temple University. Both are members of the American and Pennsylvania Institutes of CPAs. Schwartz is also a certified financial planner and is active in the CFP Institute.

When they decided to form a partnership, Karsif was working in his own private practice and teaching at Pierce Business School, while Schwartz was also in his own private practice. Schwartz teases about earning \$40 per week back then, while Karsif muses about earning \$5 per hour.

The two businessmen joined together with one small office located in Center City Philadelphia and an office in the Mt. Airy section. "We knew that together we could offer better services for our clients," they note.

Through the decades that followed, their general accounting practice grew from the original partners, with one junior accountant and a secretary, to a multimillion dollar professional corporation with 24 professionals plus clerical and support staff.

SK&Co grew and acquired an expertise in many areas of small businesses including scrap metals, commercial contract cleaning services, commercial and residential real estate and construction, professional corporation in medicine and law, manufacturing, laboratory research, boarding homes, and personal care facilities. Their current client list spans businesses and corporations in some 25 States.

The firm has expanded its offices three times since its inception in 1961, moving to Cheltenham, PA, in 1971; Rydal, PA, in 1982; and finally to its spacious modern office complex in Willow Grove.

Schwartz says that the company was one of the first to run personal income tax forms on an in-house computer system and has never farmed out client work to outside service bureaus, specifically to maintain absolute confidentiality.

In the late 1980's, following on the heels of its latest expansion, the firm added SKC Financial Planning Inc., an affiliated company, to its services. Schwartz, Karsif & Co. was one of the first accounting corporations to provide asset management and financial planning for the benefit of its clients.

Schwartz and Karsif now hold the title of co-chairman of the board and spend their time mainly in tax and financial consulting. They are also active in the area of succession of family-owned businesses. They share the overall responsibilities for expanding the firm's client base.

The current day-to-day operational responsibilities are now being managed by Martin G. Kalos, 44, of Melrose Park, PA, who is the new president and managing shareholder, and Doris C. Liu, 48, of Washington Crossing, PA, who is secretary-treasurer and shareholder. Kalos has been with the corporation for 18 years and Liu has been a part of SK&Co for some 14 years.

TRIBUTE TO MADELEINE
HERLING: AN EXTRAORDINARY
WOMAN WHO GAVE THE GIFTS
OF LOVE AND HOPE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in appreciation and celebration of the life of Madeleine Herling. Annette and I were very saddened by her passing, for the world was graced by her extraordinary life.

Madeleine had an insatiable good will—she could not do enough for her fellow human being. She worked tirelessly as a leader at the Emmanuel Foundation, where she was a vigilant guardian of the lessons of the Hungarian Holocaust and an invaluable advocate for the rights of Hungarian Jews.

Madeleine's contagious warmth and optimism could overcome any dark situation. She used these qualities to bring hope and happiness to those who seemed beyond hope, such as the occupants of an old Jewish nursing home for survivors of the Holocaust. She gave every person she met her undivided attention and devotion.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of Madeleine Herling. Please join me in taking a moment to remember the many accomplishments of this extraordinary woman.

FRIGHT NIGHT

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, tonight officially marks Halloween—Fright Night. How-

ever, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have waged their scare campaign for months. They have no proposals to balance the budget, save and strengthen Medicare, and change welfare. Instead, my Democrat colleagues, have chosen to spend their time and energy dressing up our Republican proposals in exaggerations and falsehoods. Then, they come to the floor of this Chamber to spring their distortions on the most vulnerable members of society—kids, seniors, and the less fortunate.

Halloween or not, today the masks come off and the truth comes out. Last week, my Republican colleagues and I passed a budget which balances by 2002. This package reins in 40 years of reckless spending, we save Medicare from bankruptcy by strengthening it for today's and tomorrow's seniors; and, we provide tax relief for families struggling to provide a strong future for their kids.

While my Democrat colleagues try to trick the American people with stories of impending doom, the truth is that a balanced budget brings nothing but treats for this country. Lower interest rates translate into more affordable housing, car, and student loans. A balanced budget means a higher standard of living for all Americans.

No tricks, no lies. My Republican colleagues are serious about keeping our promises and changing the culture of Washington to increase opportunities for all Americans.

A TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF
FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS
B.F. SISK

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

Mr. DOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in remembering a former Member of this body and a true leader from California's Central Valley, B.F. Sisk, who died last week at the age of 84. As one who follows the tradition of moderate Democrats from central California who are dedicated to furthering the cause of valley agriculture that Mr. Sisk helped establish, it is an honor for me to offer this tribute.

Mr. Sisk ran for Congress in 1954 while working as a tire salesman in Fresno and went on to become one of the most influential Members of the House by the time he retired in 1978. His contributions ranged from serving on the House panel that led the way to our country landing on the Moon to being one of the Rules Committee members who ensured that President Kennedy's civil rights and education initiatives were enacted.

But back home, Mr. Sisk was perhaps best known for his dogged work that led to the building of the San Luis unit of the Central Valley project. The San Luis unit includes 115 miles of canals and the 2 million acre-foot San

Luis Reservoir—the largest reservoir in the world without a natural stream.

Because of the San Luis unit, millions of acres of farmland on the valley's west side have been brought into production. It is now one of the most productive agricultural regions of the world. In honor of Mr. Sisk's leadership, the dam creating the San Luis Reservoir has been renamed the B.F. Sisk Dam.

Along with a host of other projects he helped bring to the valley, Mr. Sisk also left behind a political legacy. One of his top aides, Tony Coelho, was elected to replace Mr. Sisk when he retired in 1978. As we all know, Mr. Coelho went on to become the House majority whip. Throughout his career, Mr. Coelho cited the mentorship of Mr. Sisk as one of the keys to his success.

Less directly, Mr. Sisk also had an impact on many current Members of Congress, myself included. He set an example of a non-partisan, moderate Democrat who put accomplishments for his district ahead of party politics. It is an example that I and many others have tried to follow.

Again, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the memory of B.F. Sisk.

TRIBUTE TO CARLOS GARCÍA

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Carlos García, a remarkable journalist and a dear friend, who was honored on October 20 at a banquet dinner in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of Guayaquil 85, Inc., in Queens, NY.

Mr. García, who was born in Ecuador, came to the United States in his youth. With perseverance and dedication, he started an exceptional career as a reporter.

During his 23-year career, Mr. García has been able to inform members of the Hispanic community, who like him, were always anxious to learn about the latest news on Latin America, the United States, and their immediate communities.

Through accurate and timely reporting, Mr. García gained the recognition of his peers and became news editor at Noticias del Mundo, one of the most widely read newspapers in Spanish in the New York City area. He also worked for the Spanish radio station Radio WADO, and continues to produce the morning news program "Buenos Dias America."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Carlos García for his 23 years of work as an outstanding journalist and for his service to the community.