

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DEBT RELIEF AND IMF REFORM ACT OF 1999

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 1999

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, today I have been joined by my friend DENNIS KUCINICH in offering legislation to advance debt relief and reform of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). While this may appear to be an ambitious undertaking, it is my view that true and lasting debt relief will be most quickly and effectively obtained through IMF reform. The bill contains four main sections: conditions on gold sales; termination of ESAF and use of its reserves for debt relief; a freeze on IMF funding until debt relief is provided; and Congressional pre-approval of future proposed quota increases.

As the research of the Joint Economic Committee (JEC) has found, the IMF in recent decades has drifted away from its original mission and towards becoming another development bank much like the World Bank. The development and economic restructuring loans made under this policy have become increasingly problematic, as the recent cases of Russia and Indonesia indicate. The leading edge of this drift in IMF policy has been the Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility, or ESAF.

It was a fundamental policy mistake for the IMF to have established ESAF and embarked on the course of development lending that has led to so many serious problems around the world. This legislation seeks to correct this mistake by closing ESAF and using its reserves for debt relief. The legislation is based on the view that the policy underlying the establishment of ESAF is bankrupt, and therefore ESAF should be ended, and its legacy of heavy debt burdens on the poorest nations should be written off. As I have said many times, my own view is that this type of lending through the IMF's general resources should also be ended, and the IMF refocused on its original function.

The bill also would pre-condition U.S. approval of gold sales upon the following: cancellation of IMF debt owed by countries eligible for debt relief under HIPC, increased IMF financial transparency, a Congressional finding of IMF compliance with Congressional reforms, an accurate accounting of IMF costs, and use of the gold restitution provisions. The IMF's attempt to tap taxpayer funds through the new gold sales proposal about to be unveiled would be blocked. The bill would also block future IMF appropriations until debt relief is provided and require Congressional pre-approval of any future proposed quota increases.

The IMF has been generously funded by the taxpayers of its major donor nations for many years. However, these resources have often been used to implement counterproductive IMF policies around the world. The IMF and Administration approach essentially papers over IMF mistakes with additional taxpayer

money tapped in ways that are not always transparent. It is our view that the cost of IMF policy mistakes should be paid out of IMF resources, and not through further contributions by the taxpayers.

For more information on the IMF and international economics, please visit our website at www.house.gov/jec.

LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST/ VENTURA WILDERNESS FIRE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 1999

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, Mother Nature beckons our notice as she shakes the earth in Taiwan, destroying cities and killing thousands. She bombards the east coast with wind and water, leaving hundreds without a livelihood, home, or lifetime collection of possessions. There is hardly a community in the Nation that hasn't on some level taken notice of the eerie weather patterns striking the planet. And in my own home district, a brilliant and awe inspiring lightning storm witnessed throughout the area on September 8, leaves its mark in the form of numerous wildfires setting the northern portion of the scenic Los Padres National Forest ablaze.

The Northern Los Padres National Forest, which encompasses the Ventura Wilderness, is comprised of about 326,000 acres of rolling, forest covered mountains and open valleys, and is refuge to myriad wildlife and forage. Seventy-five percent of the park is protected as wilderness, and it is home to several of the nearly extinct species of the California Condor and houses a variety of native Indian sacred pictographs. Overlooking the Pacific Ocean along the Big Sur Coast and contained in the east side by the San Antonio Mountain range, the area, visited by 5.4 million per year, is both a national preserve and a local institution.

The rough terrain and a particularly dry season, coupled with excessive growth due to last years El Niño, has commanded the occupation of a small army of firefighters. What began with four separate blazes consuming 3,000 acres and requiring 900 firefighters, with hopes of full containment within the week, has now burned over 30,000 acres and has in excess of 3,500 fire fighters on the ground. There are now two main fires racing across the landscape, jumping fire lines and stream beds, and forcing crews to retreat into a primarily defensive position. Although the fires are considered 20 percent contained, expected total containment is unknown.

The fire now threatens residences, businesses, and retreats, and has forced the evacuation of several hundreds of people. The fire men and women hold the areas, strategically fireproofing positions, hoping to win any direct confrontations with the blaze. Included in their arsenal are 26 helicopters, 17 air tankers, and 121 fire engines. Ground fighters who were

originally restricted to drawing fire lines only with shovels, chain saws and other hand tools, due to Federal wilderness regulation, now utilize 34 bulldozers, with which they can protrude up to 20 miles into the national wilderness. The project, which averages a cost of half a million per day, has now totaled \$20.5 million.

Firefighters work 24 hour shifts, flanking the fire in crews of 2 and 4, each containing 8 to 24 members. The National Forest Service, Air Force "hot shots," the State Department of Forestry and other professional and volunteer firefighters attempt to contain the inferno. Smoke jumpers repel off helicopters into remote areas, cut heli-spots which allow the helicopters to bring troops in and out, and begin cutting fire lines. Thus far 17 fire fighters have sustained injury, though none serious.

Fort Hunter Liggett personnel work to provide a base camp for approximately 1,500 people and 10 helicopters, while another camp just west of the small town of Greenfield provides a mini "tent city," housing over 2,000 personnel and equipment. A Zen Buddhist retreat, the Tassajara Zen Center, plays host to 80 fire fighters, housing and feeding them their common vegetarian fare, even granting them the use of their famous sulfur hot springs.

It's a common story. Mother Nature, whose nourishment provides for us daily in a quiet and steady manner, seems to have a change of heart. Suddenly we are forced to take notice, and the heroes emerge. Men and women risk life and limb, the potential cost a paycheck will never cover, working to ensure our safety and protection. The whole incident is only a far away story of interest to us, and yet any one of us could find ourselves that homeowner; watching the ash cover our life's work, the smoke looming in the sky and the intense yellow glow over the horizon. As we pack only what we can carry and say goodbye, we hope our home will still be there when we return. Or perhaps we could find ourselves under 1,200 pounds of rubble, praying we are discovered, or boating through a canal that the day before was our home street, hoping for a hero to rescue us, because we will not survive alone. Regardless of the incident, we find ourselves dependent on the courage and strength of others.

And so we must ask ourselves, where is the lesson in all of this? How can we ever truly thank the heroes of our district, our Nation and our world? We must support their efforts. We must honor their efforts, and we must remember their efforts. We must find the courage and the strength within ourselves to follow their lead. Because Mother Nature is talking to us. She is demanding we take notice. The fire now racing across our world in the form of war and oppression, hunger and disease and injustice and suffering demands immediate attention and decisive action. It demands selfless preservation and protection, perfectly analogous to that of these men and women tackling the towering blazes of the Los Padres. It requires heroes.

And so, I would ask that in strength and comradery, in thought and in action, we honor

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

those who have honored us. Today I thank the firefighters for their efforts in the Los Padres. We salute you.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING FATHER MICHAEL SCANLAN

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 1999

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following proclamation to my colleagues:

Whereas, Father Scanlan graduated from Harvard Law School in 1956 and served as Staff Judge Advocate in the U.S. Air Force; and,

Whereas, Father Scanlan served as acting dean of the College of Steubenville and as a lecturer in theology from 1964–1966 and later became President of the College of Steubenville, now Franciscan University of Steubenville, in 1974; and,

Whereas, Father Scanlan was honored in 1997 with the Sacrae Theologiae Magister, an academic degree beyond the doctorate, and the highest award given by the Franciscan Order; and,

Whereas, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Father Scanlan on his lifetime of service to his community as well as the College. I am proud to call him a constituent.

A TRIBUTE TO HELEN STANTON

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 1999

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Helen Stanton, who is retiring this month from her position as executive director of The Creative Center, a performing arts program for developmentally disabled adults in Visalia, CA.

Ms. Stanton began her service at The Creative Center 14 years ago, serving as program manager. In 1993, she was named executive director of the Center. There, she has supervised a staff of 12 instructors who help developmentally disabled adults in the Visalia area to achieve personal growth through expression in visual arts, music, dance and theatrical performance.

Ms. Stanton has made special efforts to develop the Center's instruction in life skills. In these classes, Center instructors address such topics as independence, social graces, dealing with money, and self-advocacy.

Under Ms. Stanton's leadership, the Center has undergone significant growth, expanding from 42 students attending part-time in 1985 to a present enrollment of 84 full-time students.

Ms. Stanton has also overseen the opening of the Center's Jon Ginsburg Gallery. The gallery exhibits artwork produced by the Center's students and community members.

Ms. Stanton's commitment to the performing and visual arts is also evident by her presidency of Arts Visalia, a nonprofit group devoted to developing an art gallery in downtown Visalia.

Creative Center colleagues have been inspired by Ms. Stanton's devotion to the Center

and its students. She has treated the Center's students with dignity and respect and provided them with countless creative opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Helen Stanton for her devoted service to The Creative Center. She has distinguished herself as a caring visionary and tireless leader. As she completes her service, we wish her a most happy retirement.

SALUTE TO JOHN M. LANGSTON BAR ASSOCIATION AFRICAN AMERICAN ANNUAL HALL OF FAME HONOREES

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 1999

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to four prominent and distinguished members of the legal community in Los Angeles: Attorney Mary Burrell Fulton; United States District Court Chief Judge Terry J. Hatter; Attorney Elbert T. Hudson; and Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Sherrill Luke. On October 16, 1999, these four exceptional individuals will be inducted into the John M. Langston Bar Association Ninth Annual Hall of Fame. I cannot think of four people more deserving of this distinct honor and am pleased to have this opportunity to publicly recognize their extraordinary contributions to the legal profession.

Attorney Mary Burrell Fulton received her undergraduate degree in government from Los Angeles State College where she was a member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. In 1961 she became the first Black woman to graduate from the UCLA law school. She was admitted to the California State Bar on January 9, 1962, and began her career as an associate in the offices of legendary Los Angeles attorney Crispus A. Wright. In 1965 she joined the law firm of Lloyd, Bradley, Burrell & Nelson, whose client list included renowned entertainer Dr. William (Bill) Cosby. She established a solo practice in 1981 and in 1991 teamed with retired Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Henry P. Nelson to found the firm of Nelson & Fulton. Mary has served as a mentor to many young, aspiring attorneys and has contributed much to the Los Angeles community through her participation in numerous career day programs.

Judge Terry Hatter was appointed to the United States District Court for the Central District of California in 1979. On March 1, 1998, he was named Chief Judge, presiding over the court which covers the largest federal district in the nation, serving some 17 million people. Judge Hatter received his undergraduate degree in government from Wesleyan University in Connecticut and his law degree from the University of Chicago. His exemplary legal career spans more than thirty years, and includes service as an attorney, public defender, Assistant United States Attorney, Executive Assistant to Mayor Tom Bradley, and Professor of Law at the University of Southern California Law Center and Loyola University School of Law. Judge Hatter has presided over some of the most controversial and difficult cases to come before the Central District. Widely respected by attorneys and judges alike, he has served the court with

great distinction for twenty years. He is a Trustee of Wesleyan University, and member of the Visiting Committee for the University of Chicago Law School.

Broadway Federal Bank Chairman Elbert T. Hudson has had a distinguished career of service to our community and nation, beginning with his service during World War II in the U.S. Army Air Corps as one of the legendary Tuskegee Airmen. He received his undergraduate degree from UCLA and his law degree from Loyola University School of Law. Prior to joining Broadway Federal, founded by his father, Dr. H. Claude Hudson, Elbert practiced law for 20 years. In 1972 he became the President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Broadway Federal Savings and Loan Association. Although he stepped down as CEO in 1992 and resumed the practice of law, he remains chairman of the bank's Board of Directors. He is a member of the Board of Police Commissioners; the Board of Directors of the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company; and President and Board Member of the NAACP "New Careers" JEPTA Training Center. He is a past president of the Los Angeles Branch of the NAACP, as well as the American League of Financial Institutions. He has served on numerous other boards, including the Board of Directors of Drew University Medical School.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Sherrill D. Luke was named to the Superior Court bench after spending nearly a decade hearing cases before the Los Angeles Municipal Court. He received his undergraduate degree from UCLA; his master of arts degree from the University of California, Berkeley; and his doctor of jurisprudence from Golden Gate University. His impressive career includes service as an attorney; Cabinet Secretary to former California Governor Pat Brown; Adjunct Professor of Law at Loyola University Law School; and President of the Los Angeles City Planning Commission. He is a member of several professional and civic organizations, including the California Judges Association, Langston Bar Association, and the California Association of Black Lawyers. He remains deeply involved with his alma mater, UCLA, where he is a member and the past president of the UCLA Alumni Association; member and cochair of the Advisory Board of the UCLA Performing Arts Program, and the Stephens House of Scholarships Association.

Mr. Speaker, these four individuals have made enormous contributions to the system of jurisprudence, and it is especially fitting that they are being recognized by their peers for their exemplary service. As they are inducted into the John M. Langston Bar Association's Hall of Fame, I am pleased to salute Mary, Terry, Elbert, and Sherrill for the contributions they have made which continue to enrich the judiciary and the Los Angeles community. Well done, my friends!

TRIBUTE TO FLORENCE CHANDLER

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 1999

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pleasure to pay tribute to a