

crossings of the corridor. It would also ensure the development of more efficient trade routes. One year after its formation, this Commission would make recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation indicating the most desirable routes for East-West expansion of the corridor, and for possible expansion of the corridor to the Canadian border.

We should not wait until our borders and our trade routes are completely overwhelmed to take decisive action. Rather, our infrastructure and our border enforcement agencies should keep pace with growing trade levels, and with the realities of increasing international interdependence.

The Camino Real Corridor is clearly the best place to start, but it need not be an end point. This project ought to serve as a model for future initiatives in other major border cities. It will also serve as a starting point for an important highway network that will connect Mexico with the interior United States, and possibly with Canada.

I recognize that we are operating in a political climate where it is more popular to criticize than to create, and much easier to deconstruct than to construct. But it is important to recognize that one of the fundamental roles of the Federal Government has always been the funding and oversight of interstate projects that are central to national growth and prosperity. The creation of the Camino Real Corridor is such a project, and consequently, it deserves support.

REPEAL THE "MOTOR VOTER" BILL

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 1995

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, on May 10, 1993, President Clinton signed into law a \$200 million unfunded Federal mandate called "The National Voter Registration Act of 1993." I am today introducing a bill to repeal it.

This law, commonly referred to as the "motor voter" bill, tramples on States rights by requiring them to implement a law that allows people to register to vote by mail, or when they apply for a driver's license, or welfare. Proponents of the measure argued that this was the answer to voter apathy. They reasoned that by making voter registration easier, voter turnout would increase. However, there is little, if any, evidence to validate this contention. In fact, over the past three decades, voter registration requirements have grown easier and easier, yet voter turnout has actually decreased over the same time period.

Moreover, by easing registration requirements, and not providing the States with the funds necessary to keep their registration lists up-to-date and clean, the motor voter bill will most likely increase election fraud.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Congress should not be legislating in this area. The States know best how to develop voter registration programs in their own jurisdictions with the least cost and chance of fraud and abuse. It is senseless to undermine their voter registration programs by requiring them to comply with a nationalized costly mandate.

Our new congressional leaders have pledged to make it tougher for the Federal

Government to place unfunded Federal mandates on the States. The bill I am proposing today is in step with the pledge, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

NATIONAL FIREARMS POLICY COMMISSION ACT

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 1995

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, during the 103d Congress, I introduced H.R. 4423, the "National Firearms Policy Commission Act," legislation that will bring the President, Members of Congress, Justices of the Supreme Court, gun ownership advocacy groups, law enforcement groups, and private citizens together to exchange their views on Federal firearms policy so that a consensus on Federal policy can be reached. I rise today to reintroduce this legislation, and I invite all of my colleagues to become cosponsors of this important bill.

In the 103d session alone, Congress passed two of the most sweeping firearms policy bills in the history of this country: the Brady bill and the assault weapons ban. From the introduction of those bills to the final vote, America came to see just how large the gap between both sides of the gun control debate is. And yet despite all the debate on these two pivotal pieces of legislation, it has become even clearer that each side's views are only being further entrenched, not altered through pragmatic discussion that will ensure that each side is heard. My bill will promote that type of pragmatic discussion.

Specifically, this legislation will establish a 39-member Commission, which will include the following parties: the U.S. Attorney General, five Members of the House, five Senators, three Supreme Court Justices, five private citizens appointed by the President, five private citizens appointed by the Senate, five private citizens appointed by the House, five members representing gun ownership advocacy groups, and five representatives from law enforcement. The chairman of the Commission will have 6 months to transmit its recommendations to the President and Congress. Aside from travel expenses, members of the Commission will serve without pay. The Commission will, however, be authorized to hire and pay its own staff and staff from other Federal agencies.

For the past 10 years, Congress has been caught in the middle of a tug of war between law enforcement and the NRA. As a result, Congress has been unable to develop a real consensus on how to address violent crime and firearms policy. The goal of the Commission I have proposed is to forge a consensus on these issues and present to Congress and the President a list of legislative initiatives that can be adopted with bipartisan support.

Let us bring rational dialogue to Federal firearms policy. Please cosponsor this important legislative initiative.

TRADE AND JOB SECURITY

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, December 21, 1994 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

TRADE AND JOB SECURITY

America's middle-class workers are increasingly frustrated and concerned about their economic future. They are working harder and longer than ever but their income is just not growing. Many are concerned about their job security and worry that their job could be the next to be eliminated. One third of those recently polled said they are worse off than they expected to be at this age, and close to two thirds said they do not expect their children to do as well as they have done. Too many individuals believe the American dream is simply beyond their reach.

It used to be that if workers were conscientious and performed their jobs well they could expect to advance and prosper in the years ahead. Today, however, many workers—both blue collar and white collar—face an uncertain future. They may encounter foreign competition, corporate downsizing, automation, or the increased use of computers. In a recent survey, three out of four employers said that their own employees fear losing their jobs. As the Secretary of Labor puts it, the middle class has become the anxious class.

EXPANDING TRADE

One of their biggest concerns is foreign competition created by the dynamic global marketplace. Congress and all recent Presidents have taken steps to expand U.S. trade opportunities. Since the late 1970s, several bilateral and multilateral agreements have been approved, including the Tokyo Round expansion of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement, the North America Free Trade Agreement, and the new GATT agreements that create, among other things, the World Trade Organization. Next might be free trade agreements with Chile and other countries in the Western Hemisphere.

On balance, I think expanded trade is a plus for American workers. Trade now accounts for a large share of U.S. economic growth, and it means expanded sales for U.S. businesses. The recently approved expansion of GATT, for example, will provide stable rules for trade and remove restrictions that limit sales of our goods and services abroad. The Council of Economic Advisors estimates that GATT will boost U.S. economic output \$100-200 billion within ten years.

At the same time I recognize that expanded trade is a threat to some U.S. workers. Trade may generate more U.S. jobs than it eliminates, but it does put some Americans out of work. While the President talks about the millions of good paying jobs created by free trade, many middle-class workers believe the benefits of trade go to a few talented, well-educated professionals and executives while they fall behind.

STEPS NEEDED

The remedy is not to simply close our markets to trade. We are one of the most competitive countries in the world and many U.S. jobs are already tied to exports and trade. But we do need to take several steps to improve our ability to deal with this changing environment and reduce job insecurity for many Americans.

First, we must continue to reduce the federal budget deficit. Keeping the deficit down means less borrowing by the government, thus freeing up funds at lower interest rates for businesses to invest. That should boost the economy and spur job creation. We need to make sure that the U.S. economy continues to generate more jobs than are lost to foreign competition.

Second, we must reassess the more than 150 federal job training and retraining programs to see which ones work and which ones don't. Some should be expanded, others simply dropped. We should accelerate our efforts to create "reemployment centers" and put more of the resources into the hands of ordinary Americans rather than government agencies, so people can get the skills they need in a way that makes sense for them. We need a better safety net for individuals and communities experiencing the downside of open trade.

Third, we must encourage companies to spend more of their profits to continually upgrade the skills of their workers and to retrain workers whose jobs have been lost through trade or technology. U.S. firms generally invest less in worker training than firms abroad, and what they do invest is more heavily concentrated on professional and managerial workers. Skilled workers and important assets, and businesses need to invest more in their development.

Fourth, federal policies should help important industries threatened by foreign competition. Federal research and development grants, tax policy, and deregulation all can help strengthen important U.S. industries and make them more competitive in the global market. We also need to expand the federal manufacturing extension program, which helps small companies adopt the latest production techniques.

Fifth, we must not allow other countries to use the open markets provided by the trade agreements to unfairly harm our industries. We must vigorously prosecute dumping and other unfair trade practices. If a surge of imports is displacing our workers, GATT allows us to take steps to limit those imports. At the same time, we must vigorously pursue our rights in cases where foreign practices restrict our exports. We must make sure that trade agreements mean a level playing field that promotes U.S. exports.

Finally, we must have accurate data about the impact of more open trade on U.S. jobs. Many economists believe that government trade statistics underestimate U.S. exports by some 10%, for a variety of technical reasons. If so, estimates of jobs created by exports are also underestimated. We also need better data on identifying industries hurt by imports.

CONCLUSION

Overall, we must pursue policies which promote economic growth, help strengthen U.S. companies, continually upgrade the skills of our workers, and find new markets for our products abroad. Our number one priority is jobs—good and secure jobs. Our challenge is to promote broad participation by our workforce in this changing environment so that anxious workers can become assured, productive, capable Americans. Improving Americans' job security must be among our highest priorities in the upcoming session of Congress.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION CONCERNING ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT OF 1971

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 1995

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce a bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 at the request of the Alaska Federation of Natives. This bill is the result of the work of the Legislative Council of the Alaska Federation of Natives to correct existing technical problems with the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act [ANCSA] and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act [ANILCA]. I am introducing an identical version of that which passed the House during the 103d Congress. It is my intention to move this bill early this year based on agreements reached last year.

This bill makes a number of technical changes to ANCSA and ANILCA. It also makes a number of substantive additions which address issues not anticipated at the time of passage of ANCSA. Because of Alaska's relative youth as a State of the Union and the unprecedented amount of Alaska-specific Federal legislation passed since statehood, it is imperative that we respond to occasional oversights and/or quirks in the overlapping laws to ensure that unintended consequences do not occur. This effort is designed to rectify such instances.

The legislation is designed to resolve specific problems. To offer a flavor of the nature of the legislation, a few illustrations are in order.

For example, the bill would make it possible for the Caswell and Montana Creek Native groups to receive approximately 11,520 acres of land pursuant to a February 3, 1976, agreement and subsequent March 26, 1992, letter of agreement with Cook Inlet Region Inc. [CIRI]. This will fulfill their land entitlement from CIRI under the ANCSA.

Another provision would relieve ANCSA corporations of liability for hazardous wastes or contaminants left in, or on, ANCSA lands prior to their conveyance to Native corporations. It also directs the Secretary of the Interior to remove all contaminants left by the United States, an agent of the United States, or lessees prior to conveyance of these lands to the Native corporations. In some instances, the Government has conveyed lands and property interests to Alaska Natives which have been rendered valueless because of such contamination. It was clearly not the intention of ANCSA to extinguish Native claims by conveying contaminated property to recipients.

The Chugach Alaska Kageet Point land selection provision would allow Chugach Alaska Native Corp. to select a specific tract of land at the edge of its own current boundaries.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the spirit of cooperation which was reached last year will continue so we can move this noncontroversial piece of legislation early in this session.

COMPREHENSIVE PREVENTIVE HEALTH AND PROMOTION ACT OF 1995, H.R. 23

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 4, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 23, legislation which will help produce a healthier nation. This measure will cover individuals for periodic health exams, as well as counseling and immunizations.

The Comprehensive Preventive Health and Promotion Act of 1995 will direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services [HHS] to establish a schedule of preventive health care services and to provide for coverage of these services under private health insurance plans and health benefit programs of the Federal Government.

More specifically, the Secretary of HHS, in consultation with representatives of the major health care groups, will establish a schedule of recommended preventive health care services. The list of preventive services will follow the guidelines published in the "Guide to Clinical Preventive Services" and the "Year 2000 Health Objectives." The preventive services will cover periodic health exams, health screening, counseling, immunizations, and health promotion. These services will be specified for males and females, and specific age groups.

Additionally, HHS will publish and disseminate information on the benefits of practicing preventive health care, the importance of undergoing periodic health examinations, and the need to establish and maintain a family medical history to businesses, providers of health care services, and other appropriate groups and individuals.

Moreover, prevention and health promotion workshops will be established for corporations and businesses, as well as for the Federal Government. A wellness program will be established to make grants over a 5-year period to 300 eligible employers to establish and conduct on-site workshops on health care promotion for employees. The wellness workshops can include: Counseling on nutrition and weight management, clinical sessions on avoiding back injury, programs on smoking cessation, and information on stress management.

Finally, my legislation directs HHS to set up a demonstration project which will go to 50 counties over a 5-year period to provide preventive health care services at health clinics. This program will cover preventive health care services for all children, and adults under a certain income level. If above the determined income level, fees will be based on a sliding scale. Additionally, the project will entail both urban and rural areas in different regions of our Nation to educate the public on the benefits of practicing preventive health care, the need for periodic health exams, and the need for establishing a medical history, as well as providing services.

Mr. Speaker, we can all agree that our current health care system needs to be improved, and our Nation needs to become healthier. Experts have concluded that practicing preventive health care does work, and will produce a healthier nation. Although there is a