

of nitrogen from sources within such do not make a significant contribution to ozone concentrations in such area (or in any other nonattainment area), the Administrator may redesignate the area as in attainment or having a lower classification.

Which, if properly punctuated, would mean: if it can be established that most of the pollution in a region comes from elsewhere—for example, chemical plants and refineries on the other side Galveston Bay—the air in that region could be declared clean.

Predictably enough, such a declaration would make the air dirtier, because declaring an area "in attainment" means lifting environmental restrictions and allowing more local contamination of air already badly polluted by upwind sources. Barton's Bad Air Bill is filled with provisions like this one—in which "attainment" of clean-air standards is achieved by cleaning up the language of the law, rather than cleaning up the environment.

When (to cite another example of Barton's peculiar logic) the EPA establishes air quality goals for a region, "infrequent episodic variations in air pollution levels that are caused by weather" must be excluded from any clean-air calculus. So in Fort Worth, Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, and El Paso that will mean the elimination of protections against dangerously high summer ozone levels—rather than the elimination of dangerously high ozone levels. "To create ozone," O'Donnell, "you do need sunlight, which cooks the stuff, but you also need a source of pollution." Barton's bill ignores those sources of pollution and assumes that, like the weather, man-made pollution cannot be controlled. The result of such twisted logic can only be more air pollution.

More illogic? "The [EPA] Administrator may not require that emissions of oxides of nitrogen from baseline vehicles using the reformulated gasoline be less than emissions from such vehicles when using baseline gasoline." Leave it to an EPA reg-writer to parse this sentence, which establishes that the quality of emissions are the same—when they aren't. It's just one small part of the bill's broad assault on reformulated gasoline requirements—a two stage program designed to lower tailpipe emissions. The first phase was put in place last year and regulations for implementation of phase two are not yet complete, and might not be if Barton, who once worked as a consultant for Atlantic Richfield, has his way. "This will roll back a program already on the books that hasn't kicked in yet," O'Donnell said.

Perhaps the loopy provision—it's tough to pick one—allows pollution control devices voluntarily installed "prior to the designation of the area as a non-arrainment area to be credited as additional reductions. \* \* \*" But if air pollution in a region is too high, how does a pollution-control device already in place and working reduce it any further? Or is "to be credited as" what this is all about?

To be fair, not every provision in the bill is as circumspect as those already cited. A straightforward, two-line change extends from five to ten years the time in which a plant can operate without being subject to permit revisions; some revisions simply change must to may—for sanctions or requirements. And no bill like this one would be complete without the standard "cost-benefit-analysis" provision. Barton would "require" regulators to prove that "the incremental costs of attaining [a] standard do not exceed the incremental benefits of attaining the standard." These provisions always provide an advantage to industry, which can provide exact figures of retrofitting a refinery with pollution control devices, then challenge whoever represents the public interest

these days to predict and calculate long-term savings in public health, and quality of life—which has no dollar-equivalent market value.

What's driving Joe Barton's attempt to dismantle the Clean Air Act? The odd configuration of his Central Texas district provides him a completely safe seat, which he won by seventy-six percent in the last election; he's a true believer in the conservative agenda, and he's an engineer who understands this stuff better than, say, the average consumer of air. Yet it seems impolitic for someone who ran as the Washington candidate for the state Republican Party chair in 1994 to burden his party with another bad environmental bill—just as the 1996 election campaigns get underway. Maybe Tom Pauken, the fundamentalist Christian (charismatic Catholic variety) who defeated Barton two years ago, was correct when he argued that Barton was too much a Washington insider—too influenced by "inside the Beltway culture."

Pauken got it almost right during his fervent three-day state convention campaign. But the Washington culture he derided as the culture "of big government" is really the culture of big corporations. After twelve years in Congress Joe Barton understands that culture. And he has engaged in a bit of cost-and-benefit analysis that reads something like this: It costs him nothing to carry a bad environmental bill. The benefits, in contributions from the polluters PACs listed below, simply outweigh what his legislation will cost his party—and the breathing public.

*Selected polluter PAC supporters of  
Congressman Joe Barton, 1995-1996*

Air Products and Chemicals, Inc .....	\$1,000
Alabama Power Company/Southern Company .....	250
American Electric Power Company ...	500
American Portland Cement Alliance, Inc .....	1,000
American Trucking Association .....	2,000
Amoco Corporation .....	1,000
Arizona Public Service Company .....	500
Ash Grove Cement Company .....	500
Atlantic Richfield Company .....	2,000
American Gas Association .....	1,000
Baltimore Gas and Electric Company	1,000
BP America .....	1,000
Burlington Resources/Meridian Oil ...	1,500
Carolina Power & Light Company .....	1,000
Cement Kiln Recycling Coalition .....	1,000
Centerior Energy Corporation .....	250
Chrysler Corporation .....	1,000
COALPAC/National Mining Association .....	1,000
Columbia Hydrocarbon Corporation .....	1,500
Commonwealth Edison Company .....	1,500
Consolidated Natural Gas Service Company, Inc .....	1,000
Consumers Power Company .....	1,000
Dominion Resources Inc./Virginia Power Company .....	500
Detroit Edison .....	1,000
Duquesne Light Company .....	1,000
Edison Electric Institute .....	500
E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Company .....	2,500
El Paso Natural Gas Company .....	1,000
Elf Atochem North America, Inc .....	2,000
Entergy Corporation .....	500
Entergy Operations, Inc .....	500
Enron Corporation .....	2,012
Exxon Corporation .....	1,000
Fina Oil and Chemical Company .....	500
Ford Motor Corporation .....	1,000
Florida Power Corporation .....	500
Florida Power & Light Company .....	2,000
Flour Corporation .....	4,000
General Public Utilities Corporation .....	500
Hoechst Celanese Corporation .....	1,000
Houston Industries, Inc .....	4,759
Intel Corporation .....	250

Interstate Natural Gas Association of America .....	1,000
Kansas City Southern Industries, Inc .....	500
Kerr-McGee Corporation .....	500
LaFarge Corporation .....	100
Marathon Oil Company/USX Corporation .....	1,500
Mobil Oil Corporation .....	500
National Automobile Dealers Association .....	4,000
New England Power Service Company .....	500
North American Coal Corporation .....	250
Northeast Utilities Service Corporation .....	500
Occidental Petroleum Corporation ....	1,000
Ohio Edison Company .....	500
Pacific Gas and Electric Company ....	1,000
Panhandle Eastern Corporation .....	2,000
PECO Energy Company .....	500
Pennzoil Company .....	500
Phillips Petroleum Company .....	1,000
PSI Energy Inc./Cinergy Corporation .....	500
Public Service Electric and Gas Company .....	200
Shell Oil Company .....	1,500
Society of Independent Gasoline Marketers of America .....	1,000
Southdown Inc .....	1,000
Southern California Edison Company .....	2,000
Southern Company .....	750
Southwestern Public Service Company .....	500
Tenneco Inc .....	1,000
Texaco Inc .....	1,000
Texas Utilities Company .....	500
Texas-New Mexico Power Company ...	500
USX Corporation .....	500
Valero Energy Corporation .....	3,000
Westinghouse Electric Corporation ...	1,500
Weyerhaeuser Company .....	1,000

Source: Federal Election Commission.

**A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF  
BASILLIO VILLARREAL, FORMER  
MAYOR OF RIO GRANDE CITY,  
TX**

**HON. FRANK TEJEDA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. TEJEDA. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to honor an outstanding individual from Rio Grande City, TX, who in words and deed exemplifies strong leadership and an uncompromising dedication to positive values. Basillio Villarreal, who recently retired as mayor of Rio Grande City, is a hard-working businessman who dedicated his life to his business, family, and community. I take this opportunity to acknowledge his many accomplishments and thank him for his efforts.

Mayor Villarreal was the first mayor in Rio Grande City in more than 60 years. He fought hard for the reincorporation of Rio Grande City, after decades without a city charter. As the first mayor of this newly re-incorporated city, Mayor Villarreal combined his vision for the city with the courage necessary to make real progress for the community. As mayor, Basillio Villarreal took on the difficult task of organizing the structure of city government in Rio Grande City, and he proposed establishing effective police and fire departments. He knew the value and importance of public safety and made it a priority within his public agenda. He established and then required strict adherence to new ethics standards for city employees. He expected no less of himself, always proud to uphold a strong personal code of honor.

Mayor Villarreal did what a good politician should do: He listened to the wants and needs of the citizens who reside within his jurisdiction. When the citizens of Rio Grande City told him that they did not want property taxes to finance city expenses, he worked hard to make this a reality. He fought to establish a government that was born efficient. He is a visionary who pursued the benefits of the empowerment zone and brought direction to its mission.

Basillio Villarreal's popularity and support have made him a symbol of success and a role model in the community of Rio Grande City. His modest beginnings only make this proud man's life more compelling. His successful business is a tribute to the same admirable qualities that he instilled in the city government.

When called to service by the community, Basillio Villarreal served honorably. His example inspires others to become involved in politics, pursue educational opportunities, and participate in church activities, teaching all of us time and again the virtues of involvement and activism. He is a proud man who has served his community well, and Rio Grande City is a better place for having had Basillio Villarreal as its mayor.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MR.  
LESTER M. BORNSTEIN

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and honor the retirement of Mr. Lester Bornstein who ends 38 years of service to the Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Bornstein on his incredible accomplishments as president of the Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

Mr. Bornstein began dedicating his time and energy to the Newark Beth Israel Medical Center in 1957, serving as assistant director. His role changed in later years and he supported the Beth Israel Medical Center as acting executive director, executive director and as a member of the board of trustees.

I had the opportunity to work closely with Mr. Bornstein when I was a member of the Newark Municipal Council and when he served on my 10th Congressional District health care task force. Mr. Bornstein is an incredibly skilled man who is dedicated to serving his community. He took initiative and helped to ensure that the Beth Israel Medical Center remained in the community at a time when many other city hospitals were leaving. I admire this commitment that has always been an integral part of this fine man's persona.

As reporter Angela Stewart of The Star-Ledger noted in her June 21 article, "Those who have watched him work over the years say Bornstein has managed to strike an almost perfect balance between civility and his driving ambition to make the inner-city hospital a respected institution." His goal has been and continues to be realized. In 1968, Mr. Bornstein also helped secure a \$10 million loan to construct a patient care pavilion. Recently, the Lester M. Bornstein Center for Emergency Services officially opened to pa-

tients. It is clear that Mr. Bornstein has been an important driving force for the Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

It is an honor for me to have the opportunity to thank Mr. Bornstein for being a strong leader of the Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and for keeping his promise to the community and the people of Newark. Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in applauding his career and wishing him the best in all his future endeavors.

REGARDING H.R. 3663, THE D.C.  
WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY  
ACT OF 1996

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, D.C. Subcommittee Chairman TOM DAVIS and the subcommittee's ranking member, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, are to be commended for once again having collaborated in a bipartisan manner to produce legislation to aid the District of Columbia. I commend them for their efforts.

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Act of 1996 will permit the issuance of revenue bonds necessary to finance much needed capital improvements at the District's Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Plant and within the District's drinking water distribution system.

I understand that on April 5, 1996, the District government and the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] reached an agreement which requires the District to engage in a 2-year, \$20 million capital improvement program designed to halt the further deterioration of the Blue Plains facility and to make significant improvements in the maintenance and treatment procedures at the plant.

In addition, I understand that the District has had persistent problems with bacteria turning up in its drinking water distribution system. Several violations were documented between September 1993 and November 1995. This overall situation led EPA to issue an administrative order on November 14, 1995 which directed the District to submit a comprehensive plan and schedule for remedial actions such as making repairs to its drinking water storage facilities.

I urge Members to support this very important legislation. Its enactment will ensure that the Nation's Capital will continue to have environmentally secure water and sewer systems to meet the needs of its residents and visitors into the 21st Century.

COMMENDING FEMA FOR  
EXEMPLARY WORK

HON. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which won the 1996 Public Employees Roundtable Public Service Excellence Award in the Federal Category. FEMA's

Disaster Assistance Program faced stiff competition as one of 300 entries considered by the Public Employees Roundtable.

After watching FEMA at work following January flooding in my district, it comes as no surprise to me that FEMA won. When eight of the nine counties of my district in New York State were devastated by winter flooding, FEMA staff rallied to our aid. James Lee Witt, FEMA administrator, and New York Governor George Pataki personally accompanied me on a tour of flood ravaged areas, to see and experience the problem and commit themselves to being part of the solution. FEMA was magnificent. Flooding occurred on a Friday and Saturday. FEMA Region II, under Director Lynn Canton, was providing technical assistance to New York State officials on Friday, monitoring the situation and laying the groundwork for the communications, organization and logistics so necessary for an effective recovery effort. And within 10 days of the flood, families who applied for aid were receiving checks. This timely response was invaluable as communities with limited resources struggled to cope with overwhelming devastation.

Equally invaluable is the continuing support FEMA provides. Four months after the flood, FEMA is still on the job and my office is in daily contact with the Disaster Field Office in our State capital. This office performs follow-up work on projects and provides guidance to State and local governments as well as to citizens who are still rebuilding.

In addition to my personal experience working with FEMA, as chairman of the subcommittee with jurisdiction over Stafford Disaster Assistance programs, I know from a broader perspective how well FEMA does in the field. From earthquakes to floods to hurricanes, this is a Federal agency that prides itself on responding quickly and efficiently. Apart from natural disasters, FEMA also is on hand when man-made disasters strike. The bombing in Oklahoma City is a case in point. In the midst of grief and horror, FEMA staff helped the victims and residents of that shocked city in their recovery efforts.

The human spirit is capable of amazing things in times of trouble. With FEMA at the helm, that also can be said of the U.S. Government. In an era when government bashing is a popular sport in some quarters, FEMA shows us the importance of coordinated Federal efforts to overcome adversity. They do us proud.

THE RURAL HEALTH IMPROVE-  
MENT ACT OF 1996—ENSURING  
ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE FOR  
AMERICA'S RURAL CITIZENS

HON. STEVE GUNDERSON

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. GUNDERSON. Mr. Speaker, the House and Senate have made great strides toward producing a bill to bring about affordable health care. While Mr. POSHARD and I applaud the Congress for working on the issues of affordability and portability of health insurance, the problem in rural areas is not only affordability and portability but also accessibility.

Rural hospitals are closing throughout the country because Medicare payments are inadequate to cover costs. The current Medicare