

COMMUNICATIONS
COMPETITION AND
PRIVATIZATION ACT OF 1999SATELLITE
PRIVATIZATION

SPEECH OF

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, today we consider H.R. 3261, the Communications Satellite Competition and Privatization Act. I do not think that anyone in the House would disagree with this bill's purpose to create increased competition in the global communication satellite industry. This goal is commendable. However, I would like to express some concern about one of the provisions in this bill.

First, let me say that, I am pleased that this bill would permit Lockheed Martin and COMSAT to complete their merger. This transaction, which has received approval from the Department of Justice, and has passed the first phase of FCC approval, has been in need of enabling legislation for over a year.

Unfortunately, this bill puts unnecessary conditions on the lifting of COMSAT's ownership cap and therefore on the Lockheed Martin-COMSAT merger. Earlier this year, the Senate passed satellite reform legislation, which does not contain these restrictions. It is my view that the House should not impose new restrictions during this process of creating open competition.

In conference, I would urge my colleagues to support the removal of the conditions on the Lockheed Martin-COMSAT merger. This merger is important for my constituents in Maryland, notwithstanding American consumers who deserve more competition in the satellite services market.

IN HONOR OF JAY W. WEISS

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Jay Weiss a true philanthropist in my Congressional district, who while a successful businessman, has always believed that it is one's duty to give back to the community.

Jay has contributed a great deal to our community and especially to Jackson Memorial Hospital, located in Miami, Florida.

For those associated with Jackson, Jay Weiss will always be seen as its patron, as he has selflessly devoted himself to promoting the humanitarian mission of the hospital.

Over the last decade, many of the strides and accomplishments of the hospital can be attributed to Jay.

It was his vision and foresight which led to the creation of the Ryder Trauma Center.

In this spirit, the Jay W. Weiss Humanitarian Award was established in 1993, to recognize outstanding leadership and selfless service.

Jay has also been recognized by the National Conference for Community Injustice as a Silver Medallion Honoree. Additionally, he has served as a member of the University of Miami Board of Trustees and chaired the Board of Sylvester Cancer Center for the past seven years.

Miami has truly been blessed by Jay Weiss.

A TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL PATRICK O. ADAMS, OF CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI IN HONOR OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S. AIR FORCE

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mrs. EMERSON Mr. Speaker, on February 1, 2000, Brigadier General Patrick O. Adams, United States Air Force, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, will retire from active military service, culminating a long and distinguished career in the service of his country. His accomplishments touched every Soldier, Sailor, Airman, Marine serving in the US Armed Forces, an accomplishment few individuals in a career or even a lifetime can claim.

Brigadier General Adams was born in Cape Girardeau, Missouri and was commissioned through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps following his graduation from the University of Missouri at Columbia in 1968. Brigadier General Adams has spent the majority of his career in personal management positions. He has been stationed in Alabama, Texas, Oklahoma, and Colorado. His overseas assignments include Iran, Vietnam, Thailand, and Bulgaria.

Brigadier General Adams, distinguished himself by exceptionally brilliant service while serving his country in an exemplary career spanning over 31 years. In his final assignment as the Director, Manpower and Personnel, J-1, the Joint Staff, BG Adams displayed uncommon initiative and leadership in Department of Defense personnel programs. He is well known for his enthusiastic, proactive approach to implementing the most significant personnel compensation changes since the All-Volunteer Force (AVF) was created. BG Adams personally crafted, advocated and led an effort to avert future personnel shortages. His efforts in identifying the negative trends in recruiting and retention and his personal advocacy for the necessary pay and compensation actions led to the most significant Pay and Retirement Reform actions in the last 15 years. His work is at the core of the benefits package that was adopted as part of the FY2000 National Defense Authorization Act.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Brigadier General Adams for his outstanding service to his country.

SALUTING THE MODEL OF LABOR AND MANAGEMENT COOPERATION BY KAISER PERMANENTE AND SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION

HON. KAREN McCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Ms. McCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute and pay tribute to a model of labor and management cooperation, Kaiser Permanente and Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 96. Over the

course of six months, Kaiser and SEIU worked diligently to craft a cooperative solution to their employment contract. Throughout the process, joint management and union committees met weekly to reach agreement on both economic and non-economic issues.

SEIU #96 and Kaiser Permanente approached their negotiations in a win-win manner. This collaborative process utilized an Interest Based Bargaining (IBB) technique focused on creative problem solving and developing stronger relationships between the two partners. A Mediator from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) facilitated the process.

The uniqueness of this labor and management partnership is that it represents the first time in the U.S. that IBB has been used on two contracts simultaneously. The ratified agreement includes both technical/clerical staff and professional staff bargaining units with Kaiser Permanente. The three year agreement builds upon the innovation of the IBB negotiation process by including a performance based pay system with a bonus program for all employees based upon quality improvements occurring.

This monumental accomplishment would not have been possible without the foundation established by both SEIU and Kaiser's commitment to cooperation as demonstrated by their participation in the Labor-Management Council of Greater Kansas City. Further on a national level, Kaiser and the AFL-CIO agreed in 1997 to remain neutral during any union organizing card drives. This cooperation has further evolved through the signing of this three year agreement.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the Executive Director of SEIU Local 96, Sherwin Carroll, and the President of Kaiser Permanente Kansas City Region, Cynthia Finter, for their leadership in crafting this cooperative process. Finally, Mr. Speaker, please join me in applauding Kaiser Permanente and SEIU #96 for being pioneers and national role models in labor-management cooperative partnerships.

IN HONOR OF THE CAREER AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF RANDY OWEN

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is fitting that we pay tribute to a great American, who has made outstanding contributions to our nation, and its culture. He is an artist; he is a musician; he is a father; he is a husband; he is a great man who has lived his life based on principle, and has been a strong and beautiful voice from a mountain top, not only in Alabama, but all across this nation, and all over the world.

Randy Yeuell Owen was born in Fort Payne, Alabama, on December 13, 1949. He and his two sisters were raised in a close-knit family near Lookout Mountain in DeKalb County, Alabama. As a child, Randy, along with his two young sisters, grew up in the rural South working in the fields and picking cotton. Times were hard and there was no money left for entertainment after the bills were paid, so the family spent much of their time singing

and playing gospel music. This family entertainment led to the formation of his first band, "The Singing Owens." By the time that Randy entered the fifth grade, he along with his cousin, Teddy Gentry, decided to pursue a career in country music.

During the early struggling years of the band, Randy took odd jobs laying brick and hanging sheetrock, while also attending college. In 1973, Randy received a Bachelor of Arts in English from Jacksonville State University. That same year, Randy, along with his cousins Teddy Gentry and Jeff Cook, decided to devote themselves entirely to their dream. In the next seven years, Randy, Teddy, and Jeff along with various drummers, performed as a group in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. It was during these years that he met and courted his wife, Kelly—someone who has stood strong by Randy through his entire career. Kelly's father, who was stationed near Myrtle Beach, was soon transferred abroad, and Randy and Kelly's relationship continued through correspondence.

In 1980, with drummer Mark Herndon on board, the band's debut album, "My Home's In Alabama," was released by RCA and every song from it became a #1 hit. In 1981, "Alabama" was named Top Vocal Group of the Year by the Country Music Association. As the years followed, so did the awards—200 major music awards were bestowed upon the group over the next 15 years.

The most well-known of Randy's charity events, June Jam, is by no means the only charitable cause with which Randy has been involved. He serves as the Celebrity Spokesman for the Alabama Sheriff's Boys and Girls Ranches. He has received the Tamer Award, which is the highest award given for service to St. Jude Hospital on a national level. Currently, he serves as the Spokesperson for the St. Jude's Country Cares Radiothon, raising millions for the Research Hospital.

While Randy has traveled all over the world, and performed all across the United States, as well as abroad, he has never forgotten his community, and his home State, Alabama. Randy resides with his wife Kelly, and three children who have supported their Dad all the way—Alison, Heath and Randa, near Fort Payne, Alabama, which I am proud to represent in the Fourth Congressional District.

With all the honors that have been bestowed over the years, one of the most significant awards came to Randy in 1999, when he was awarded the Alabama Father of the Year by the Alabama Cattlemen. He says his long range goals are "to help my family achieve a gentle way of living and to be known as friendly to the fans and have a good reputation from fellow musicians."

The profound impact that Randy Owen has had on our State, our Nation, and American culture cannot be measured. On behalf of my colleagues, I express our gratitude to Randy Owen, and wish him many, many more years.

AWARDING A CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO FATHER HESBURGH

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Father Theodore Hesburgh. Father

Hesburgh, president of the University of Notre Dame from 1952 to 1987, has selflessly devoted his time, energy, visions and dreams on behalf of furthering higher education in this country. In addition, his undaunting service to the underprivileged communities all across this nation, and the world, has made a significant impact in the lives of so many.

As an educator, you can find impressions of Father Hesburgh's teachings just about anywhere you look. Father Hesburgh encouraged high academic standards and preached a universal commitment to the service and helping of others. He often inspired his students to look at the world through opened eyes and challenged them to go out and make a difference. His dedication to improving the lives of others was global in nature and he knew no boundaries for race or ethnicity. Those who have learned these important life lessons from Father Hesburgh are here in Congress, Presidential Cabinets, Catholic churches, and scattered throughout our local communities.

I am a graduate of Saint Mary's College, the sister institution of Notre Dame, and part of the student body that Father Hesburgh so vastly inspired. For many reasons, I often think back to my college days, and draw upon the values and traditions instilled in me by the mission of these institutions. I truly believe that what I learned under the leadership of Saint Mary's, Notre Dame and Father Hesburgh will help guide me in the right direction as a public servant and make the right decision for those who put their trust in me.

Father Hesburgh was always challenging those he met to be a better person, and the Hesburgh Center for Peace studies is a lasting and continuing tribute to his good work. In addition, his accomplishments from 15 Presidential appointments have contributed greatly to our progress as a nation which strives to provide justice and equality for its people and those throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to salute Father Hesburgh and to commend the House of Representatives for passing H.R. 1932, which authorizes the President of the United States to award him with a gold medal on behalf of Congress. I can think of none more deserving of this most prestigious honor.

HONORING GEORGE BROWN AND LINUS PAULING

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to call your attention to an exhibition that has recently opened at the National Museum of Health and Medicine: "Linus Pauling and the Twentieth Century." This exhibition, which was viewed by more than 20,000 school children at the California Institute of Technology, was brought to Washington largely through the efforts of our late friend and colleague, George E. Brown, Jr.

Congressman Brown, as we all know, held a passionate belief that there is a special relationship between excellence in education, pushing back the frontiers of scientific knowledge, and the pursuit of peace. These themes are celebrated by the exhibition on the life, work and times of Linus Pauling.

Dr. Pauling is the only person ever to win two unshared Nobel prizes. In 1954 he was given the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the discovery of the nature of the chemical bond, and in 1962 he won the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to end atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons. Congressman Brown believed that Pauling's commitment to science and to an unwavering idealism make the exhibition on his life especially instructive to today's young people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in honoring Congressman Brown for his efforts to bring this exhibition to the Nation's Capital, and to express our appreciation to the organizing committee for making the exhibit possible: Oregon State University, the Linus Pauling family, and the Soka Gakkai International and its founder, Daisaku Ikeda, whose friendship with Pauling inspired the exhibit.

RECOGNIZING THE ARKANSAS BANKERS ASSOCIATION'S SUPPORT FOR FINANCIAL MODERNIZATION

HON. ASA HUTCHINSON

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Arkansas Bankers Association, I would like to submit their remarks regarding a specific section of S. 900, the Financial Modernization bill, which has particular interest and importance to Arkansas. This section is titled "Interest Rates and Other Charges at Interstate Branches."

With the passage of the Riegle-Neal Interstate Banking and Branching Act several years ago, the question arose as to which state law concerning interest rates on loans would apply to branches of the interstate banks operating in a "host state". Would those branches be governed by the interest rate ceiling of the charter location or that of their physical location? The office of the Comptroller of the Currency and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation addressed this issue with options that basically give branches of interstate banks the option of being governed by either their home or host state requirements concerning interest rates by structuring the loan process to meet certain requirements.

In Arkansas this has had a profound effect upon our local banking community. Arkansas has a usury ceiling that places the maximum rate that can be charged for many classes of loans at 5% above the Federal Reserve Discount Rate. However, over 40% of our banking locations in the state, those that are branches of non-Arkansas based interstate banks, are in effect no longer governed by this law. The out of state banks are free to price according to risk, and thus charge lower rates for the better credits and higher rates for the lower quality credits. However, local Arkansas banks cannot price according to risk and are thus placed at a significant competitive disadvantage.

In recognition of this inequity and the fact that if not corrected our state may lose virtually all of its local community banks, the Arkansas delegation supports language that provides our local banks with the loan pricing parity in all regards with non-Arkansas interstate banks operating branches in Arkansas. Indeed, this is the intent of the section concerning Interest Rates at Interstate Branching.