

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TILLIE K. FOWLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 1995

Mr. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, due to a family medical emergency, I was not present for rollcall vote Nos. 822 and 823. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on H.R. 2525 and "yes" on Senate Concurrent Resolution 33. I request unanimous consent that my statement appear in the RECORD immediately following these rollcall votes.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM KUNSTLER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 1995

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to attorney William Kunstler who recently passed away. In memory of William Kunstler and in tribute to the ideals for which he fought, I would like to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD this statement.

Mr. Kunstler was profoundly committed to the fundamentally American ideal of justice for all. As an attorney he fought against racism and for the legal rights of everyone from important political figures to marginal outsiders. His notable achievements included his work with Dr. Martin Luther King and his representation of Adam Clayton Powell and Stokely Carmichael.

To make the ideal of a just America a reality, Mr. Kunstler brought his considerable talents to defend unpopular and sometimes virtually unwinnable cases as a matter of principle. He took on the cases of many of the prisoners charged following the Attica Prison uprising. He took on the case of Wayne Williams, who was convicted of killing young boys in Atlanta, and Colin Ferguson, who was convicted of killing several people on the Long Island railroad. It is these cases that test our commitment to a fair and equitable justice system, and it is with these unpopular cases that William Kunstler proved the depth of his commitment to a fair justice system.

In her tribute to William Kunstler, Bernice Powell Jackson from the Civil Rights Journal noted that William Kunstler was a man who challenged our legal system to be the best and the fairest it could be. In this time of increasing attacks on the rights of the accused, we need to be inspired by Mr. Kunstler's commitment to a fair and equitable justice system. I would like to take this moment to honor his memory.

WORLD FOOD SUPPLIES

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, November 15, 1995 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

FUTURE WORLD FOOD SUPPLIES

The tightening of world food supplies in recent years has led many people to wonder about the long-term food outlook. Will we be facing an era of major shortages driven by world population growth that will mean sharp price increases for some and food scarcity and famine for others? Or will research advances and improved farm productivity be enough to meet the growing world needs? The long-term predictions have important implications for U.S. food and agricultural policy and for Hoosier farmers.

CURRENT SUPPLIES

In recent years, world grain supplies have tightened considerably. The world's grain harvest has not increased in any of the last five years, and since 1992 world grain consumption has exceeded production. Grain stocks carried over from one year to the next are at record lows. In the U.S., lower production, strong export demand, and reforms making farm programs more market oriented have meant that this year—for the first time since World War II—there are basically no surplus stocks in government-owned reserves. The tight supplies have led to steep price increases for wheat, rice, and corn.

LONG-TERM PROJECTIONS

Some people look at the current tight supplies and see things only getting worse. They believe that world population growth, increasingly scarce water and land resources, and the demand for better diets in developing countries will mean an era of major food scarcity. Others are optimistic. They point to advancing farm technology, unused cropland, and potential to modernize farm production in developing countries. On this view, feeding billions more around the world could easily be done.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently released a major study on the outlook for world food supplies that comes down in between these two views. Looking at the next 10 years, the report sees no looming crisis in food supplies. The report expects production to grow at basically the same rate as population, so grain use per person will remain relatively unchanged. World prices for wheat and rice are expected to lag only slightly behind inflation.

Explaining the increased demand, USDA emphasized the importance of world population growth—from 5.5 billion to 6.6 billion over the next decade—as well as efforts by countries like China to improve their diets. Yet world food production is expected to keep pace, more through higher yields than expanded cropland. Crop yields, however, are expected to grow more slowly than in the past because high-yielding rice and wheat varieties have been widely adopted and no similar research advances are anticipated soon.

FOOD SHORTAGES

While the USDA report projected adequate global food supplies, it also concluded that there will be major food shortages in some parts of the world. And on that score USDA was not optimistic. Currently some 800 million people—15% of the world's population—have inadequate diets, with many of them suffering from severe malnutrition. The study projected that food aid needs will double over the next decade, even under relatively optimistic assumptions of increased food production in the developing countries. The problem of food shortages is largely financial—the inability of poorer countries to buy adequate food.

The world food situation is like a basket half empty and half full. More people are adequately fed than ever before and much more food is available than in past decades. At the same time, there are still more hun-

gry people in the world than ever before, both in absolute numbers and as a percentage of total world population.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

One clear message from the long-term food supply projections is that we need to continue to support agricultural research. The U.S. agricultural research system has been a major reason for the productivity of our farmers, and continued research will be crucial in the years ahead to helping them meet the ever-growing markets for food.

Yet agricultural research faces federal budget cuts. Funding in 1996 will be below this year's level, and Congress will consider various reforms in the months ahead. We need to balance the budget, but deep cuts in agricultural research would be short-sighted.

FARM PROGRAMS

The increasing world food needs also mean that we should reform current federal farm programs to open up more farmland to production. Currently some 15 percent of U.S. cropland is being idled through federal commodity programs designed to help stabilize supplies and through Conservation Reserve programs designed to protect fragile cropland.

Reforms are currently being considered in Congress to reduce government land set-asides, allow farmers to withdraw less-sensitive land from the Conservation Reserve, and allow farmers more planting flexibility to react to world market needs. I support such efforts.

FOOD AID

We also need to improve U.S. food aid programs, since the end of World War II, the U.S. has been the world's bulwark against famine. This year we will provide \$1.3 billion in food aid—about 1/10 of 1 percent of the total federal budget. Food aid benefits not just needy people overseas but also U.S. farmers, by providing a market for their current production and by laying the groundwork for future export sales. Of the 50 largest buyers of American farm goods, 43 are countries that formerly received U.S. food aid. Former food aid recipients purchase more than \$35 billion in U.S. agricultural products each year. By helping feed the needy we also create major new markets for our exports.

But food aid programs also face budget cuts, and it is clear that we will have to do more with less. That's why recent Clinton Administration efforts to overhaul and "reinvent" food aid programs—better coordinating assistance and focusing much more on measuring and managing for results—are a step in the right direction.

CONCLUSION

Long-term projections about global food supplies and needs are very tentative, and are highly sensitive to even the smallest changes in assumptions. The latest projections are generally reassuring for those of us in the U.S., but they also indicate the need for a long-term view in our food and agricultural policies. We must continue to invest in the ability of U.S. farmers to meet the needs of global markets.

IN SUPPORT OF STRONG LOBBYING LEGISLATION

HON. MICHAEL PATRICK FLANAGAN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 1995

Mr. FLANAGAN. Mr. Speaker, today is a historic day. Finally, after almost a half century, the House passed and sent to the President a strong lobbying disclosure bill that will

serve to close the various loopholes in current lobbying law and make the rules mean what they are supposed to mean.

Because it was necessary to send to the President a clean bill—any amendment adopted to H.R. 2564 would have ultimately served to kill lobbying reform in Congress for yet another year—Members of Congress were forced to withdraw and vote down a number of well-intended and worthy amendments.

Sadly, one of those withdrawn amendments was offered by the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL]. Mr. DINGELL's amendment would have made a step in the right direction in stifling the atrocious lobbying procedure associated with so-called astroturf lobbying in which lobbying firms falsely use a person's name in a telegram or letter in an effort to influence a Member of Congress on pending legislation.

In August, during consideration of H.R. 1555, the Communications Act of 1995, my office received thousands of these computer-generated form telegrams. They were supposedly from my constituents outraged over the telecommunications deregulation and reform legislation. But after my staff and I contacted over 200 of those whose names and addresses that appeared on the telegrams, our results revealed that only a tiny fraction of "senders"—I am talking about only a handful—even knew their names has been used in this way, and one gentleman had long been deceased.

Mr. DINGELL's amendment to establish a penalty of a fine or up to 1 year imprisonment for lobbying firms who falsely uses a person's name in a computerized telegram or postcard is a necessary step in ending these despicable lobbying techniques. I urge all my colleagues to support it when introduced as free-standing legislation.

While I strongly support Mr. DINGELL's language, I also believe it is important for Congress to enact legislation that would require full disclosure of expenditures on this so-called astroturf lobbying. Neither H.R. 2564 nor the Dingell amendment requires disclosure of expenditures on astroturf lobbying. I believe this important information should be included in the registration and reports filed by lobbyists or organizations that lobby. This could be accomplished through separate legislation which I hope will be introduced this year.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Mr. DINGELL for offering his amendment today and for withdrawing it. I hope we can get together and put our minds to work and introduce a strong lobbying reform bill this year. Mr. CANADY, chairman of the Subcommittee on the Constitution of the full Committee of the Judiciary and lead sponsor of H.R. 2564, is also committed to working on another lobbying bill. With a year left in the 104th Congress, I believe this will be achieved.

ROMANIAN NATIONAL DAY—
DECEMBER 1

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 29, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, on the eve of Romania's National Day on December 1, I would like to take a few moments to recognize

the strides it has made since overthrowing communism just a mere 5 years ago.

Romania, like many of its neighbors, rejoiced when it was finally able to break free of communism and join the West. Having lived through some very rough years of a Stalinist inspired dictatorship, the Romanian people and their government are firmly dedicated to establishing a modern democracy.

Once obtaining its new-found freedoms, Mr. Speaker, Romania went on to achieve a number of firsts. For example, in 1989, Romania became the first country in central Europe to adopt a new Constitution, approved by a new, freely elected Parliament and by national referendum. Romania was also the first country in the region to have three rounds of free elections in 6 years, including parliamentary, presidential, and local. Finally, Romania achieved the distinction of being the first central European nation to join the Partnership for Peace [PPF] on January 26, 1994.

I am pleased to note, Mr. Speaker, that the Romania Government regards its bilateral relationship with the United States to be very special, and is intent on developing an intense cooperation in all fields with the United States—political, military, economic, and cultural. For example, at my invitation on behalf of the Congressional Research Service Task Force on International Parliamentary Programs. Mr. Adrian Nastase, President of the Romanian Parliament—equivalent to our Speaker of the House—is currently leading a delegation to Washington to institute modernization techniques for running the Romanian Parliament.

The Romanian Parliament is currently busy debating a law on political parties, and several other bills—on competition, on real estate promotion, on a forest code, on labor protection—demonstrating that democracy is hard at work in Romania. Ironically enough, when recently asked which issue is currently the most important one before the Romanian Parliament President Nastase answered that the budget has taken precedence before all other political issues. I guess some things do not change from Parliament to Parliament, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Central and Eastern Europe experienced tremendous hope with the fall of the Iron Curtain. The people of these countries and their governments are now facing the sobering challenges to build anew a free and modern state. On the occasion of Romania's National Day, I congratulate Romania for its accomplishments to date and join with my colleagues to wishing Romania well in its future.

HONORING KENNETH R. KORNHAEUSER, FRED MILSTEIN, AND
LEONARD COOPER

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 29, 1995

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with the members of the Suffolk Association for Jewish Educational Services [SAJES] and my constituents in the fifth congressional district as they gather to honor Kenneth R. Kornhauser, Fred Milstein, and Leonard Cooper for distinguished service in advancing the cause of Jewish education in Suffolk County, NY.

Through innovative and creative leadership, Kenneth R. Kornhauser has provided a solid basis of support to the advancement of quality Jewish education. A member of Temple Beth Torah, Kenneth is an involved board member of an array of Jewish organizations that include the Suffolk Y Jewish Community Center, the Gurwin Jewish Geriatric Center, the United Jewish Community Center of Long Island, and SAJES.

Honoree Fred Milstein also is being recognized for his endless dedication to the Suffolk Jewish Community. He has exemplified himself and enhanced the community through his active and effective participation as a member of the Suffolk Jewish Center, and as a board member of SAJES, the Solomon Schechter Day School of Suffolk County, B'nai B'rith, the World Jewish Congress, and the Suffolk Jewish Communal Planning Council.

Extraordinary is a word that befits SAJES' third honoree, Leonard Cooper. Because of his extraordinary talents for enhancing the Suffolk Jewish Community, SAJES confers upon him an award of special recognition. Leonard has served with great distinction and effectiveness as the first president of the Suffolk Y Jewish Community Center, and he is also a board member of the Gurwin Jewish Geriatric Center. In addition, he has served as campaign chairman for the United Jewish Appeal on eastern Long Island.

Without compensation or demand for recognition, these men have given of their great skills and talents to the uplifting and betterment of our community. It is with great pride that I call upon all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to Kenneth R. Kornhauser, Fred Milstein, and Leonard Cooper. May their good works and selfless deeds serve as an example for all Americans to follow.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 29, 1995

Mr. COX of California. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, I was unavoidably detained and unable to return to the Capitol in time to record a "yes" vote in favor of H.R. 2564, legislation to toughen disclosure rules for lobbyists.

The passage of H.R. 2564—on the heels of last week's landmark vote to completely ban all gifts from lobbyists—adds to this new Congress' already impressive list of achievements in changing the way Washington does business.

On the first day of this Congress, the new Republican majority in the House of Representatives delivered on its promise to drastically cut congressional staff. We have continued to deliver on this pledge, cutting spending in the legislative branch, reducing committee staff by one-third, and completely eliminating three full committees and redistributing their duties.

We have also instituted internal term limits on the Speaker and committee chairmen, and ended the practice of ghost voting in committee, requiring instead that Members themselves be present to vote. And, the crown jewel of our internal reforms thus far—the first Republican bill signed into law by Bill Clinton—was legislation requiring that the laws of the land apply to Congress as well.