

This industry is dominated by small businesses, with most employing less than 25 people. For the past decade, the metal finishing sector has worked diligently to improve its environmental performance. Today, nearly 30 percent of the total expenditures of these small companies are invested in pollution prevention and control equipment.

However, current regulations imposed on this industry are actually hindering the achievement of additional environmental gains by stymieing the development and use of innovative technology that would allow reuse of valuable metals resulting from the manufacturing process. Under these regulations, businesses presently are given a choice of expensive offsite recycling or burying valuable resources in the ground.

In fact, companies like McDowell Enterprises in Elkhart, IN, pay a 25-percent premium to save their resources through recycling. Certainly, a better option exists. We should be encouraging onsite metal recovery or the use of the innovative treatment technologies.

A sound national pollution prevention program should spur voluntary initiatives. We must promote a broad range of risk management options, for reducing environmental releases of toxic chemicals and in some cases eliminating the generation of hazardous wastes altogether. This includes such methods as source reduction, reuse, recycling treatment and other waste minimization techniques.

A broad program will permit businesses, large and small, the flexibility to design pollution prevention strategies based on the level of risk to public health and the environment.

I urge Congress and the Environmental Protection Agency to provide leadership to free America's innovative spirit. We must encourage all Americans to create new technologies that will allow industries to go beyond compliance and that will lead to a better environment.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 1996

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support this important piece of legislation, which is the result of much effort and hard work. As the former chairman of the National Parks, Forests and Public Lands Subcommittee, I maintain a deep concern for this issue. In 1994, I released a General Accounting Office report, which was undertaken at my request, that called for reexamination of employee housing needs within the National Park Service [NPS]. During consideration of H.R. 2941 in the Resources Committee this year, I continued to offer my input to improve it, including an amendment I offered which is now part of the bill. I want to commend my colleagues, Mr. HEFLEY and Chairman HANSEN, along with Mr. RICHARDSON for their positive efforts regarding this proposed policy.

I support efforts to ensure that the housing needs of National Park Service employees are met. In this time of downsizing and fiscal con-

straints, we must scrutinize all programs including our natural resources programs, to make sure scarce Federal dollars are allocated fairly. This bill provides general authority for the Park Service to make housing available for its employees, both on and off Federal lands, at costs commensurate with comparable housing in the surrounding area. Authorization is given for leasing of Federal land to private contractors to permit them to build and maintain housing for parks employees.

When the bill was considered in the Resources Committee, my amendment added several important provisions. To ensure that the needs of parks employees and our responsibilities to the American taxpayer are both met, this bill grants additional housing authority to the Park Service only where that authority is necessary and justified. The NPS will have to review and revise the existing criteria under which housing is provided to employees of the Park Service. My additions also require that the NPS submit a plan on how to meet the housing needs of parks employees. When this review is completed for specific units of the NPS, and the need is established, authorization is given to enter into housing agreements to develop, construct, rehabilitate, or manage housing on, or off public lands for rent, or lease by NPS employees.

Clearly there are many NPS units today that do not require or justify public employee or private employee housing within or outside of the parks units. Times have changed and it is appropriate for the policy to recognize reality. Transportation and development have greatly improved and the necessity of NPS housing is much reduced. The problems associated with managing a National Park unit in the 1990's are tremendous, and park housing policy too often flows to business as usual, imposing more management headaches that are not justified by the circumstance. The National Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management with vast land, nearly 600 million acres, have far less, not even 20 percent of the employee housing, that exists in the 90 million acres of NPS lands. This speaks for itself even as we recognize the different missions and responsibilities. It is time the NPS reevaluate and refocus its housing policy. This measure is one such opportunity—a tough but necessary task.

With these provisions, this bill has been improved and updated. The bill is consistent with good management practices and sound policymaking. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

TRIBUTE TO JIM ARMSTRONG

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute one of America's beloved former teachers and former mayors, James Armstrong of Torrance, CA.

I call Mr. "Mr. Mayor." I doubt anyone in Torrance would dispute that appellation. During his 6 years (1972–78) on the Torrance City Council and eight more as Mayor (1978–86), Jim oversaw Torrance's renaissance into a beautiful and modern city.

Jim Armstrong is also an educator. He taught American Government at Torrance

High from 1958 to 1986. Earlier in his career, he taught at Torrance Elementary School, where he was an inspiration to many generations of young people. Because of his influence, many of them have entered careers in which they too serve the community.

Through the years and in retirement, Jim has remained active by serving in leadership roles with many non-profit community organizations including the Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation, the Torrance Education Foundation, the Torrance YWCA Advisory Board, the Foundation of California State University Dominguez Hills and the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce. In 1981, the city's municipal theater was named the James Armstrong Theater.

On September 21, the Torrance YWCA will be honoring Jim Armstrong as Man of the Year. I join with the YWCA and all the people of the South Bay by giving special recognition to our special friend.

CELEBRATION OF TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. THOMAS J. MANTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to note that the Republic of China [ROC] is preparing to celebrate its 85th anniversary. Taiwan's National Day, October 10, is an important celebration for the people of Taiwan and for freedom loving people throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, the ROC is the United States' sixth largest trading partner and one of our strongest allies in the Pacific rim. The ROC continues to purchase American goods and services at a healthy and growing rate. Hundreds of American corporations have offices in Taiwan, which has proven to be an excellent market for the United States in this rapidly growing region of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I was privileged to travel to Taiwan 10 years ago. At that time, I saw a government transitioning democracy. Now, 10 years later, that transition has been completed with the popular election earlier this year of President Lee Teng Hui. I am certain that if I am able to return to Taiwan in the near future, I will see not only massive economic development throughout the island, but also a vibrant democracy at work.

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan is our friend and supporter. I know my colleagues join me in congratulating President Lee and all 21 million people on Taiwan on the occasion of the 85th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of China.

THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF SHOULD DECIDE

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago the House considered and passed H.R. 3308, the U.S. Armed Forces Protection Act, a misnomer, which I strongly opposed. I

voted against this measure as a matter of upholding the intent of the U.S. Constitution.

The Constitution established Congress and the Presidency with equal powers in the area of military affairs. Congress is responsible for raising and maintaining forces and legislating policy. The President, as Commander in Chief, is responsible for setting up the chain of command within our forces and executing congressional policy.

As a Member of the House of Representatives, I am aware of Congress' need to protect its powers. However, I believe it is also my duty to acknowledge the President's role under the Constitution as Commander in Chief.

This measure, which originated in the flawed Contract With America, is a partisan attempt by the Republican majority to selectively use congressional prerogatives. American Presidents have directed U.S. forces to serve in allied forces since the Revolutionary War. Examples include World War I, World War II, NATO operations, and Operation Desert Storm.

Under H.R. 3308, in 1990 President Bush would have been prevented from sending U.S. troops to the Middle East to contain Saddam Hussein. H.R. 3308 specifically limits the powers of the Commander in Chief to direct U.S. forces and, therefore, it is unconstitutional. I believe the American President, regardless of political party affiliation, should decide when, where, and how to deploy U.S. military forces.

Secretary of Defense Perry and Attorney General Reno have stated that H.R. 3308 is unconstitutional. In a letter to House Minority Leader GEPHARDT, Secretary Perry wrote, "I believe that H.R. 3308 is both operationally unjustified and unconstitutional."

In terms of operations, H.R. 3308 is a misnomer because, if enacted as law, it will in fact endanger the lives of American military men and women by preventing our forces from wearing protective United Nations identification insignia.

The UN insignia in question are blue helmets and blue shoulder patches designed to enable American forces, as well as others, to recognize friendly forces. Insignia are a proven method of protecting our soldiers' lives. They are worn to ensure the safety of our men and women. They help prevent friendly fire and make it possible to impose a recognized force on enemies.

Furthermore, the United Nation has established rules for protecting its forces by punishing those enemies who are against UN forces. These punishments can only be used to protect Americans who are fired upon while wearing UN insignia.

On this important issue of wearing insignia, all American military men and women must follow the commands of our Commander in Chief. Discipline is key to maintaining order in our services and, ultimately, to protecting our national security.

Only one American soldier has been court-martialed over the issue of wearing UN insignia. Thousands of American men and women have obeyed their President and served in multinational commands wearing U.S. uniforms and Allied forces insignia. These American military personnel have always retained their ultimate allegiance to the United States of America, while wearing UN or NATO insignia.

Americans serving in multinational commands have always followed the directions of

the American President, from Allied operations in World War II, to the United Nations Command established for the Korean war, the Desert Storm Coalition in the Persian Gulf war, and multiple NATO operations, including the present NATO Implementation Force [IFOR] in Bosnia.

During these operations, command of our military men and women has ultimately resided with the President as our Commander in Chief and our military leaders in the Department of Defense.

Finally, Presidential Decision Directive 25, a classified directive issued early in the Clinton administration, established steps to allay concern over U.S. troops under UN control. A declassified summary of this directive states:

The President retains and will never relinquish command authority over U.S. forces. On a case by case basis, the President will consider placing appropriate U.S. forces under the operational control of a competent UN commander for specific UN operations authorized by the Security Council [the UN security agency over whose decisions the U.S. has veto power]. The greater the U.S. military role, the less likely it will be that the U.S. will agree to have a UN commander exercise overall operational control over U.S. forces. Any large scale mission that is likely to involve combat should ordinarily be conducted under U.S. command and operational control or through competent regional organizations such as NATO or ad hoc coalitions.

There is nothing new about this Administration's policy regarding the command and control of U.S. forces. U.S. military personnel have participated in UN peace operations since 1948.

For all of these reasons, I strongly believe H.R. 3308 should not become law. Since the House has already passed this bill, I urge my colleagues in the Senate to oppose this measure. And, if this irresponsible legislation does pass the Senate, I support President Clinton's pledge to veto it.

HONORING MR. HOLCOMB "HOKE" EVETTS 1996 KINGS COUNTY AGRICULTURIST OF THE YEAR

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mr. DOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise before my colleagues today to recognize a legendary figure in Kings County's agricultural community, Mr. Holcomb "Hoke" Evetts. Because of his impressive accomplishments, which span the decades, Mr. Evetts is being honored by his community as Agriculturist of the Year.

Mr. Evetts is most widely recognized for his involvement with what many consider to be the finest stockyard in the State of California. Mr. Evetts and his business partner purchased the modest Overland Stockyards nearly 40 years ago, and built it into one of the largest and most reputable agricultural establishments in Kings County. Mr. Evetts has served as a well-respected auctioneer for 55 years, and has even taken his talent to the world of motion pictures.

Over 50 years ago, Mr. Evetts joined the Rodeo Cowboys of America, now known as the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association. As a proud and caring husband, father and

grandfather, Mr. Evetts has shared his love of the rodeo with his family members, some of whom have competed in rodeo events with his same enthusiasm.

As a leader in the effort to improve his community, Mr. Evetts has garnered wide respect. Mr. Evetts embodies what everyone seeks in a leader—a true individual who utilizes his talents in order to serve others. As an auctioneer, Mr. Evetts helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for dozens of needy organizations.

There is no question that for Mr. Evetts, commitment to community and to agriculture is a way of life. He is a dedicated Valley resident who has played a major role in the development of Kings County agriculture. I applaud the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce and the Kings County Farm Bureau for recognizing his contributions.

TRIBUTE TO ALFREDO PEREZ

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, it is with the utmost pleasure and pride that I rise today to recognize Mr. Alfredo Perez for his inspiration as a hard working American, dedicated teacher and valiant victim of crime.

Alfredo Perez was born in a small town in Jalisco, Mexico on November 23, 1965. When he was a boy of 8, he, his mother Maria Guadalupe Contreras de Perez and his seven siblings, Carlos, Francisco, Bertha, Hector, Guillermo, Jesus and Abelam emigrated to Oxnard, CA, to rejoin his father, Jose Perez. He attended El Rio Elementary School, then went on to Rio Del Valle Junior High. Alfredo received his high school diploma from Rio Mesa High School.

In the Fall of 1985 Alfredo entered the University of California Los Angeles [UCLA]. In order to pay for his schooling, he worked several part-time jobs. Alfredo graduated from UCLA in 1989 with a major in Sociology and a specialization in Business Administration.

Shortly after graduating from UCLA, Alfredo decided to enter the teaching profession. The importance of educating future generations was a challenge he took on with great devotion, commitment and love for children. He wanted to be a role model for children in the inner city. His main goal was to instill in them the desire to educate themselves and to make a difference in this world.

On the morning of February 22, 1996, Alfredo Perez was where he wanted to be—with his students. His 5th grade students were in the library at Figueroa Street Elementary School in Los Angeles. Gunfire from a gang-related incident disrupted the quiet building, and a stray bullet struck and entered Alfredo's brain. Despite suffering this potentially fatal wound, Alfredo's primary concern remained the safety of his school children. Paramedics found him waving the children to seek safe haven.

This incident has had a tremendous impact on our city for the simple fact that Alfredo is a gifted young individual who dedicated himself to helping the most vulnerable and precious members of our society: children. The obligation to work with the children of the inner