

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

has attained honor and recognition from several leading organizations, including the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World—the oldest and largest Pentecostal organization on Earth. After 39 years as a working member of the organization, Suffragan Bishop Taylor will be elevated to the position of Bishop this August, joining the ranks of those who execute ecclesiastical decisions that affect the religious community.

A gala celebration of his elevation will be held August 17 at the Hotel Del Coronado in San Diego. I join all of those who have been touched by Suffragan Bishop Taylor's work in congratulating him on this honor and encouraging him to continue his good work.

NATIONAL GAMBLING IMPACT
AND POLICY COMMISSION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 1996

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 497, the National Gambling Impact and Policy Commission Act; legislation introduced by my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Virginia, [Mr. WOLF]. I have cosponsored and support this bill because gambling is not the type of business my district needs or wants in order to build a strong economy and a stable tax base. Virginia has been extremely successful in attracting high tech and Fortune 500 companies that provide quality, high paying jobs. Furthermore, preliminary studies of areas that have introduced gambling show that while the number of jobs increase at first, over time the economy of the area suffers, resulting in the loss of high quality employers. We don't need this in my district and I suspect that many Members of this body have similar feelings.

Already, my State is seeing the proliferation of gambling activities. One off-track horse betting parlor is already in operation in Virginia, and its owners are anxious to open a second. The bipartisan, unbiased nine-member commission this legislation will create will provide Congress and the President with the information necessary to make decisions regarding national policy on gambling. This study will grant the Federal Government invaluable information concerning gambling. Twenty years have passed since Congress visited this issue and the Commission on the Review of the National Policy toward Gambling issued its report. Since then, 46 States have legalized gambling in some fashion. In 1994, Americans wagered \$482 billion on all forms of gambling according to U.S. News and World Report; 85 percent of that figure took place in casinos in 27 States, most of which have opened during the past 5 years. Because of the fact that this industry is growing at such an incredible rate, and because there is a lack of current knowledge on the effects of this particular industry on our society Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important and crucial legislation.