

the doctrine they are following and advocating. We must explain that this is not "hate speech," but simply the appropriate designation. If we de-demonize and re-legitimize the word socialism, and reintroduce it to its appropriate place, I guarantee the outcome is going to be different. So we at the Center for the American Founding are going to issue a call to all good people, especially those who care deeply, such as yourselves, to engage in retreats, and seminars, and discussions, so that our own side can understand anew what socialism is, and what it is not.

And once we do that, we shall never look back.

MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR NATION'S SENIOR CITIZENS

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to associate myself with the remarks of Mr. McKEON regarding the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1999. For far too long—since 1995—the Older Americans Act has been left unauthorized. It is time we remedied this situation by working across party lines to fashion a bipartisan solution.

I have seen firsthand in my district how the Area Agencies on Aging work together with senior citizens to ensure that their lives are filled with dignity and self-respect. Without the essential programs of the Older Americans Act millions of seniors would be relegated to a world of almost complete isolation.

I applaud the work of Mr. BARRETT—who has volunteered to take a lead on this issue—along with Subcommittee Chairman McKEON, Mr. MARTINEZ and Mr. CLAY. And, I pledge my support in working to pass an Older Americans Act Amendments of 1999, which both parties can take pride in, and one which, more than anything, benefits all seniors across the country.

WORKING TOGETHER TO HELP OUR NATION'S SENIOR CITIZENS

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, today, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. CLAY, Chairman GOODLING and I are introducing the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1999. Our hope is that this bill will be the first step in an ongoing bipartisan effort to reauthorize the Older Americans Act. Nonetheless, it is important to remember that there is much work to be done when it comes to reforming and streamlining the provisions of the Older Americans Act.

Today's version of the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1999 represents a good-faith effort on the part of both parties to work together in this important venture. Over the course of the next several months, we are committed to having an open dialogue with all those who are involved in administering the Act's many programs. However, it is absolutely imperative that we keep those who we are trying to help—the frail and elderly—foremost in our minds.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GENERIC DRUGS ACCESS ACT OF 1999

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, the high cost of prescription drugs is one of the most pressing health care issues confronting the country's senior citizens, employers, managed care plans, state and federal drug programs. Controlling drug costs will be no easy task. One time-tested method, however, is timely access and availability of generic medicines once the patent on brand name drugs expires.

Generic competition has a dramatic impact on pharmaceutical costs. When a generic drug first comes onto the market, it typically costs 30 percent less than the brand name version. After two years on the market, the prices drop further to 60 or 70 percent of the brand name drug. The price of some generic drugs drop by as much as even 90 percent.

While these competitively priced alternatives are good for consumers, employers and government purchasers, they are not good for the brand name producer trying to maintain and protect monopolistic pricing. If there is no generic alternative available, consumers who need medicine have no choice but to buy the available brand drug and pay whatever it costs. It is for this reason that brand name drug companies launch aggressive campaigns to block or delay generic competition.

One tactic used by the brand industry to prevent generics from reaching the consumer is to convince state legislatures to pass unnecessary restrictions to the substitution of generic versions of brand name drugs. These restrictive laws are being advanced despite a scientific finding by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that the generic drug is equivalent and substitutable to the brand name product. The state campaign is nothing more than an attempt by the brand name companies to protect market share.

If these tactics are successful with the states, generic manufacturers could end up having to comply with 50 different sets of state laws before their products could ever reach the consumer. It would render the FDA stamp of approval meaningless. And it will only add extraordinary hoops for doctors and pharmacists to jump through before a generic medicine is dispensed. The ultimate losers are the senior citizens and other prescription drug purchasers who will be denied the access to equivalent generics and are forced to continue paying excessive brand prices for their medicines.

The bill I am introducing today, the Generic Drugs Access Act, would prevent drug companies from gaming the system. Very simply, this bill prohibits states from passing laws keeping generic drugs off the market once the FDA has determined that a generic drug is "therapeutically equivalent" to a brand name product. Most importantly, it will ensure that generic drugs get to the market in a timely fashion and provide consumers with access to low cost alternatives at the earliest possible time.

I urge my colleagues to lend their support to the effort to ensure low cost alternatives to brand name drugs are readily available to consumers and cosponsor the Generic Drugs Access Act of 1999.

RETURN THE FORESTS BACK TO THE PEOPLE

HON. MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Ms. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to announce the introduction of the Forest Tax Relief Act (H.R.—), an important bill to let all our citizens enjoy the forests free from burdensome taxes. I am proud to announce that I have co-authored this bi-partisan bill with my dear colleague, Representative LOIS CAPPS (D-CA). Our original co-sponsors include Congressman MERRILL COOK (R-UT), Congressman PETER DEFAZIO (D-CA) and Congresswoman JO ANN EMERSON (R-MO).

Due to enabling legislation passed by a previous Congress, the United States Forest Service has implemented a new pilot project charging day users a per car fee to park on public lands. Dubbed the "Adventure Pass" by the US Forest Service, this is nothing but a new tax on using public lands. Many of my constituents question the fairness and merits of this tax, and I share their concern. This tax goes against the concept of experiencing our free and open land making it a hardship on locals and visitors alike.

Within the forests of the 44th Congressional district, the per car fee for an Adventure Pass is \$5. To residents in the communities of Idyllwild, Anza, Hemet and San Jacinto and tourists who come to enjoy these precious lands, this fee is a source of much controversy. We have come to expect the freedom to enjoy this area without the inconvenience and tax imposed on us today.

To tax the Great Outdoors is offensive to the very concept of the national forest system. The forests are for the entire nation and therefore should be supported through the traditional funding process. Under this plan, Congress taxes Americans twice. It is now time to remedy this situation.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we are deterring individuals from discovering the wonder and beauty of our National Forests. We must encourage people to visit, not discourage them from doing so. When tourists go elsewhere, it hurts small businesses and it hurts our efforts to educate individuals on the importance of protecting this precious national resource. This tax serves as a barrier to working families, hikers, nature lovers and all those desiring access to our national forests.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this effort to return the forests back to the people.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on February 2, while I was meeting in my office with some constituents, an apparent problem with the bell system led to my inadvertently missing the vote on rollcall No. 7, passage of H.R. 68—the Small Business Investment Company Technical Corrections Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

TRIBUTE TO MRS. GERTRUDE S. PARIS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Mrs. Gertrude S. Paris.

Mrs. Paris was born in Rochester, New York, on February 27, 1899, to Charles and Elizabeth Steul. In November 1938 she married Earl A. Paris (deceased). They had two children, John Walter Paris and Beverly Paris Dox. Mrs. Paris has seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren who affectionately address her as "Gramma."

Mrs. Paris has led an extremely active life. She maintained her home in Rochester until her early 90's, mowing her own lawn and tending her garden. She was a founding member of the Rochester Garden Club, and an avid bridge player. Her favorite pastime was "a pound of chocolate and a good book." Mrs. Paris became a constituent of mine at the age of 94 when she moved to Columbia, SC, to be closer to her family.

Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, February 27, 1999 Ms. Gertrude A. Paris will celebrate her 100th birthday. Please join me in wishing her the happiest of birthdays and Godspeed.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICK CAMPBELL

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, as we know, the work of a busy person is never done. This Friday, February 26, such a man is being recognized for his work in the labor community. Patrick Campbell will be acknowledged and paid tribute to for his leadership role within New Jersey's labor movement.

Patrick Campbell has been a member of Local 825, International Union of Operating Engineers since July, 1946. He has worked as an Apprentice/Engineer, Dirt and Crane Equipment Operator, Plant and Shop Engineer, Shop Steward and Lead Engineer. In 1971 he was elected to the Executive Board and appointed as a Business Representative. In 1976 he was chosen Business Manager and was appointed Trustee of Local 825's Pension/Welfare Fund Service Facilities. He has been re-elected Business Manager seven times. In addition to his functions as Business Manager of Local 825, he is a Vice President of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO. He has served as Vice President of the New Jersey State Building and Construction Trades Council.

Mr. Campbell is also Second General Vice President of the International Union of Operating Engineers. He also serves on joint committees of the Engineers/Teamsters, Engineers/Laborers and Engineers/Iron Workers. Additionally, he is President of the Northeastern Conference of Operating Engineers.

Pat Campbell has served on the Port Authority Development Advisory Committee of New York and New Jersey and on a committee of the Research Advisory Council for Pub-

lic Service Electric and Gas Co. He is Chairman of Local 825's Political Action and Education Committee and one of the founders of Local 825's Registered Indentured Apprenticeship Program.

When it comes to service, Patrick Campbell shares his time and expertise with community organizations, as well. He has served as Scoutmaster for the Boy Scouts of America, has coached Little League girls' softball, and has been Vice President of the Parents' Guild of Roselle Catholic High School. He served as a Navy Seabee in the South Pacific during World War II and has been a member of the Catholic War Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Knights of Columbus. He is currently a member of the Council of Regents of Felician College of Lodi, NJ and the Housing Commission of the Archdiocese of Newark.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure our colleagues will join me as I extend my best wishes and thanks to Patrick Campbell and family; his wife Adele, his four children and ten grandchildren.

THE TEXAS LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS AND ITS UPCOMING CONFERENCE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Texas Legislative Black Caucus and its groundbreaking efforts to advance public policy objectives in my home State of Texas.

As a former Member of the Texas House of Representatives and Texas Senate, I know first-hand of the Caucus's strong commitment in promoting education, economic development and public safety to ensure positive change. The Caucus's accomplishments include the passage of legislation to provide scholarships for low-income students, securing funding for the Lone Star State's black colleges and universities as well as provisions to ensure minority participation in the state's procurement program.

To kick off its legislative agenda for 1999, the Caucus will be hosting a statewide conference in Austin on March 10th-12th. Thousands of Texans from across the state are expected to attend the conference aptly entitled, Preparing for the Millennium. The State's 14 African-American House Members and its two Senators will be hosting the conference. They will be honoring the achievements of outstanding Texans in the fields of education, business, public services, entertainment, professions, and public safety. Governor George Bush is expected to attend the conference as well.

Delegates to the conference will be holding an "Education Summit" whose purpose is to identify problems and propose solutions to enhance the state's black colleges and universities. "Break-out" sessions will be held to discuss elementary, secondary and higher education issues. Other workshops will be conducted on health care, child care, economic development, electricity restructuring and environmental racism.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Caucus on its past accomplishments

and in sending best wishes for a successful conference this year in Austin.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK ACT OF 1999

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce the National Right to Work Act of 1999 along with 86 original co-sponsors.

This Act will reduce federal power over the American workplace by removing those provisions of Federal law authorizing the collection of forced-union dues as part of a collective bargaining contract.

Since the Wagner Act of 1935 made forced-union dues a keystone of Federal labor law, millions of American workers have been forced to pay for union "representation" that they neither choose nor desire.

The primary beneficiaries of Right to Work are America's workers—even those who voluntarily choose to pay union dues, because when union officials are deprived of the forced-dues power granted them under current federal law they'll be more responsive to the workers' needs and concerns.

Mr. Speaker, this act is pro-worker, pro-economic growth, and pro-freedom.

The 21 states with Right to Work laws, including my own state of Virginia, have a nearly three-to-one advantage over non-Right to Work states in terms of job creation.

And, according to U.S. News and World Report, seven of the strongest 10 state economies in the Nation have Right to Work laws.

Workers who have the freedom to choose whether or not to join a union have a higher standard of living than their counterparts in non-Right to Work states. According to Dr. James Bennett, an economist with the highly-respected Economics Department at George Mason University, on average, urban families in Right to Work states have approximately \$2,852 more annual purchasing power than urban families in non-Right to Work states when the lower taxes, housing and food costs of Right to Work states are taken into consideration.

The National Right to Work Act would make the economic benefits of voluntary unionism a reality for all Americans.

But this bill is about more than economics, it's about freedom.

Compelling a man or woman to pay fees to a union in order to work violates the very principle of individual liberty upon which this nation was founded.

Oftentimes forced dues are used to support causes the worker does not wish to support with his or her hard-earned wages.

Thomas Jefferson said it best, ". . . to compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves is sinful and tyrannical."

By passing the National Right to Work Act, this Congress will take a major step towards restoring the freedom of America's workers to choose the form of workplace representation that best suits their needs.

In a free society, the decision of whether or not to join or support a union should be made