

previous reports CRS stated unequivocally that, "the epidemiological evidence for passive-smoking-related disease is weak." It has followed this statement up with today's report which represents a comprehensive look at this subject as well as an examination of purported risks for heart disease.

While many agenda driven researchers have picked and chosen from only the studies that support their views, CRS, an agency which is unquestioned in its objectivity, has, during a lengthy 20 month review, rigorously examined all of the data on this controversial topic. Its conclusion is that the OSHA risk assessment as stated in its proposed rule is incorrect. While CRS is prohibited under its rules from issuing specific policy recommendations, the evidence of the study is clear and bears repeating: There is no scientific justification for the current regulatory action being sought by OSHA.

The CRS study calls into question the very underpinnings that form the basis of Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] and OSHA claims regarding the dangers of second hand smoke. EPA has claimed since the release of its much criticized report back in January 1993, that there is no safe level of exposure to ETS. However, CRS directly refutes this assertion. Furthermore, it finds that the only reasonable chance of risk comes in extreme situations and even in those cases the findings are uncertain and in need of further research. This, in my view, is the scientific equivalent of the townspeople screaming out "The emperor has no clothes."

In light of the seriousness of the findings of this study and the reputation of the organization that is so questioning OSHA actions, I am calling on OSHA to reopen its hearings on the proposed rule and to re-evaluate the justification for the rule in the first place. I respectfully suggest to my colleagues that this historic study undermines the premise for all government coerced smoking bans.

Mr. D'AMATO addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York, Mr. D'AMATO, is recognized.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I ask that the time be continued as if in morning business until I conclude my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. How much time does the Senator anticipate?

Mr. D'AMATO. Ten minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Ten minutes. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCEALING THE TRUE FACTS ABOUT MEXICO AND THE IMF

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, for months, the Clinton administration

and the Mexican Government have told Congress and the American people that the President's \$20 billion bailout of Mexico was a success. But the administration and the Mexican Government have been concealing the true facts from the Congress and, more importantly, from the American people. It is wrong and it is outrageous. Particularly in this time of budget austerity when we are having such incredible battles over how to balance the budget and deciding what programs will be cut. I think it is incredible at this point in our history that we are watching tens of billions of dollars go down a sinkhole and do nothing about it.

For almost a year, I have warned that the Clinton bailout of Mexico was doomed to failure. Over the last few weeks, it has become clear that the President's Mexican mirage is evaporating. Truth, unfortunately, is not pleasant at times, so there are those who seek to look the other way. But the truth is finally coming into focus.

The Clinton administration and the Mexican Government can no longer conceal the real facts. We know that record numbers of Mexicans are out of work, that Mexican interest rates are soaring and that Mexico is reeling under increasing social and political unrest.

Before the Mexican peso was devalued last December, it traded at 3.44 against the dollar. On December 22, after the devaluation, the peso was trading at 4.8. Then it went up to 6, and then 7. Yesterday, the peso closed at 7.81. That is a historic low closing rate. Never before has it closed at such a rate—7.81 pesos to the dollar. This morning, it opened at 7.9. That is shocking. That is unbelievable. The peso is in free fall without Mexican Government intervention.

Indeed, Mr. President, let me suggest that the only people who are making money are the currency speculators. They know that the Mexican central bank will intervene, and so as the peso is devalued, as it becomes worth less and approaches the 8 mark and 8.1 and 8.2, the money speculators begin to buy it up because they know at some point the central bank will move in and they can sell for a handsome profit. They are making their profit, while the Mexican Government is chewing up billions of dollars.

How much longer will we have to wait before we recognize that this program has been a failure? If the Mexican bailout was a success, would interest rates have climbed from 20 percent to over 60 percent? That is exactly what has taken place during this period of time. No economy can survive such crushing interest rates—60 percent. Yet when the Mexican President came to the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury, indeed, the President of the United States, said that the proof that the program was working was Mexico's "pre-payment" of some of their debt. In reality Mexico flipped the \$1.3 bil-

lion remainder of their loan, rolled it over, and could not pay it in spite of their so-called early payment of \$700 million.

Since February, the United States and the IMF have poured over \$23 billion into Mexico. The Mexican Government has used American taxpayer dollars to pay off private investors. The administration should not continue to throw good money after bad.

Last week, I offered a Sense-of-the-Senate resolution calling for the public release of an important document, a document prepared by the International Monetary Fund. This report is known as the Whittome Report. The Whittome Report examined the International Monetary Fund's monitoring and response to the Mexican peso crisis. According to news accounts, the IMF's own report concluded that the International Monetary Fund had distorted its reporting on Mexico to placate political pressure from the Mexican Government.

I suggest that the American people have a right to see that report. Why is the Treasury Department hiding that report? Secretary Rubin has classified it on "national security" grounds.

This report talks about the International Monetary Fund's failure. Why should it be classified so that the American people cannot know what is taking place with money that we have invested with the IMF, with money we have sent down to Mexico. It is American taxpayers' dollars. That report should be declassified.

The Treasury Department's classification on national security grounds is hokum. What nonsense. This report has been made available to 178 other countries that are members of the IMF.

So here we have a report that has been widely circulated and is being held on the arbitrary, obviously sham, excuse that its release would jeopardize national security. It is our taxpayers who are providing the bulk of the funding for this bailout package, a package which is failing. This package is producing record unemployment in Mexico, record high interest rates, and has sent the peso to a record low. This bailout jeopardizes Americans' financial interests.

What do we have? We have secrecy from the Treasury Department claiming that release of this report would jeopardize the security of our country, hiding under the pretext of national security grounds.

Mr. President, 178 countries, many of which may be allied against the interests of the United States, have copies of this report, but the American people do not. And this Senator is not permitted to disclose the contents of that report? That is just simply wrong. It is obvious that this administration is attempting to hide the debacle and the fact that we should never have entered into this absolutely shameful relationship.

What we see taking place today is the currency speculators making billions of dollars of profit. Last evening,

the Mexican central bank moved in to support the peso; otherwise, it would have closed over 8. And I have to tell you, as long as they are going to continue to do this, the money speculators will ride that rollercoaster up and down. They will continue to make their fortunes.

We are not helping the Mexican people. We are not helping their economy. We are not helping to create job stability. As a matter of fact, the programs that we have insisted upon are creating economic hardship for Mexico. It is just simply wrong, and it is unconscionable.

I do not believe that we should put one more U.S. dollar into this sinkhole. Let us use the money, if we have an opportunity to save that \$7 billion-plus that has not already been wasted, to reduce the budget deficit. Let us use it to fund programs that reasonable people may say, yes, we want to fund but we do not have sufficient money. If we are talking about providing students with an opportunity to get a better education, let us use the money for that program. If we are talking in terms of reducing the Medicare burden, then let us see to it that we make that money available in that area. If we are talking about not having sufficient funds to carry out some of the needs because of budget constraints in the Medicaid Program in years to come, let us use that \$7 billion-plus instead of putting good money after bad and making rich people and speculators richer at the expense of the taxpayers.

But let us not hide the truth. Why should the Secretary of the Treasury classify this report and keep it from the American people? I ask the Secretary, "What do you have to hide, Mr. Secretary?" One hundred and seventy-eight foreign countries have this report. Some of them put little, if any, money into the IMF, a pittance. The United States of America and the taxpayers have poured in billions. And yet this report is classified on so-called national security grounds? Mr. Secretary, you are telling the people they do not have a right to see what has taken place?

I have not read the report, and I have not read it for good reason, because otherwise I would probably want to come down on the floor of the Senate and expose the sham that took place. We all know it is a sham that took place. The administration does not want people to see that the IMF has mishandled and bungled what took place down in Mexico. Indeed, the program that we have imposed on the Mexican people not only robs the American taxpayers, it will not help the Mexican people.

We continue blindly along as if the emperor had no clothes and we are afraid to say it. Somehow we are afraid, like the fable about the emperor having no clothes. It took some little boy to say what was wrong. Here they did not want us to have the facts because they do not want people to begin

to say, "How could you continue this incredible fiasco?"

Mr. President, let me end on this—the Congress of the United States is reluctant to pull the plug in terms of financing for Mexico because they are justly afraid that President Clinton will turn around and say, "Aha, you are responsible for the failure of the Mexican rescue bailout package." That is exactly what would take place but that is wrong. President Clinton knows it and the American people know it too.

But there is no reason for this Congress not to insist at least that the truth be made public. My colleagues, Senators and Congressmen should be demanding the release of this Whittome Report. It should not be left to Senator D'AMATO. It should not be left to any one person. This should be something that we want, that we demand. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

So, Mr. President, I am going to continue to call this to the attention of my colleagues in the Congress. They have a duty to step forward and say, "Yes, we want this information. The Congress and the American people are entitled to it and they should have it." For the Secretary of the Treasury to say on national security grounds he cannot make this information available, is something that is absolutely, totally unreasonable, and not sustainable.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, morning business is now closed.

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for 5 or 6 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senator may speak for 6 minutes.

TRENDS IN DRUG ABUSE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I have spoken several times on this floor, as have others, about disturbing trends in drug use in this country. Well, the latest bad news is out, having been delayed over 2 months by the administration. The new Drug Abuse Warning Network [DAWN] numbers on hospital admissions for drug emergencies are in. And the story that they have to tell is disturbing.

At least 500,000 Americans ended up in hospital emergency rooms in 1994 in

drug-related episodes. Cocaine-related incidents were up 15 percent over 1993, and a stunning 40 percent over 1988. Cocaine-related episodes are the highest since DAWN surveys began. In part, this indicates the consequences for an aging addict population beginning to show the signs of prolonged addiction.

But, with increases among teenagers in the use of hallucinogens, marijuana, uppers, and downers, we are faced with increasing problems in a new generation of users, and storing up problems for the future.

Young people are simply not getting the message that drug use is both harmful and wrong. Since 1990, marijuana/hashish related episodes increased by 155 percent. They increased 40 percent between 1993 and 1994 alone.

When you combine these numbers with recent PRIDE, household survey, and high school survey figures on teenage use, the trend is unmistakable. And it is bad news. After years of decline, after years of young people foregoing drugs, we are seeing all the successes we had wiped out in a few short years as the message about the dangers of drugs has been lost.

The mistake made by the present administration was to believe that they could abandon the bully pulpit on this issue, refocus programs to treatment, and not send a signal to the most at-risk population, our young people, that drug use was not so bad or dangerous. The mistake was in telling people not to inhale instead of saying "no."

The mistake we seem determined to repeat, after our experiences of the 1960's, 1970's, and 1980's, is that you should only have to do the counter-drug effort once, like a small pox vaccination. Having done this once, we can move on to more pressing issues.

Such thinking is based on a fundamental misunderstanding of the realities of drug use. The most at-risk population for starting use are our teenagers, beginning as early as 12 years old. Unless we declare a moratorium on having children in this country, we will see a new crop of teenagers coming into schools and into contact with a drug culture every year. And they are coming of age now in an environment in which our cultural elite are once again praising the virtues of drug use, further obscuring the message.

Just as we have to give new immunization shots to a new group of teenagers every year. Just as we have to teach a new class geometry, and algebra, and civic responsibilities—every year—we have to provide the moral guidance and information to a new crop of kids that will protect them from drug use.

We have to have the clear, unambiguous message from all sources that can penetrate that teen sense of immortality that persuades them that nothing bad can happen to them simply because they are young. We need to sustain that message so that kids can learn that things they do today can have bad consequences years later.