

instruments through regulation language is untenable to those who invent new technologies that could do the same job better or cheaper. Certainly it is in the best interest of the Federal Government to ensure that the best and cheapest new technologies are used to monitor environmental contamination, wherever it occurs. It is our hope that this bill will serve as the basis for common ground on this reform of the EPA approval process, and that we will be able to address the issue in more detail in the coming months.

To be sure, there are many details yet to be worked out. This bill in no way represents the final word on how EPA should act. We know that further analysis may yield further ideas which will be considered through the normal committee process. But we intend, with this bill, to offer a starting point for discussion on this issue.

We encourage those who agree with our intent to make the EPA a more technology friendly agency to join as cosponsors to this legislation. The results will be good for both the U.S. economy and the health of our collective environment.

ENCOURAGING NEW ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING TECHNOLOGIES

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased in joining my colleague from California [Mr. BAKER], in introducing legislation that will encourage the development of new and innovative environmental monitoring technology.

This legislation will help to improve the Environmental Protection Agency's current prescriptive analytical methods for the approval of new technology that will enable the Federal and State governments to better protect the public health and safety.

I believe we need to focus more closely on good results than process. I realize that this bill is a beginning discussion draft and welcome wide input from all interested parties in perfecting this important legislation.

HEALTH CONSCIOUS COMPANIES

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute two area corporations, Fannie Mae of Washington, DC, and Marriott International of Bethesda, recently named by Working Woman magazine as 2 of the top 10 healthiest companies for women.

These companies are leading the way in the fight against rising health costs and against the debilitating effects of physical and mental illnesses. They have found that their employees' good health is good for business. Both Fannie Mae and Marriott received high marks for the quality of their employee health plans that included provisions for family members, for reproductive health care, for mental health care, for preventive care, and for wellness programs.

According to Working Woman, "These corporate leaders believe that what's good for female employees is good for the bottom line." Marriott International was singled out for its Wellness and You! program, which offers exercise classes, massage therapy, and other stress-reducing activities and such on-site services as cholesterol checks and healthy cooking classes.

Fannie Mae has a women's health resource center where employees can check reference materials and use on-line services to get answers to their health-related questions, take evening exercise classes, and enroll in weight-management classes.

These corporations have invested wisely in their employees and in their own futures and serve as role models for our Nation's businesses. Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing these corporations for their commitment to women's health and to their employees.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3816, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3816) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to indicate my strong opposition to the severe cuts this legislation imposes on the Department of Energy and its employees. Congress must continue to ensure, within the Department of Energy appropriations bill for fiscal year 1997, that DOE has the ability to perform its important mission of meeting our present and future energy needs. The bill under consideration by the House today funds many critical programs, yet, I believe it greatly restricts the Department of Energy's ability to perform its mission by reducing departmental administration by approximately 30 percent.

DOE's departmental administration salary and expense budget is reduced under this bill by 20 percent—a reduction of more than \$50 million in fiscal year 1997. Instead of allowing DOE to reallocate their reduced resources as they deem appropriate, it forces DOE to reduce positions by capping FTE totals at 1,029—a reduction of nearly 500 FTE's, or one-third of the departmental administration staff. Further the bill sets specific FTE targets for individual offices with this account.

Last Year, in the fiscal year 1996 appropriations bill, Congress asked DOE headquarters personnel and certain programs to make significant cuts. The departmental administration account was reduced by 15 percent, which translates to a reduction of nearly 400 FTE's. DOE managers worked hard to administer this staff reduction without resorting to a reduction-in-force. In order to save jobs, performance awards were eliminated, overtime was reduced by over half, and furloughs were used to address funding shortfalls. Despite these

substantial reductions in operating costs at DOE headquarters, a 2/3 reduction since 1993, this bill sets the general management and program support function of DOE at 47 percent less than last year and 20 percent less than the administration's request. I believe these reductions are too severe and will not allow DOE to continue to perform its mission.

Mr. Speaker, as you are aware this has been a difficult year for Federal employees. They have endured downsizing, RIFs, shutdowns, general uncertainty, and reduced benefits. Federal employees are among the most resilient people I know, but if we as a Government hope to continue to attract the best and the brightest into Government service, we cannot continue the type of policy set by this legislation. This bill goes too far. I do not disagree that we all need to cutback as we work to balance the Federal budget. However, I am strongly opposed to imposing such severe cuts and limiting DOE's ability to manage these cuts by mandating FTE ceilings.

The negative ramifications of this unprecedented cut will severely affect the many important projects funded in this year's energy and water appropriations bill. The bill targets cuts to the environmental management program, nonproliferation and energy efficiency and renewable energy. In addition, the 90 percent cut in DOE's office of policy will leave only 20 employees to perform critical technical and economic analysis and hamper their ability to efficiently respond to Congress, State and local governments, and private citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I regret the inclusion of these deep and draconian cuts to the DOE budget, and the specific FTE targets mandated on the departmental headquarters. It has damaged this important legislation, and I cannot support its passage.

CASTRO'S INVOLVEMENT IN DRUGS

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, this morning the south Florida community woke up to new evidence, in addition to the vast amounts which now exist, of the involvement of the Castro regime in drug smuggling into the United States.

The Miami Herald reported that the Drug Enforcement Agency is investigating a link between Castro and a drug shipment of over 5,000 pounds of cocaine which was confiscated in Miami on January 9.

The Miami Herald reports that the drugs were apparently off loaded inside Cuban waters, to speedboats destined to the United States, from a freighter which originated in Colombia, which had previously docked in Havana to off-load cargo. The Herald story adds that United States law enforcement agencies have apparently also found pictures of the individual responsible for smuggling the drugs with Cuban tyrant Fidel Castro.

Mr. Speaker, no longer can the United States turn its back on Castro's aiding and abetting drug traffickers, because the mounting body of evidence connects Castro with drug trafficking. These allegations deserve to be examined and investigated thoroughly by our drug enforcement agencies.

Castro is desperate for hard currency, especially because of the chilling effect that the Helms-Burton law has had on foreign investment on the island, so it is to be expected that the tyrant will increase his involvement in illicit activities to finance his regime.

Every day it becomes increasingly clear that unless our Government addresses Castro's role in drug smuggling, we will never succeed in the war against drugs. It is time to expose the tyrant's involvement and lift the veil of silence on his complicity in drug smuggling.

President Clinton wants to continue to ignore Castro's drug ties because this United States administration wants to avoid a confrontation with the dictator in this election year, but the time for turning your cheek is over.

It is time to step up our efforts to stop the cooperation that Castro provides the drug barons of our hemisphere. Unless this is done, our borders, especially in the southeast, will continue to be invaded by these diabolical drugs which impart so much harm on our youth.

So there are many important questions that we must ask:

Where is the criminal indictment against Fidel Castro for his help in the illegal shipment of drugs?

What are our U.S. agencies doing to gather hard evidence against the dictator?

Where is the follow-up on all of the allegations, reports, and accusations we have been reading about for years?

How much more evidence is needed and what is being done to gather this evidence?

The only sounds we hear are the dragging of the feet of our agencies because the leadership at the top is not there.

Is this a case of see no evil, hear no evil, and speak no evil?

Are we willing to ignore the facts in order to avoid a confrontation with Castro?

These and many other issues must be explored by our antidrug agencies.

And they must be explored now. We are writing, Mr. President. Our community, indeed our Nation, is plagued with the deadly poison of drugs. The finger points to Fidel Castro.

Does the Department of Justice and the President not see this? Or do they choose to not see this?

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3816, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3816) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, the Energy and Water appropriations bill we are voting on today is a mixed bag of good and bad; where a good Peter is robbed to pay a worthy Paul.

On the good side, a reasonable amount has been appropriated for environmental restora-

tion and waste management as well much needed water projects. In addition, a sufficient amount of money has been made available for stewardship and management activities of our nuclear stockpile. Finally, the National Ignition Facility [NIF], which will provide invaluable research in the areas of nuclear weapons testing and fusion research. I am glad that the committee saw the need to fund these activities at levels close to their requested amounts.

In fact, some of these dollars will be going to a flood control project in my district; Harris County is working with the Army Corps. of Engineers to deepen a channel in the city of Houston called Sims Bayou. This long-term project will renovate the bayou and help alleviate some of the flooding which occurs during heavy rains. This is an important project for the people in my district and they appreciate the Federal help they are receiving to correct this problem.

I have always been a supporter of science research and have stated often that it is the economic engine of the 21st century. And it is because of this belief that I am especially gratified to find that the Energy Department's general science and research programs have been spared the budget ax that some other deserving programs suffered.

However, beneath this good news lurks some very negative decisions made by Republicans. Let's start with the nearly 50 percent cut from last year to the Energy Department's administrative expenses. Now, I know the Department is in the process of restructuring itself and trying to become more efficient, however, I believe this to be a continuation of the Republican attack on Secretary Hazel O'Leary. Regardless of who you are, you cannot convince me that an immediate 50 percent reduction in an organization's administrative budget is not drastic and unreasonable. This is all the more obscene when you realize that because of the time it takes to RIF Government employees and the costs involved, no savings from such actions will be realized until fiscal year 1998—a year away. So, I ask the Republican appropriators—"what is the Department to do until then?"

In addition to this ill-conceived provision, this appropriations bill also decimates much of the funding for solar and renewable energy, fusion, nuclear energy, biological, environmental, safety, and health and basic energy sciences. In fact, the only activities that are adequately funded are those of the Defense Nuclear programs.

While I may indeed vote in favor of this bill, I strongly urge my House and Senate colleagues to restore funding to the activities and programs that have been funded well below the President's request. I believe that they are worthwhile, valuable and important to our Nation's future.

FOOD QUALITY PROTECTION ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. BLANCHE LAMBERT LINCOLN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 1996

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. Speaker. I rise today in support of H.R. 1627, the Food Quality Protection Act. As an original cosponsor of this legis-

lation, I am pleased to see that Members from both sides of the aisle have come together in a bipartisan spirit to strengthen and update our Nation's food safety laws.

When debating pesticide reform, it's easy for many to get lost in phases such as "zero tolerance," "negligible risk," and other technicalities. However, the issue is as simple as this: we must maintain a high-quality, abundant, and safe food supply to protect our Nation's most vulnerable population—our children.

Mr. Speaker, the Delaney clause has become outdated, and it is high-time that we replace these laws which are based on science and technology from the 1950's which laws based on modern science. I support H.R. 1627 which makes this reform. The bill includes the recommendation of the National Academy of Sciences regarding both the negligible risk standard for carcinogens and additional protection of infants and children which are based on sound scientific principles.

Mr. Speaker, reform of the Nation's pesticide laws has been a priority of mine since coming in Congress. I am pleased that we have worked together on this legislation which will maintain America's superior food supply while most importantly, protecting and promoting the health of our citizens. Our Nation's farmers, consumers, and especially our children deserve no less.

TRIBUTE TO SUFFRAGAN BISHOP CHARLES L. TAYLOR

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding religious leader in the San Diego community who is worthy of special recognition—Suffragan Bishop Charles L. Taylor.

Suffragan Bishop Taylor has been actively involved in the San Diego community since 1958. During that time, he and his wife Esther have shared their love unselfishly with 32 foster children. He was also instrumental in implementing the Free-Lunch Program for underprivileged children at a local elementary school.

In 1967, he established a church and began his pastoral work. He has been most influential in this capacity, and has left indelible trails for others to follow. He is the pastor of the Greater Apostolic Faith Temple Church in my hometown of San Diego, a church that has been a religious landmark for 70 years.

In today's society, where children from all areas and backgrounds must eventually face the scourge of violence and drugs, it is imperative to have religious leaders who can advise, instruct and lead our youth toward a brighter future. In his local assembly and throughout California, Suffragan Bishop Taylor has willingly assumed this critical role. He has worked untiringly to help people from all walks of life. He has dedicated most of his efforts toward the young, helping them to lead happy and productive lives.

Suffragan Bishop Taylor prepared himself for these challenging tasks by earning a bachelor of science degree from Virginia State College and two doctoral degrees in Divinity. He