

ECONOMIC STABILITY FOR
PUERTO RICO

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 1996

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Resources Committee I would like to take this opportunity to voice my support for the continued economic progress of Puerto Rico. While I believe that it was necessary to do away with wasteful corporate welfare programs like section 936, it is crucial that we continue the progress toward economic stability on the island. With almost 4 million American citizens living in Puerto Rico, Congress must remain committed to helping Puerto Rico create a sound economic climate in which all citizens can prosper. It is important to remember that unemployment and other economic factors in Puerto Rico still remain far below the national average.

I believe we began building the foundation of an economic incentives program for the island in the new section 30A, which provides a targeted wage credit to companies currently doing business in Puerto Rico. Section 30A is certainly a move in the right direction but there is still a great deal of work that needs to be done in order to ensure the economic solvency of the island in the next century.

In the next Congress I am looking forward to working with Puerto Rican Governor Pedro Rossello, and my colleagues in the House to expand section 30A into a dynamic and effective job creation incentive that promotes new high paying jobs to Puerto Rico.

SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY
RELIEF ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. EWING. Madam Speaker, today the U.S. House of Representatives acted to protect farmers, farm retailers, many small businesses, and State's rights from potentially onerous regulations currently being proposed by the U.S. Department of Transportation. It is unfortunate that some proponents of "big government" and Washington, DC bureaucracies feel the need to preempt State laws and impose one-size-fits-all regulations on businesses and activities that have operated safely and efficiently for years without Federal regulation. Passage of H.R. 3153 was a victory for the "common sense" 104th Congress.

In its present form, the U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Special Programs Administration's HM-200 rule-making would supersede every State exception granted to the agriculture industry for transfer of agricultural production materials, such as pesticides, fertilizers, and fuel from retail-to-farm and from farm-to-farm. In fact, this issue is so important to agriculture that 49 Members of Congress and 44 farm and agribusiness organizations endorsed corrective legislation that I introduced along with Representatives Buyer, Poshard, and Barcia, H.R. 4102, the Farm Transportation Regulatory Relief Act.

Although the agricultural production materials provisions contained in Section 4 of H.R. 3153 are not as comprehensive as the recommendations contained in H.R. 4102, the bipartisan agreement contained in H.R. 3153 would provide relief for farmers and retailers, and allow States to continue to do exactly what they are doing now, until after Congress has a chance to review DOT's final rule. This section would exempt agricultural production materials from DOT's final intrastate regulations until after Congress passes a reauthorization of the Hazardous Materials Transportation Safety Act, or through the 1998 planting season.

State governments realize that agriculture has unique needs and operates under critical seasonal time pressures. There is no need to impose uniform hazardous materials transportation standards on not-for-hire intrastate transportation of agricultural chemicals and materials. Burdening farmers with costly and unnecessary bureaucratic requirements like having to placard their trucks, carry shipping documents, and provide a 24-hour emergency response phone number will only impede farmers' ability to efficiently plant and care for their crops. It will not improve safety on rural roads!

I would particularly like to thank Mr. BUYER, Mr. POSHARD, Mr. BARCIA, and Majority Whip DELAY for their support and hard work to ensure farmers and retailers are protected from DOT's unnecessary and burdensome regulations. Farmers are primarily small business people, who work extremely hard to make ends meet. They care about their safety, the safety of others, and the environment. I hope DOT will reevaluate its opinion of agriculture, and its unique transportation needs; however, if they do not, I am prepared to continue to work with my colleagues to ensure Congress takes the necessary action to permanently protect production agriculture from these unnecessary and bureaucratic regulations.

TRIBUTE TO WALT MOSHER

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 1996

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to my dear friend Walt Mosher, the recipient of the 1996 Nelle Reagan Award for Distinguished Community Service by the Olive-View UCLA Medical Foundation. Knowing Walt as I do, I cannot think of a more qualified candidate to receive an award predicated on philanthropy and volunteerism. Despite a hectic schedule, Walt always seems to have time for important causes.

The numbers are truly staggering: Walt has donated more than 25,000 hours of personal service and hundreds of thousands of dollars to scores of charities, civic organizations, committees, and task forces in the San Fernando Valley and elsewhere. Those he has helped in one way or another include the San Fernando YMCA Child Care Program, the American Heart Association, the San Fernando Police Advisory Council, the American Cancer Society, and the American Heart Association. Walt has also assumed a leadership role with the Valley Industry and Commerce Association, a key business advocacy organization in the San Fernando Valley.

Somehow Walt manages to stay intimately involved with his community while running a \$28 million a year business that employs several hundred people. In 1956 he cofounded Precision Dynamics Corp., which was established to manufacture and distribute products in the health care field. One year later, he became president, a position he has held ever since.

Walt is also an educated man; he has a Ph.D., in engineering from UCLA. I have enjoyed many stimulating conversations with him over the years about business and political matters.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting Walt Mosher, whose selflessness and dedication is a shining example to us all. I am proud to be close friends with him and his wife, Beckaa.

JACK HOAR: AN AMERICAN TEACHER
IN BOSNIA AND
HERZEGOVINA HELPS REBUILD
CIVIL SOCIETY

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 1996

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Mr. Jack Hoar, who participated in CIVITAS@Bosnia-Herzegovina, an intensive program from July 17–27, 1996, to train local teachers in education for democracy. Jack Hoar was part of a team of 18 American educators and 15 teachers from the Council of Europe who were assigned to key cities throughout the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. For 34 years, Jack was a valued teacher and administrator in the Long Beach Unified School District. He was the history, social science consultant for most of his tenure.

The summer training program was developed by the Center for Civic Education as part of a major civic education initiative in Bosnia and Herzegovina supported by the United States Information Agency and the United States Department of Education. The U.S. Information Service in Sarajevo provided valuable assistance to the program. The goals of the program are to help prepare students and their communities for competent and responsible participation in elections and other opportunities to take part in the political life of their communities. Achieving this goal will contribute to the reconstitution of a sense of community, cooperation, tolerance and support for democracy and human rights in this war torn area.

I am also pleased to announce that the curricular materials being used for the program in Bosnia and Herzegovina have been adapted from the We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution, and the Project Citizen programs, and other programs supported by Congress which are used in schools throughout the United States. Initial reports evaluating the summer program indicate the materials and teaching methods were enthusiastically received and can be adapted for use in classrooms throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Jack Hoar resides in Long Beach, CA, and currently serves as the director of international programs for the Center for Civic Education. In

the past year, Mr. Hoar has traveled on 4 different occasions to Bosnia and Herzegovina to promote education for democracy instruction in the schools.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to comment Jack Hoar for his dedication and commitment during the CIVITAS@Bosnia-Herzegovina summer training program. His work is helping to achieve the overall objective of building support for democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

PEOPLE ARE NOT FOR HITTING

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 1996

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, the Menninger Clinic published a book awhile back entitled "People are Not for Hitting".

I have rarely seen a little boy hit another child without mumbling, you are a bad boy. As people grow older, they become more subtle about explaining their violence. But as the parent's creed says, "The child who lives with violence, learns to do violence."

The old saying is, spare the rod, spoil the child. Since there are innumerable ways to discipline and even punish children, the saying should be, spare the discipline, spoil the child. In fact, spoiling is one of the worst things you can do to a child. I call it the gentle brutality.

Here is what George Bernard Shaw said: "If you strike a child, take care that you do so in anger. * * * A blow struck in cold blood neither can nor ever should be forgiven."

The following statement by Meadow D'Arcy was published in Parade on September 15, 1996. It is excellent.

I feel that hitting children is a disgrace—something we will hang our heads in shame about in the future, as we do now with racism and sexism. We will be forced to tell our children how we were ignorant and simply did not know any better.

I know some one who hits her kids, and you can see the hurt and anger in their faces. Their mother believes that her older boy is a just plain bad kid and that hitting him is the only way to get him to stop doing things. He does do bad things. You can tell him something 20 times and he still won't listen. But I believe she created him. I believe that the badness is a result of the whippings, not the other way around.

We tell our children not to hit—by hitting them. But when we strike a child, we create a child full of fear, hatred and anger. Every time a child is hit, she gets a lesson in how to deal with her emotions. When faced with frustrations, she will hit too.

Image if you broke something at work and your boss slapped you. How would you feel? Humiliated, of course. We see our spankings as different. Why? We all agree that it is wrong for a man to hit a woman. But when it comes to children, we just shrug and say that it is part of growing up.

Children are becoming more and more violent with each other and with you and me. We blame this on so many sources but refuse to face the facts.

TRIBUTE TO LACASA

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 1996

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the Latin American Community Alliance for Support and Assistance of Northwest Indiana, Inc. [LACASA], its board of directors, and its administrator, Ms. June Long, on LACASA's first annual fundraiser dinner. LACASA, whose office is located in Gary, IN, will hold this monumental event on Saturday, September 28, 1996, at the Patio Restaurant in Merrillville, IN.

The LACASA Board of Directors Officers include: Mrs. Aida Padilla, president and director of the Senior Companion Program; Mrs. Julie Tanis, vice president and public school teacher; Mr. Joaquin Rodriguez, secretary and community advocate; and Mr. Ray Acevedo, treasurer and photographer. Members of the board of directors include: Mrs. Bertha Cardenas, Mrs. Hortencia Hernandez, Mrs. Maria Magana, Mrs. Socorro Roman, Mr. Roeman Whitesell, Ms. Jeannette Hinton Padgett, Ms. Maria Vasquez, Mr. Martin Valtierra, Mr. Ben Luna, Mrs. Maria Lopez, Mrs. Mary Jean Maloney, and Ms. Finis Springer.

LACASA, which was organized in 1994, is dedicated to serving the Hispanic residents of northwest Indiana who experience difficulty in obtaining needed social and educational services. It serves northwest Indiana's Hispanic residents, who comprise 52 percent of the total population in this area, with quality services to meet their special needs.

Special programs that LACASA offers are: adult education, offered at various levels from basic adult education to preparation for the high school equivalency test; Head Start, which provides parenting skills training and an opportunity for parents to become empowered in the education of their children; and Access Assistance, which includes a food pantry, learning job search skills, and youth personal leadership and high school preparation instruction.

While LACASA already provides several beneficial services, it has plans to continue to improve the quality of life for northwest Indiana's Hispanic population. For those in need, LACASA hopes to provide transportation services to its programs, as well as agencies where its clients are referred. It would also like to offer tutoring services for Hispanic youth and establish health stations in an effort to assist Hispanic families in understanding their basic health needs and inform them about how to access the existing health care system. Finally, LACASA hopes to expand its services to the elderly, by familiarizing them with in-home care options to prevent unnecessary institutionalization.

LACASA is funded and receives support from the city of Gary-Community Development Block Grant, Lake Area United Way, Health and Human Services-ACYF, Gary Community School Corp., National Hispanic Institute, U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute, Indiana Literacy Foundation, and Kankakee Workforce Development Services.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending LACASA. This fine organization should be congratulated on its continuing efforts to pre-

serve the Hispanic culture, while at the same time improving the quality of life for the Hispanic residents of Indiana's First Congressional District. May their first annual fundraiser be a successful and joyous event.

MEDICARE AND OUTPATIENT PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS: PROVIDING INCENTIVES FOR COST-EFFECTIVE MEDICALLY APPROPRIATE CARE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, Medicare's limited outpatient pharmaceutical coverage is inhibiting the implementation of cost-effective outpatient treatments that could benefit patients. Over the past decades, a shift of healthcare from the inpatient to the outpatient setting has occurred. The implementation of Medicare's Prospective Payment System in 1983 provided a strong incentive for hospitals to decrease patients' lengths of stay. Outpatient treatment, when appropriate, is generally much more cost effective than inpatient treatment. Although further shifts in inpatient to outpatient treatment for some conditions may be medically appropriate, the lack of Medicare coverage for the necessary outpatient treatment seems to be inhibitory. Medicare policy needs to facilitate medically appropriate, cost-effective treatments in order to keep pace with the 1990's and set the course for the next century. For this reason, I am introducing a bill which directs a review of Medicare payments in order to identify conditions for which provision of an outpatient pharmaceutical benefit would facilitate outpatient rather than inpatient treatment and be cost effective.

An example of Medicare's limited pharmaceutical coverage having an inhibitory effect on cost-effective care is the lack of general coverage for home intravenous antibiotic therapy. Numerous studies have shown that patients with certain diseases requiring prolonged antibiotic therapy can start their treatment in the hospital and then safely and effectively continue it at home. A hospital in Danbury, CT, recently published a cost-benefit analysis of a home intravenous antibiotic therapy program established for Medicare patients but paid for by the hospital itself; the savings to the hospital was found to be \$6,111 per patient on average. If the hospital had not taken the initiative to start the home therapy program, these patients would have had to remain in the hospital, resulting in substantially increased costs.

Although Medicare generally reimburses hospitals on the basis of fixed diagnosis-related group [DRG] payments, it also reimburses an extra amount for patients who stay in the hospital much longer than average and qualify as outliers. Thus for certain patients, some costs due to prolonged hospitalization are shifted to Medicare. Alternatively, the hospital could cut its costs by transferring the patient to another inpatient facility such as a skilled nursing facility to finish treatment. In this case, Medicare still pays extra because it reimburses both the hospital's DRG payment and the receiving facility's expenses for the patient's post-hospitalization extended care.