

efficiently and trade those products with other nations that produce other goods more efficiently. His theory still makes economic sense—if all you care about is economic theory. But as the current steel crisis demonstrates his theory has two fundamental flaws.

First, governments don't let pure economic competition decide what products their industries will produce, export or import. Nations decide to subsidize certain products because they deem it in their national interest for a variety of reasons: to protect vital industries, create jobs, and achieve national pride, to name just a few. Other nations decide to throw up barriers, direct and indirect, to achieve a national interest by selling their products overseas below cost or by keeping foreign products out.

Second, nations may well decide that importing goods at the lowest price is not the only or most important consideration in determining how open their markets should be. Unemployment carries enormous costs, direct and indirect. Welfare, unemployment compensation, retirement contributions, and the agonizing destruction of families which are torn asunder from the ravages of the inability to support their families, are societal costs that go far beyond economic measure.

So it is time for a new socioeconomic paradigm. To work, Ricardo's Theory of Comparative Advantage needs to be modified to include both the relative costs of production in different countries and the national interests relating to international trade. Can the United States retain its preeminence in the world if its steel industry is weakened by artificially low-cost foreign competition? Can we remain strong if our aviation or ocean shipping industry is dependent upon foreign planes and ships in times of national emergency? On a more personal level, do the benefits of lower-priced shirts and shoes from third world countries outweigh the costs of welfare, unemployment compensation, and the family pain caused by chronic employment? Simplistic 19th century free trade solutions no longer serve our country well. Nor would a blind protectionist policy that blocks most foreign trade. It's time for a more complex balancing of economic benefits realized through foreign trade and the legitimate national interest in preserving a strong domestic economy.

Balanced international trade with reciprocal open markets is a worthy economic policy so long as our vital national interests are preserved. But that calls for a much more complex socioeconomic policy than either Democratic or Republican administrations have embraced to date.

#### NATIONAL PARKS CHECK-OFF ACT

##### HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 1999*

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced the National Parks Check-off Act because of my concern about the condition of our national parks.

This same legislation was reported out of the Resources Committee during the 105th Congress with bipartisan support having 80 cosponsors.

The National Parks Check-off Act will amend the Internal Revenue Code and require that Federal income tax forms contain a line

which will allow taxpayers to donate one or more dollars to the National Park Service. This legislation will provide more money for the care of our national parks and there will be no cost to the federal government.

A study released by the National Parks and Conservation Association found that 8 out of 10 people surveyed would be willing to increase their tax contribution by \$1 to benefit the National Park System.

During a House Resources Committee hearing during the 105th Congress Allan Howe, from the National Park Hospitality Association, testified that:

Over the last three years the Presidential Check-Off has raised over \$200 million. While there is considerable interest in presidential elections every four years, there is a continued and sustained interest in our National Parks, which should yield even more support.

I agree, and I believe if this bill is passed millions of dollars could be raised to address the \$4–\$6 billion backlog that our parks currently face.

During the 105th Congress, this legislation was supported by organizations such as the National Park and Conservation Association, America Outdoors, the American Hiking Society, the Friends of the Great Smoky Mountains, the National Tour Association and many others.

I hope my colleagues will join me by cosponsoring this most important legislation which will help preserve our national treasures for future generations.

#### TRIBUTE TO BEN OLSEN

##### HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 1999*

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a young man who, at the age of just 21, has begun to make a strong mark in his field of endeavor. Ben Olsen, from Middletown, PA, has, within one year of becoming a professional soccer player, accomplished things that many older players must surely envy.

On February 21, in just his second game for the United States National Team, Ben scored his first international goal against Chile in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. He played the full 90 minutes as a wing midfielder, a position which requires not only great skill, but a remarkable work ethic, since he is required to play both offense and defense. This great responsibility means that at the international level, he is likely to run between 6–9 miles per game. He is a true "two-way" player who demonstrates great skill in addition to defensive tenacity. He is, at different times in a game, a quarterback, wide receiver, running back, linebacker, and defensive back.

In just a year of professional play, Ben has proven that he has the right mix of intelligence, speed, skill, and aggression that is the hallmark of an international-caliber player. Each time he takes the field in an American uniform, it is obvious when you watch him play that he truly recognizes the honor of representing his country. He exemplifies the finest American traditions of hard work, teamwork, and desire to succeed.

Indeed, he has been successful. In his first year with DC United in Major League Soccer, Ben played every game and won Rookie of

the Year honors. Additionally, he was instrumental in helping his team accomplish something an American team has never done: win the CONCACAF Cup, the tournament which determines the best team in North America. This win gave United the right to challenge the winner of the Copa Libertadores, the champion of South America. In what is considered to be one of the great upsets in 1998, DC United defeated Vasco da Gama, the South American champion which hails from Brazil. That Vasco, a world-renowned club, has existed for over 100 years and United for just three made the win even more amazing. The fact that Ben Olsen, a veritable youngster in the game, played such an integral part in the victory was even more astounding.

Ben has accomplished much already, but the true mark of this young man is that he is hungry for more success, and that he understands the importance of being a professional athlete in today's society. After each game, he stands with his teammates and performs the traditional yet noble gesture of applauding the fans for their support. This simple demonstration, unique to soccer, reminds us all of the good in sports. And for fans of Ben Olsen, of Middletown, PA, it provides a reminder that here is an athlete to whom American youth can look for a role model.

#### SHADY LANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

##### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 1999*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a great day, on which I was fortunate to learn from some of our wisest teachers: kindergarten students. On March 1, 1999, I had the opportunity to read to kindergartners at the Shady Lane Elementary School in Deptford, New Jersey.

Ms. Martha Wilson's Kindergarten class is an outstanding group of young people. I was delighted to help promote reading to young children, and I greatly enjoyed the chance to meet the students in Ms. Wilson's class.

I wish the best of luck to the following kindergartners who shared this special day with me at the Shady Lane School: Courtney Callahan, Nicholas Battee, Jaimie Beekler, Destiny Bingham, Brian Buck, John Childress, Robert Kilcourse, Kody McMichael, Marisa Peters, Matthew Raively, Deborah Robinson, Karen Sabater, Donald Smith, Richard Smith, Marcus Smith, Ayana Thomas, Jessica Welch, George Williams, and Nylan Wolcott.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE PRODUCE CONSUMERS' RIGHTS-TO-KNOW ACT

##### HON. MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 1999*

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Produce Consumers'

Right-to-Know Act, H.R. 1145. The text of the bill is substantially similar to legislation that was introduced by my late husband, Representative Sonny Bono during the 105th Congress, H.R. 1232. When I joined Congress, I was honored to have the opportunity to work on this important bill last year with many distinguished leaders in Congress including the gentlemen from California (Mr. HUNTER and Mr. CONDIT), the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), just to name a few outstanding individuals. Now, it is appropriate to begin this work again in the hope that we in Congress can help all consumers and families across our country learn the basic information about the fruits and vegetables they bring home.

#### THE GLOBAL FOOD MARKETPLACE

The reality today is that food is a global product. The General Accounting Office reported last year that our country receives more than 2.5 million shipments of imported fresh fruits and vegetables annually (see GAO Report No. 98-103). I believe strongly in the global economy, because I believe that the U.S. and American consumers always win in a global marketplace.

My one qualification regarding this belief is that rules for trade are fair. Fair trade is an essential element of commerce in any millennium. A coordinate element of trade policy for the next millennium must be a global standard. Harmonization is important. Country-of-origin labeling for fresh produce legislation is part of the current harmonization effort. Twenty-two of our trading partners have some type of produce country-of-origin labeling or marking requirement. These nations include, Canada, Mexico, Japan, and many members of the European Union. There is no intent or means to discriminate against anyone or trading partner with this bill. The office of legislative counsel has incorporated into this bill language clarifying that this labeling reform applies equally to imported as well as domestically grown produce. Otherwise, this text is based on the amendment to the Senate Agriculture Appropriations bill that was offered last year by the Senator from Florida (Mr. BOB GRAHAM).

#### LABELING: SIMPLE, SOUND, AND INEXPENSIVE

Briefly, it is worth pointing out that U.S. law already encourages the labeling and marking of fresh fruits and vegetables. The boxes of imported produce, for example, are required to indicate country-of-origin information. These boxes go to the grocery store or retailer, but are often left in the back room. Thus, while this valuable information travels to the store, it does not always make it to the mom, dad, or other consumer at the point of sale.

As our Founders envisioned, the states are great laboratories for ideas. In Florida, the state enacted produce country-of-origin labeling more than twenty years ago. The Florida experience is a marked success. Two major Florida supermarket chain stores have reported that this common-sense customer service costs each store less than \$10 per month. I am informed that the total cost for more than the 25,000 retail stores in Florida is less than \$195,000 annually. It is an easy, low-cost policy that has reaped enormous benefits for consumers by giving them a right to know at the grocery store. In addition, it has helped the stores better market their produce.

#### THE AMERICAN PUBLIC WANTS THIS VALUABLE INFORMATION

The honest truth laying at the core of this bill is that the people back home in our districts are curious and just want to know this valuable information. Today, virtually everything in the supermarket bears its place of origin, except meat and produce. A CBS/Public Eye Poll taken last year showed that about 80 percent of the American public favor country-of-origin labeling. Why? So that they can have this useful information. There are many ways for consumers to use this information. Individuals who are concerned about international affairs and human rights can know if they are—and hopefully avoid—buying a product that may come from a regime that supports non-democratic or even racist policies, have poor child labor practices, or anything else from a range of legitimate other concerns.

It is relevant to give another example of how this is important on a practical level. This is called "trace back." In March of 1996, for example, there was a very serious problem with Guatemalan raspberries that were imported into twenty-states, including my home state of California. These fruits were making people sick through cyclospora, a very serious parasite that invades the small intestine and causes extreme diarrhea, vomiting, weight loss, and severe muscle aches. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia issued an advisory for people not to eat Guatemalan raspberries until the problem could be investigated, contained and eradicated. The average American was unable to find out from what country were the raspberries in the grocery store. In the absence of labeling, concerned shoppers had no choice but not to buy any raspberries. This hurts consumers by limiting choice. It hurts growers from all the other countries with which we import. The current policy also hurts supermarkets, grocery stores, and family businesses of all sizes.

#### CONCLUSION

Unfortunately the nay-sayers have dismissed the importance of this common-sense practice all too quickly. Curiously, it is said that giving the American consumer the information at the shelf or bin is somehow superfluous or confusing. I remind you that this information is already in the back of the store as required by current law.

I am very curious to see who will rise to oppose this legislation. Are there Members who do not want any families, children, or women to have the basic right to know from where come the fresh fruit and vegetables they are serving at home? Are there Members who want keep this information from consumers? Are there members who want our citizens to have different information from their foreign counterparts? It is my hope that this is not the case. Certainly, the Members who have co-sponsored this bill answered this question decisively and in support of everyday Americans.

There is nothing in this legislation that is intended to be or shall prove discriminatory or protectionist. Information is the most important tool for consumers who have a right-to-know. The information that will be easily displayed through this bill on a shelf or bin will empower consumers. And we will certainly continue to import and enjoy produce from around the world, as it is often the only source for fresh produce when our growing season ends.

This is common-sense legislation that will lead to a uniform trade policy and benefit all

consumers. I thank all of the Representatives and Senators who have supported this policy in the past and those Members who are joining me today as original cosponsors.

#### REMEMBERING HENRY HAMPTON "EMINENT FILM-MAKER"

#### HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 1999

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, Henry Hampton, my friend and fellow student at St. Nicholas Catholic School in St. Louis, Missouri, was a prominent film-maker who shaped the American documentary world. While at St. Nicholas, a very small school with 100 students in grades K-12, I was a high school student and Hampton was a grammar student. Hampton went on to graduate from Washington University in St. Louis. For 30 years right up until his death on November 22, 1998, Hampton raised the American conscience through such award winning documentaries as *Eyes on the Prize*, *Voices of Freedom: An Oral History of America's Civil Rights Movement*, *The Great Depression*, *America's War on Poverty*, *Malcolm X: Make it Plain, and Breakthrough: The Changing Face of Science in America*. In all Hampton produced or was responsible for more than 60 major films and media projects for the public and private sectors. Through film, Hampton became a civil rights leader as well as an educator.

Among his many industry awards and community honors are the prestigious duPont-Columbia and Peabody awards for excellence in broadcast journalism, as well as six Emmys and an Academy Award nomination. Also, Hampton received the 1993 Ralph Lowell Award, considered the highest recognition in public television, presented by the Public Broadcasting Service and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. In 1994, Hampton received the first Harold C. Fleming Award recognizing "a lifetime of service in the field of political participation and community education against hatred in politics." In 1995, he received the first Heinz Family Foundation Award in the field of arts and humanities. I commend to our colleagues the January-February 1999 *About . . .* Time article, title "An Eye for the Prize," which tells of the great contributions of Hampton.

#### AN EYE FOR THE PRIZE

THROUGH THE ART OF FILM AND STORY, HENRY HAMPTON CELEBRATES THE SWEEP OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN STRUGGLES AND CREATIVITY

By Wanda S. Franklin

The one thing he did right was the day he started to fight. With cameras and lights. Producers and editors. Historians and history's forgotten soldiers," Boston Globe columnist Derrick Z. Jackson wrote in a tribute to the life and works of Henry Hampton, on November 28, six days after the eminent film-maker died. Now, many African Americans and others inspired by Hampton's legacy are beginning to take an accounting of his work.

As founder and president of Blackside, Inc., Hampton made uniquely important contributions to the body of American documentary film over the past 30 years right up until his death on November 22, 1998. He leaves behind a tremendous legacy that not only shaped