

## CUTS IN EDUCATION

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 1996*

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the effects of the Republican cuts in education funding on my district in California.

We're all aware of the draconian reductions in funding for education programs across the country.

Children all over America will pay a heavy price for the majority party's insistence on slashing the Federal commitment to education.

School districts, too, will suffer as they try to budget and plan for the 1996-97 school year without knowing what to expect from the Federal Government.

For example, funding for title I was reduced by 17.1 percent in one of the continuing resolutions passed earlier this year.

This means a \$122.8 million reduction for California. In Sacramento, the school district estimates that \$2 million will have to be cut from the district budget, eliminating as much as \$65,000 for some of the neediest schools.

Seven to eight schools and approximately 100 teachers and teacher's aides would be cut from the title I program effecting almost 3,300 students. Reading tutorial sites would be closed and educational technology programs would also be eliminated.

My colleagues, the cuts to title I alone are cause for outrage—but when they are added to the cuts to students loans, school lunch programs, job training programs, and Goals 2000—it is hard to fully grasp the impact of these cuts on our children.

Let's not lose sight of the commitment that brings us here today—let us put our children first and reject these mean—spirited cuts.

## GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 1996*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday the 25th the people of Greece and friends of Greece around the world will celebrate the 175th anniversary of Greece's independence from the Ottoman Empire.

When Greece regained its independence in 1821, the people of the United States were delighted to learn of the new Greek freedom and restoration of Green independence.

Our President at the time, James Monroe, issued a declaration expressing America's great friendship and sympathies for the cause of Greek freedom.

President Monroe's expression of our sympathies for Greek freedom and democracy was not just an empty promise and it was not just the expression of one person's views.

Over a century later, President Truman came to this House on March 12, 1947, to ask the Congress for its support for what became known as the Truman Doctrine.

Truman described the desperate situation in Greece and how Greek democracy was threatened, and he asked Congress for its

support for an unprecedented American program of economic and military aid to Greece.

By overwhelming and bipartisan votes, the Congress responded quickly to President Truman's request for aid to the Greeks.

By May 15, President Truman was able to sign a bill into law providing for aid to preserve and protect Greek freedom and independence.

One participant in the Truman administration's effort to save Greek democracy later told an historian, "I think it's one of the proudest moments in American history."

And indeed it was.

This long history of friendship and cooperation between the Americans and the Greeks has weathered many a crisis in which the two nations were allies in protecting the cause of democracy and freedom.

During the Second World War, Greeks and Americans fought in the great crusade to rid the world of the evils of the Nazis.

We were allies in that effort, and the alliance continued for the next half century as allies in the struggle against communism and Soviet domination.

It was from his own experiences in the Greek struggle during Second World War that Greece's most famous modern poet, Odysseus Elytis, wrote his poem "To Axiom Esti," in which he described his experiences in the Greek resistance to fascism in World War II. That poem won Elytis the Nobel Prize in 1979.

Odysseus Elytis died this week, and was buried with high honors as Greece's most beloved poet of this century.

In his poetry, Elytis carried on the long tradition of Greek literature and its contribution to the world's cultural heritage.

This contribution is as significant as their contribution of the concept of democracy has been to the world of politics.

We are all the inheritors of the Greek contribution to our cultural and our political life, and today I join my colleague MIKE BILIRAKIS in wishing the Greek people our very best of wishes as they celebrate 175 years of independence on Monday.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 2202, IMMIGRATION IN  
THE NATIONAL INTEREST ACT  
OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. JOEL HEFLEY

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 1996*

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the manager's amendment offered by the chairman of the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims, Mr. SMITH of Texas.

I want to commend the chairman for his consideration of a technical amendment I suggested to section 112(a) of the bill. The amendment clarifies that the Secretary of Defense and the Attorney General should consult with a local redevelopment authority when selecting real property at closed military bases for the pilot program concerning detention centers authorized by the section. As the chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Installations and Facilities, I can assure the House that we have placed great emphasis on empowering local communities in working with

the Department of Defense to make the best use of military bases closed through the base closure and realignment process.

This technical change would not disturb the ability of the Secretary of Defense and the Attorney General to establish the pilot program, but it would ensure that an affected local redevelopment authority is consulted as the pilot program proceeds. This change is consistent with other areas of BRAC law.

Again, I want to thank Mr. SMITH for his consideration of the amendment and his willingness to work with me to bring it to the floor.

THANK YOU AND HAPPY ANNIVERSARY  
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN  
OF THE ELSMERE FIRE  
COMPANY

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 1996*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Elsmere Fire Company on the occasion of its 75th anniversary of leadership and service to the community and the town of Elsmere in my home State of Delaware. For myself, and on behalf of the citizens of the First State, I would like to thank the Elsmere Fire Company for its many years of dedicated service.

As is typical of the fire departments in Delaware, the Elsmere Fire Company is comprised of dedicated men and women who volunteer their time and talents to help prevent or battle fires and perform emergency medical services for our citizens. In today's world, many fire departments find it difficult to recruit and retain volunteers. With the pressures of work and family, many find it hard to complete the rigorous fire service training. Yet the Elsmere Fire Company has remained a vital and integral part of its community with strong support that has allowed it to grow with the needs of its community. I am particularly grateful and proud of this community's efforts.

At a recent fire company banquet for the volunteers, many were recognized for various areas of service with the department, and many others were honored for decades of service. It is important that the Elsmere Fire Company continue to be able to recruit and retain young men and women who are committed to this outstanding form of public service. The support for the Elsmere Fire Company is strong and the tradition of service is solid.

Although I have not listed all the members of the Elsmere Fire Company, I hope that they all realize how deeply their efforts are appreciated. This company can be proud of its 75 years of dedicated service. Your community tanks you for your commitment and concern.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID MINGE

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 1996*

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances I was unable to vote on rollcall votes 71 and 72 to amend H.R. 2202. Had I

been able to vote, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 71 and "yes" on rollcall vote 72.

#### INTRODUCTION OF DOLE-WATTS MEDICARE SUBVENTION BILL

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 1996*

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join with Senator BOB DOLE in taking the first step toward reopening our Nation's military hospitals to Medicare eligible military retirees. I am introducing legislation today that will launch a demonstration project to underscore the cost-effectiveness of Medicare reimbursement to the Department of Defense for the treatment of military beneficiaries aged 65 and older at these facilities.

The Department of Defense's new managed health care program, Tricare, replaced the traditional military health care program CHAMPUS [Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services]. While medical treatment may be improved under Tricare for many members and retirees of the Nation's armed services, Medicare eligible military retirees are not so lucky because Tricare does not provide for their care at military hospitals except on a space available basis.

With the acceleration of military down-sizing and base closings, fewer and fewer military retirees will be eligible for treatment at military hospitals. This is unacceptable. When our Nation's servicemen and women made their commitment to serve our country, we guaranteed them lifetime health care at military facilities. Tricare undercuts that commitment for Medicare eligible beneficiaries and breaks the contract we made with America's retired military personnel.

The legislation that I have introduced today will allow for a Medicare subvention demonstration which permits the Health Care Financing Administration to repay the Department of Defense for medical services provided to these Medicare eligible retirees. The demonstration project I propose will not contribute to additional costs to the Medicare program and does not change the manner or process under which the Secretary of Defense currently budgets for health care services.

I believe that Medicare subvention will prove to be not only feasible and cost-effective, but more importantly, it is the continuation of our contract with America's service men and women. I invite my colleagues to join as co-sponsors of this important legislation and maintain the commitment we have made with our Nation's military personnel.

#### TRIBUTE TO CF INDUSTRIES, INC.

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 1996*

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues: Mr. GIBBONS and Mr. BILIRAKIS of Florida; Mr. POSHARD, Mr. LAHOOD and Mr. WELLER of Illinois; Mr. LATHAM of Iowa; Mr. MYERS, Mr. BURTON and Mr. HOSTETTLER of Indiana; Mr. TAUZIN of Louisi-

ana; Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska; Mr. POMEROY of North Dakota; and Mr. CHABOT of Ohio, to pay tribute to CF Industries, Inc. CF Industries is an interregional fertilizer manufacturing cooperative, which this year is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary of providing service and agricultural products to the Nation's farmer cooperatives. Over 1 million farmers and ranchers in 46 States and two Canadian provinces depend on CF and its eleven regional member companies to distribute nitrogen, phosphate and potash fertilizers in a timely and cost effective manner. We congratulate CF on its high quality service and products over the past fifty years as well as its commitment to environmental, health, and safety practices.

CF began in 1946 as a broker of fertilizers for its farmer-owners. CF then branched out into manufacturing and by 1960 came closer to its goal of being the Nation's major fertilizer supplier for the agricultural cooperative community.

Today, CF manufacturing plants have the capacity to produce more than 8 million tons of fertilizer products annually. In 1995, CF sales totaled over \$1.3 billion. CF manufacturing plants include nitrogen fertilizer complexes in Donaldsonville, LA and Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, as well as extensive phosphate mining and manufacturing facilities in Florida. CF's headquarters are located in Long Grove, IL.

The extensive distribution system operated by CF allows products to reach their regional member cooperatives and, ultimately, their farmer-owners. CF has ownership and lease positions in 63 regional terminals and warehouses. Total storage capacity of CF's distribution terminals and warehouses is in excess of 2.4 million tons of product.

We would like to close, Mr. Speaker, in expressing our best wishes to CF and its employees as they look forward to providing good quality products and services to their members for the next 50 years.

#### INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE ACT

HON. BOB LIVINGSTON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 1996*

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing today the Defend America Act of 1996.

Just a few short weeks ago, during consideration of the National Defense Authorization Act, S. 1124, I stood in this Chamber with Chairman SPENCE and my colleagues on the Authorization Committee and said that Members of this Republican controlled House would not be party to one of the most irresponsible acts of negligence on the part of this or any administration. It is no secret to this body that I am speaking of the administration's decision to leave the American people defenseless against a ballistic missile attack.

On that day, Chairman FLOYD SPENCE and I vowed that Congress would initiate its own legislation to make certain that ballistic missile defense is one of our Nation's highest priorities. Today, along with Speaker GINGRICH, Chairman FLOYD SPENCE, and other leadership in the House, we are making good on that promise. Today, we are introducing the Defend America Act of 1996. This legislation

stands in sharp contrast to the Clinton administration's philosophy. It is an unequivocal statement in favor of defending the United States from ballistic missile attack. Let me list some of the differences between the Congress and the administration as outlined in this legislation:

First, unlike the administration's weak, non-committal approach, known as, 3 plus 3, this legislation calls for a firm deployment date of 2003 for a National Missile Defense [NMD] system. The administration claims it will develop an NMD capability within 3 years. But, a decision to deploy will not be made for 3 years, in 1999, and only if a threat emerges. My friends, there is no need to invent a threat. An article in the New York Times, January 23, 1996, records China's veiled threat to use a nuclear missile against Los Angeles. What more do we need?

Second, we call for an NMD system that can defend the United States and its territories. The administration's proposal leaves open the possibility that Alaska and Hawaii would be left defenseless. We know North Korea is already developing a long-range missile that is capable of hitting points in Alaska and Hawaii. Given these facts, it is hard to image the President of the United States proposing to defend only part of the Nation against missile attack. Yet, it seems that this is exactly what the administration is intent on doing.

Third, this legislation does not limit the ballistic missile architecture simply to comply with an outdated, obsolete treaty. Rather, it permits the Pentagon to develop an effective National Missile Defense system that will be able to counter emerging threats and defend the American people.

Ladies and gentlemen, this legislation will ensure that the next time China makes a veiled threat to use nuclear weapons against Los Angeles, the United States has a response that does not include a massive nuclear lay down and the destruction of thousands of lives.

#### TRIBUTE TO REV. JAMES R. GREEN, JR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 21, 1996*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, there is no greater calling than service to God. I am honored to recognize Rev. James R. Green, Jr., the pastor of Universal Baptist Church on the occasion of 12th pastoral anniversary.

Reverend Green's pursuit of ministerial service was cultivated from the faith and actions of his grandfather, who was a devoted servant and preacher of the gospel. In keeping with his Christian faith, Reverend Green founded the Association of Brooklyn Clergy for Community Development [ABCCD] to be advocated on behalf of human services, housing, and economic development.

Reverend Green's activism and faith have been bolstered by his avid pursuit of education. He has received degrees from Long Island University, The Manhattan Bible Institute, the Trinity Theological Seminary, and is currently working on a D. Min. in pastoral care.

The vision, unselfishness, and dedication of Pastor Green is an example of spiritual