

Nonproliferation Treaty, but to accept restrictions that go well beyond the treaty.

The beginnings of a process that could dampen tensions along the demilitarized zone separating the two Koreas and reduce the chances of the outbreak of a new Korean war.

A North Korean commitment to resume a political dialog with South Korea.

And what does North Korea get in return for these significant concessions?

Interim shipments of heavy oil in quantities equal to the energy it has given up by shutting down its graphite moderated nuclear reactors—roughly 3.5 percent of its electrical generation capacity.

Two light-water reactors, to replace the graphite moderated reactors it has forsworn.

The gradual lifting of United States sanctions against North Korea.

Political dialog and the beginnings of a process that could eventually lead to the normalization of diplomatic relations with the United States.

Certainly this agreement does not address every concern we have about North Korea—its conventional military might, ballistic missile program, or deplorable human rights record. Even in the nuclear sphere, we will have to wait some 5 years before we are permitted to carry out the special inspections that will reveal whether the North has secret stocks of plutonium.

What this agreement does is provide us with an opening—one that did not exist before—to lift the specter of a nuclear arms race from the Korean Peninsula, begin a process of meaningful dialog between the two Koreas, and come to grips with the other problems that continue to concern us.

Mr. Speaker, four decades ago more than 30,000 brave Americans gave their lives in Korea for the cause of freedom. They succeeded in turning back North Korean aggression. But their larger purpose—to lay the groundwork for a Korean Peninsula free from the threat of war—remains unfulfilled.

This agreement represents a giant step toward the achievement of that larger purpose. It does not resolve all outstanding issues between North Korea and the rest of the world. It does not guarantee that future relations with the North will be without tensions and difficulties.

But, if fully implemented, the Geneva accord will advance our national interests and those of our allies, while holding out the promise of a better, more peaceful life to the people of Korea, both South and North.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACT

HON. BILL ORTON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 1995

Mr. ORTON. Mr. Speaker, there are few things that more people agree upon than the fact that our welfare system is a failure. No one likes it. Taxpayers don't like it, politicians don't like it, and most of all—welfare recipients don't like it.

Our welfare system often provides people who choose not to work with a better deal than those who choose to take a job. We need to create a system where work is not pe-

nalized, and where the logical choice for parents is to work to provide for their children.

For this reason, I am pleased to reintroduce the Self-Sufficiency Act, a bill aimed at encouraging the welfare reform efforts that States already have underway. The Self-Sufficiency Act uses a commonsense approach to welfare that provides assistance to participants who are working toward self-sufficiency, promotes work, and gradually eliminates benefits to those who have chosen not to participate in a self-sufficiency plan.

Moreover, the Self-Sufficiency Act may serve as a necessary transition to a welfare system that provides States with even greater control over the welfare system.

Many of the reform plans that are on the table right now are based on controversial assumptions. For example, while block grants sound like a good idea, there are serious concerns about whether most States have the capabilities and resources to take over the reigns of a social welfare system that spans some 350 programs. The Self-Sufficiency Act provides for the coordinated services and State flexibility necessary to shape welfare systems that reflect the unique needs of each State population. This bill provides a middle ground for those States that have reservations about other reform proposals.

This bill is based upon a program, the single parent employment demonstration program, that decreased the Aid to Families with Dependent Children caseload in the Kearns demonstration area 33 percent in just 2 years. The best part is that the decrease in the number of participants is due to success in assisting people in finding jobs that exist in the labor market.

Amazingly, 44 Federal Government waivers had to be approved before Utah could begin using this approach to welfare. Other States seeking to improve upon the current system have encountered similar obstacles. This plan allows States to forgo the redtape and get on with helping people enter the labor market.

Under this act, States may choose an approach to the Aid to Families with Dependent Children [AFDC] program that requires participants to work toward self-sufficiency. This approach requires every participant to negotiate a self-sufficiency plan with a caseworker. Each plan specifies an employment goal.

Under this approach, participants will have 25 percent of benefits reduced for the first month and a gradual complete phase-out of benefits over the course of 2 years if they do not follow their self-sufficiency plan.

Once a State receives approval to use the self-sufficiency approach, it must phase-in 25 percent of the State recipients at the end of 3 years, 50 percent at the end of 5 years, 75 percent at the end of 8 years, and 100 percent at the end of 10 years. In other words, the State must be committed to transforming its welfare system into a self-sufficiency based system.

States that choose this approach are required to coordinate self-sufficiency activities with programs operated under the JTPA and any other relevant programs.

States that choose this approach must provide child care for those participants that require child care assistance. This provision ensures that children will not be neglected due to the activities required of a parent participating in the self-sufficiency program. In order to lessen the financial burden for States that

choose this approach, Federal matching rates for AFDC, transitional, and at-risk child care are increased by 10 percent for these States.

In order to encourage States to continually increase the efficiency and effectiveness of their welfare program, States may receive half of any estimated AFDC grant savings to use to improve their self-sufficiency programs.

In addition, certain AFDC eligibility requirements are altered or eliminated for States using this approach in order to decrease administrative burdens and discourage long-term welfare dependency:

(1) The requirement that families must have received AFDC for a minimum period before becoming eligible for transitional Medicaid and child care benefits is eliminated. This provision served as an incentive for families to stay on welfare for a certain minimum amount of time even if they had to turn down employment opportunities.

(2) Transitional Medicaid benefits and transitional child care benefits are allowed without regard to type of income that would otherwise make the family ineligible for benefits. This is a deletion of a well-meaning regulation that has resulted in administrative time needlessly being spent to determine how the last dollar of income was received by a participant.

(3) The current requirement that minor parents and pregnant minors without children must live with a responsible adult is strengthened.

Finally, the Secretary of HHS and other specified entities are called upon to develop performance standards appropriate to judge the effectiveness of programs developed under this approach. HHS is allowed to modify the AFDC Federal matching rate for participating States to reflect the effectiveness of the State in carrying out the program. State effectiveness will be judged in part on the basis of the number of participants who have become ineligible for AFDC due to earnings.

A State that has been approved to use the self-sufficiency approach may choose any or all of the following options:

(1) Treat two-parent families in the same manner as single parent families—although two-parent families are ineligible for AFDC until 30 days after the loss of employment, and both parents must follow a personal plan or invoke the benefit reduction for the entire family.

(2) Limit family AFDC benefits to the amount for which the family was initially determined eligible—family cap.

(3) Provide a diversion payment of an amount up to 3 months of the benefit for which the family would be eligible if they participated in AFDC. This option can only be used for families that are facing a crisis or need only temporary assistance to prevent them from coming onto AFDC. If the family later decides they must enter the AFDC system, the entire amount is subtracted from payments before they begin receiving assistance. Families that received diversion payments would be eligible for 3 months of transitional child care and Medicaid benefits.

(4) Enhance AFDC payments by not more than \$50 per month for participants with a full-time self-sufficiency schedule.

(5) Increase the earned income disregard rate from the current one-third rate to a rate as and high as one-half, or allow income earned by teens in the JTPA summer program to be discounted.

(6) Eliminate the time limit on the earned income disregard.

(7) Increase the cap on asset limitations from \$1,000 to \$2,000. In addition, allowed to exempt up to one vehicle.

(8) Upon mutual agreement with the participant, use funding from Food Stamps as a wage subsidy for that participant or as a direct cash payment to a participant following a full-time schedule self-sufficiency plan.

(9) Create sanctions based on poor school attendance or failure to immunize children.

In addition, the Self-Sufficiency Act outlines three changes beyond the scope of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program:

(1) Allows States to deny any need-based benefits and services to noncitizens.

(2) Mandates that consumer credit reports include information on overdue child support payments.

(3) Provides that quarterly payments of earned income credit and dependent care credit will be made available.

SALUTING ELEANOR J. WILLIAMS DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 1995

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, each February our Nation celebrates Black History Month. This occasion provides us the opportunity to herald the accomplishments of African-Americans in United States history, and to honor those still setting the pace by which history is both created and measured. Today I rise to recognize one such individual, Eleanor J. Williams, who was selected to be the first black woman manager of an enroute air traffic control center. Ms. Williams oversees the Cleveland Air Route Traffic Control Center in Oberlin, OH, the Nation's second busiest such facility.

Eleanor Williams began her diligent career with the Federal Aviation Administration in 1965 as a clerk stenographer in Anchorage, AK. Those who know her never had any question of how far she would go in her career. Her determination, and sense of self and spirit have marked her personality, as well as her résumé. In 1985, she received the Secretary's Award for Excellence from the Department of Transportation. In 1990, she was a Women in Management Delegate to the Soviet Union with People to People International. And in 1991 she was the recipient of the C. Alfred Anderson Award from the National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees. Eleanor Williams was listed in Who's Who of American Women 4 years in a row.

After her start with the FAA in Alaska, in 1971 she became the first black woman to certify as an air traffic control specialist. By 1979 she had become an area supervisor in San Juan, Puerto Rico before her promotion to staff specialist for the FAA in Atlanta. By the mid-1980's she moved into a staff specialist role at FAA headquarters in Washington, DC before yet another promotion to area manager of the Kansas City region Air Traffic Division Office. Two more promotions followed in Kansas City before she received her historic post in Cleveland last year.

Mr. Speaker, the awards from Ms. Williams' professional life cannot begin to match the rewards of her personal life. Eleanor, the mother of seven and a foster child, is not only a role model to colleagues, but also the employees she supervises, and to the union members she has led. Her commitment to the Air Traffic Control Association, the Gamma Phi Delta sorority, Business and Professional Women, the Second Baptist Church, and the NAACP has left these and many other organizations the richer for her involvement. Eleanor's passion for excellence and ability to reach any goal inspires those around her to strive for the stars. Her powerful spirit is fueled by her faith in God, which enables her to tackle any task before her and has navigated her into uncharted waters.

Mr. Speaker, Eleanor Williams is a perfect example of the opportunity to be won by hard work and ardor in America. Eleanor is someone of whom the African-American community, women, and indeed Americans everywhere should be proud. Let me share with you a portion of a stunning poem written by an eighth-grader named Shondel, which was composed in honor of Ms. Eleanor Williams and her pioneering spirit.

You've accomplished many things all because in life you've dared and won yourself wings.

Long ago your wings took flight, never in darkness being lost, for you saw the path with inner-sight
Your faith and freedom forever shall live, for in your life you have never believed in Never.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me during Black History Month in saluting Eleanor J. Williams, an outstanding individual with a spirit that joins her with outstanding African-Americans of the past and those who will follow.

TRIBUTE TO ORNA SIEGEL

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 1995

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the efforts of Orna Siegel, a woman whom I admire greatly.

Orna currently serves as the Outreach Chair of the Los Angeles chapter of AIPAC, however her community activities do not start and end with that organization. Orna is deeply committed to the security of the State of Israel but she is equally committed to making a difference in her community and in the lives of individuals.

For years, Orna has been actively involved in Yad B'Yad ("hand in hand"), an organization that takes critically ill people from Israel to any place in the world where they can get the medical care they need—be it transplants, surgeries, or emergency treatment. She has also been an active fundraiser for many other worthy causes in her community.

Although Orna's public service technically began in 1967, when she began a 3-year stint in the Israeli Defense Forces, her personal turning point came in 1990, years after she had married and moved to the United States. Orna witnessed the molestation of a 5-year-old boy in the darkness of a movie theater and followed the criminal out of the building until the police responded to her calls for assist-

ance. She later testified against the culprit, who turned out to be a registered sex offender.

I would like to submit into the RECORD a magazine article detailing Orna Siegel's courageous act. Her story demonstrates that ordinary citizens can affect the lives of their neighbors in a positive way if they only take the time to get involved.

Essentially, that is the story of Orna Siegel's life; she is a person who has chosen to become involved. Her actions have literally saved the lives of people in desperate need of help. It is a story worthy of commendation by this House, and a lesson worth sharing with the American people.

The article follows:

[From the Moxie magazine, September 1990]

JUST A HOUSEWIFE, UNTIL SHE HAD TO BE A
HEROINE

(By Mary Ellen Strote)

The 11-year-old boy sitting next to Orna Siegel in the movie theater just wouldn't sit still. He kicked, he jostled, he wriggled. Annoyed, she glanced sideways and saw that the blond, blue-eyed youngster was grimacing. Then she looked down and gasped. The boy's companion, a man in his middle sixties, had his hand inside the boy's shorts.

Orna had brought her children to last summer's opening of Honey, I Shrunk the Kids. The theater was crowded, but she had found a couple of seats five rows from the front. Holding Jonathan, 7, in her lap, and with daughter Shana, 10, on the seat to her left, she had looked forward to the comedy. But the minute the movie had begun, the boy had started with his wriggling. Now she left her children and sought out the manager. "I told him, 'Please call the police. A child is being molested in Row 5,'" Orna remembers. "He promised to call." Orna bought a cup of soda so her kids wouldn't suspect anything, went back to her seat, and took her son in her lap again.

Then she waited for the police. And waited. And waited. All the while the boy kept kicking her. "I watched him, not the movie," Orna says. "the man was molesting him the whole time. And I watched what that son of a bitch was doing.

"Maybe I was in shock," she goes on. "It was a funny movie and everyone was laughing. It was so noisy and Jonathan was heavy on my lap and we were too close to the screen and the lights were changing so fast. I got such a big headache. I was very nervous, not knowing what to do, just waiting for a policeman to come with a flashlight, for someone to get me out of this ordeal."

But suddenly the movie was over. "The crowds were leaving," she says. "I hadn't made up my mind to follow them, but I knew at that moment: If I don't make a move now, it's all over. I told my kids, 'Please be quiet,' and I grabbed their hands and held tight, looking with my eyes straight after the guy. I would let him out of my sight. On the way out the door, I saw the manager. He looked at me and shrugged, as if to say, 'No one showed up * * *.'"

Until that day, Orna, 41, would have described herself as a housewife. More likely, she would have used the words just a housewife. She cooked. She lunched with her friends. She waited for her kids to come home from school. She dressed up to go out with her husband, a successful businessman.

She was such a relentlessly traditional wife and mother that except for the fact that she had been born Orna Tieb in Tunisia, the seventh of eight children in a family that