

Let me begin with a quote by former United States Secretary of State, Lawrence Eagleburger, from the Bush administration, commenting on NATO expansion and the Baltic countries:

If we ever think of bringing the Baltic countries into NATO we ought to have our heads examined. First place, it would be a real threat—threat maybe not but a real challenge—to the Russians. Think about the commitment to defend them—we couldn't do it even if we were the only superpower in the world, which we seem to be.

First of all, Russia clearly perceives that the expansion of NATO into the Baltics would be an aggressive, wholly unjustifiable move by the United States. On May 22, 1997, President Boris Yeltsin's spokesman, Sergei Yastrzhembskii, stated that if NATO expands to include Former Soviet Republics, Russia will review all of its foreign policy priorities and its relations with the West. Since the cold war is over, why are we militarily provoking Russia?

Second, how much more are we going to ask United States taxpayers to ante up to defend Europe in an expanded NATO with a still undefined mission? The total price tag is estimated at anywhere from \$27 billion to \$150 billion over the next 10 to 12 years. The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that the cost of NATO expansion will be between \$60.6–\$124.7 billion over 15 years. Don't forget that we have already paid \$60 million through the NATO Enlargement Facilitation Act in order to assist Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Slovenia in bringing their Armed Forces up to NATO standards.

Lastly, I am also concerned about reports that several of the prospective new NATO member states have been involved in arms sales to terrorist countries. For example, Poland has made five shipments to Iran of T-72 tanks, equipment and trainers, Slovenia sent M-60 tanks to Iran, and Bulgaria sent North Korea 15 tons of explosives.

After four decades of the cold war and trillions of United States taxpayer dollars allocated to compete in the arms race, many of our constituents understand that it is not the time to continue wasting tens of billions of dollars helping to defend Europe, let alone assuming more than our share of any costs associated with expanding NATO eastward.

Mr. Speaker, in the words of New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman, "We [get] nothing for NATO expansion but a bill."

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS FOGLIETTA AS U.S. AMBASSADOR TO ITALY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the House's most distinguished Members, Representative THOMAS FOGLIETTA of Pennsylvania, for his upcoming appointment by the President as the next U.S. Ambassador to Italy. This is an extraordinary and well-deserved honor for a true gentleman who has given four decades of his life to public service.

Since his election to the House of Representatives in 1980, TOM FOGLIETTA has been

a tireless fighter for his constituents in Philadelphia and Delaware County. As a member of the Appropriations Committee and a leader of the Urban Caucus, he has protected city jobs, helped restore Independence Hall, and put more police on the streets.

Perhaps just as important to his new duties, TOM FOGLIETTA has also been on the forefront of global affairs. He has worked to provide famine relief to starving people overseas and has never hesitated to speak up against tyrants around the world.

Only in America could the grandson of immigrants who came from Italy over 100 years ago live the dream of representing the birthplace of this Nation's freedom in the Halls of Congress and go on to serve his country as its representative in the land of his family's heritage. TOM FOGLIETTA is an outstanding example of what is possible for those who serve the United States with honor and distinction.

Mr. Speaker, Washington's loss is Italy's gain. Congress will undoubtedly be a lesser place when TOM FOGLIETTA takes his intelligence, dedication, integrity, and charm to Italy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending best wishes and a fond *arrivederci* to TOM FOGLIETTA as he stands ready to embark on another exciting chapter of his career, and insert the following editorial from the Philadelphia Inquirer to be included for the RECORD.

[From The Philadelphia Inquirer, May 28, 1997]

ARRIVEDERCI—TOM FOGLIETTA HAS EARNED HIS NEW JOB. LET'S HOPE HIS SUCCESSOR SERVES THE REGION AS WELL AS HE DID

After four decades of public service, Tom Foglietta richly deserves a job that melds diplomacy and *la dolce vita*: U.S. ambassador to Italy. So even though the Philadelphia area stands to lose its most senior member of the U.S. House, his constituents in the city and in Delaware County can still salute the (unofficial) news that he's headed for Rome.

Mr. Foglietta has worked hard for the needs of Philadelphia and other cities. As a member of the Appropriations Committee since 1993 and as a prime mover of the Urban Caucus, he's tried to aim more federal dollars at urban needs. His local causes have included protecting jobs at the Navy Yard, reversing the neglect of Independence Hall, and funding more police for the city of Chester.

Not all of his votes on pocketbook issues have been dead-on. He backed the Clinton economic package, tax hikes and all, but loudly opposed the modest, Penny-Kasich spending cuts. He sided with labor over consumers by voting against NAFTA.

But Mr. Foglietta is more than a bring-home-the-bacon guy. He's been a leading voice against despots around the globe. He's been as committed to famine relief in Africa as he was to food assistance at home.

A fair assessment of Mr. Foglietta's contributions must look beyond his specific stands on issues. In a city renowned for political corruption, Mr. Foglietta stood against the tide.

Running for Congress as an independent in 1980, he beat the comeback bid by Democrat Michael "Ozzie" Myers, who had been expelled from the House after being convicted of taking an Abscam bribe. In 1984 and 1986, Mr. Foglietta turned back strong challenges by a future felon: then-Councilman James Tayoun.

Endorsing him for Congress in 1980, this Editorial Page called Mr. Foglietta "sensitive and intelligent and convincingly committed to public service."

Ideally, Mr. Foglietta's successor would share his fervor for urban needs, his commitment to human needs and human rights, his people skills and intelligence, his ethics. And voters would be the ultimate judge of that if he were retiring at the end of a two-year term.

Unfortunately, the vacancy will be filled by a special election, without a primary. The favorite in this Democratic district will be whomever the Democratic organization chooses. The reported front-runners are former Rep. Lucien Blackwell—who was voted out of the Second District seat three years after the Democratic machine handed it to him—and city Democratic boss Bob Brady. Neither of them stacks up to Tom Foglietta.

EXPAND PRIVATE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR KIDS

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, one out of every seven American children is growing up without health insurance. These 10 million children—including 70,000 in my home State of Minnesota—are less likely to get preventive care to keep them healthy, or see a doctor when they get sick. These obstacles to health care can lead to harmful and lasting effects. For example, children whose ear infections go undiagnosed and untreated can suffer from permanent hearing loss.

Sadly, there are signs that the prognosis for the health of American's children is getting worse. The number of families receiving insurance sponsored by their employer has declined from 67 percent in 1987 to 59 percent in 1995. Additionally, premium costs for family coverage are on the rise, placing health insurance beyond the reach of an increasing number of working families.

Enough is enough. It is time for all of us to commit to solving this problem. Today, I am introducing legislation that takes one step toward a comprehensive solution.

The Children's Health Coverage Improvement Act of 1997 would make children's-only policies widely available to families at more affordable group rates. Federally regulated self-insured health plans would be required to offer these policies as one of the options available to their employees.

Many low-income working families simply cannot find room in the family budget to pay the increasingly large premiums for family policies. Moreover, many financially strapped single parents cannot afford to pay family premiums designed to cover two adults plus children. Kids-only policies could provide an answer for these hard-working and hard-pressed families.

According to a recent survey of 600 employers, the majority of respondents indicated a strong sense of responsibility toward their workers and expressed sympathy for those who are uninsured. My legislation builds upon this sense of community, and creates a new way for employers to make coverage available to children.

This legislation is also sensitive to employers' concerns that they cannot assume further insurance costs. Instead of requiring an employer to shoulder a specified portion of insurance costs, this bill allows the dynamics of the

group insurance market to create affordable kids-only policies.

Shoring up the decline in employer-sponsored health care is one way to help get kids insured. Ten million American children need help. It's time for all of us—in both the private and public section—to pitch in and make sure they get it.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD D. ACTON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Richard D. Acton, a union leader for over 45 years who has worked tirelessly for his members and for his community.

Dick began his union career as a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Union, Local No. 38. He rapidly earned the respect of his peers, and they chose him for higher union office. Dick rose to treasurer and business manager, a post he held for 21 years.

His fellow union leaders recognized Dick's leadership qualities and elected him to the IBEW International Executive Council in 1979, where he served until 1996. Dick was also elected to the post of executive secretary of the Cleveland AFL-CIO Federation of Labor.

Dick devoted much of his time to improving the lives of his members and the Greater Cleveland community. As president of the United Labor Agency, the social service arm of the Cleveland AFL-CIO, the United Auto Workers and the Teamsters, Dick led the institution which embodies the generosity and social commitment of the union movement. The United Labor Agency provides programs in strike assistance, job counseling, training, youth job placement, services for laid-off workers, unemployed, and underemployed persons. Of particular note, the United Labor Agency developed a special economic response team that delivered a range of programs for people who were laid off or were subject to plant closing. The program was so successful that it was replicated around the country. The United Labor Agency also provides needed durable medical equipment, and offers programs for senior citizens and retired workers.

Mr. Speaker, let us recognize the achievements of Dick Acton, who will be honored by his peers on June 11, 1997, for a lifetime of giving, service, and achievement.

TRIBUTE TO EMMA P. URQUHART,
DEACONESS OF CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Emma P. Urquhart, deaconess of Calvary Baptist Church in Paterson, NJ.

A faithful, dedicated, and active member of Calvary Baptist Church, Emma is president of the Senior Missionary Society. As a member

of the Progressive Women of Calvary, she supports the Christian ministries in both these organizations. She is also one of the devotion leaders for the Golden Keys senior group.

Emma is very active in Calvary's bereavement endeavors, whether helping in the kitchen, serving the congregation, or attending to the families spiritual needs during their time of sorrow.

Emma is an encourager to the youth, the sick and shut-in, the entire congregation of Calvary Baptist Church, and the community. She calls upon delinquent and past members, and invites them back to the church.

As part of her missionary duties, Emma visits the sick and shut-in at home, hospitals, and nursing homes. Beyond merely visiting, Emma and her group clean the homes and fix meals for the members who are unable to do so for themselves.

Emma volunteers as a teacher in the Saturday Outreach Program and Vacation Bible School. She supports these groups by preparing and serving refreshments for use during group activities. Emma is also a member of the Music Ministry Committee and is a supporter of the current youth leaders of the group.

Emma has served many years on the Board of Christian Education and on the Calvary Baptist Scholarship Committee. Her belief in the future of our children has led her to faithfully make a regular individual donation to the Calvary Baptist Scholarship Fund.

Emma provides a support role as a current and past member of Calvary's Trustee Group. She is a loyal and dedicated member of the Chancellor choir and actively supports all the programs and events the church sponsors each year, including Women's Day.

Emma religiously dedicates her time in prayer to the growth of Calvary Baptist Church and its programs. This time is not only given at Wednesday prayer service or Saturday morning prayer service but faithfully and regularly at home for the church, its people and its mission as well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Emma's family and friends, and the congregation of Calvary Baptist Church in recognizing Deaconess Emma P. Urquhart's outstanding and invaluable service to the community.

STATEMENTS BY ALYSSA LEACH
AND SAM HERR, GAILER
SCHOOL, MIDDLEBURY, VT,
REGARDING THE INTERNET
VERSUS THE FIRST AMENDMENT

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 1997

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I would like to have printed in the RECORD this statement by high school students from Gailer School in VT, who were speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people.

Ms. LEACH: Congressman Sanders, the United States government wants to regulate the information available on the Internet via the U.S. Communications Decency Act and Exxon-Garten Communications Decency legislation.

We as adult citizens in the United States believe that this legislation is violating our First Amendment rights to the freedom of expression.

The First Amendment was created by American's founders to protect the individual's rights, two of these rights being freedom of speech and freedom of expression. The CDA is going to be limiting these rights and violating the First Amendment. Is this right? No. The CDA calls for a \$100,000 fine and up to two years in jail for transmitting indecent material over the computer networks.

What is indecent? What is indecent to some may not be some to others. To others it is self-expression which is protected by the First Amendment. Expressing yourself is an American right. It may come in the form of unconventional speech down to pornography, but it is all self-expression.

Americans should be able to speak freely over the Internet about controversial issues such as abortion or sex without fear of prosecution. We are not a free people if we cannot speak freely and share our opinions. As for children, they are under their parents' responsibility for guidance on the Internet. Adult expression should not be prohibited for the protection of children. The government does not parent children, parents parent children.

So I say to you, please protect our rights. The Internet is a wonderful way to express and share our opinion with the world. Don't make us have to be afraid of prosecution if we have unconventional, maybe indecent opinions which we wish to express. If the CDA is passed we will start losing our First Amendment rights. Keep us a free people, free to express ourselves.

Mr. HERR. There are also important technological concerns. Forty percent of the websites on the Internet are located on the hard drives of computers that are physically located outside of any area in which the United States can be said to have jurisdiction and this number is growing. How would the Communications Decency Act prevent children within the United States from accessing information and pictures contained within these sites? In addition, it would be entirely possible for United States citizens to rent space on one of these foreign sites and post any information or pictures that he or she wanted to.

The Communications Decency Act makes it illegal for an Internet service provider such as America Online or Togethernet to provide material that is patently offensive to minors. It is possible for these organizations not directly to provide such information to minors by not carrying it on the Internet service which they control. However, there are many public Internet servers that are available for use by anyone attached to the Internet who state it could not be regulated by the Communications Decency Act. Therefore, any Internet service provider whose users could access any of these servers would be open to prosecution under the Communications Decency Act.

As you can see, Representative Sanders, it is clearly unfair to any Internet service provider and could in fact act to shut down the Internet within the United States whereby denying U.S. citizens access to a valuable tool.

Lastly, because of the way Internet protocols are written there is no way of confirming the age of persons accessing a website or a new server. The fear of prosecution has caused many Internet sites to provide material solely for adult audiences because they have been technically unable to prevent minors from accessing their sites. The Electronic ID is the best quick fix for this problem as minors can get these IDs and there