

trucks to pass inspections before entering the United States, we can help to limit the risks these unsafe trucks pose to our citizens. This country entered into NAFTA in order to better the lives of our citizens. Without this legislation, we will simply put our citizens in more jeopardy.

I think people are more important than profits, and I am concerned about the thousands of unsafe Mexican trucks rumbling down our highways and biways. Average Americans already are fearful about driving next to large safe U.S. trucks that pass inspections. Imagine their fears when unsafe Mexican trucks hit our streets, roads and superhighways.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to stand up for Americans. Therefore, I urge all my colleagues to work with me to pass the Foreign Truck Safety Act so that Americans will never be afraid to drive down Main Street USA.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES C. HALL, OAK RIDGE OPERATIONS MANAGER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SUNUNU). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, on July 2, James C. "Jim" Hall will retire as manager of Oak Ridge Operations for the U.S. Department of Energy. His departure will mark the end of a 31-year career in government that stands out as a bright and shining example of dedicated service to the United States Department of Energy and the people of the United States.

Beginning in 1968 as an intern for the Atomic Energy Commission, one of the agencies that was eventually folded into the Energy Department, Jim Hall rose steadily through the ranks until he was promoted to his present position in 1995.

Perhaps Jim Hall's greatest achievement in Oak Ridge is his commitment to the reindustrialization program which is an innovative "swords to plowshares" effort that stands out as a model for the whole Nation. Facilities such as the old K-25 gaseous diffusion plant at the Oak Ridge complex are being cleaned up and made available for use by the private sector. The plant, now called the East Tennessee Technology Park, is already generating the kind of jobs the east Tennessee region needs for the 21st century. This effort saves the government and the taxpayers \$800 million in maintenance and other costs. More importantly, the program is attracting to Oak Ridge exactly the kinds of family wage jobs east Tennessee will need as we begin the 21st century. In May of 1998, Mr. Hall received a Presidential Meritorious Rank Award for his efforts to develop the environmental cleanup and reindustrialization program.

Jim Hall has brought extraordinary energy, ability and vision to his work at the Oak Ridge operations office, and we in the Third District of Tennessee

and at the Department of Energy in Oak Ridge can count ourselves extremely fortunate that we benefited from his public service.

He is the type of executive who makes the term "government official" sound like the noble and honorable calling it should be. During the years I have known Jim, he has shown himself to be a risk taker who is willing to push the envelope for needed reforms. He is also not in the least bit afraid to challenge the status quo and to stand up to the bureaucracy when the need arises.

Jim Hall's pioneering work on reindustrialization is typical of his career. Many managers at Jim's stage in their careers would have been content to just run out the clock and just do what they had to as their retirement neared. But as a skilled manager and dedicated resident of east Tennessee, Jim was determined that the great reservoir of human and technological capital assembled in Oak Ridge to help us win World War II and the Cold War should be parlayed into economic opportunity for generations to come. So he pioneered the reindustrialization program and skillfully managed the national security and scientific missions of the Department of Energy in a way that makes me proud as the representative of the Oak Ridge and east Tennessee region.

On behalf of the thousands of citizens that Jim Hall served so well, I thank him for his service to his community and to his Nation and we wish him happiness and success as he begins a new chapter in his life.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. HILLIARD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HILLIARD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

START-UP SUCCESS ACCOUNTS ACT OF 1999

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. BAIRD) to introduce the Start-Up Success Accounts Act of 1999. The purpose of this legislation is to give small businesses an additional tool to manage finances and retain capital.

Small businesses account for almost all of the net new jobs in our economy today, with minority and women-owned businesses making up two of the fastest growing categories of new businesses. Starting a business represents the hopes and the dreams of many Americans. But there is a problem.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, over 99.9 percent of all business failures are small firms. With all the promise of

small business and the entrepreneurial spirit in this country today, only about half of the businesses that were started in 1992 are still in existence today.

Many small businesses fail in the first few years for lack of capital. As a small businessman myself, I have appreciated firsthand the difficulty of acquiring and retaining capital both to start a business and to keep it going. The problem is caused in part by our tax system. When I started my business over 15 years ago, I was surprised when my accountant told me that we needed to make sure that I did not show a profit at the end of the year.

Our tax system discourages capital retention. The problem is if I report a profit at the end of the year, I pay corporate taxes, and then when I pay myself a salary the next year, I am taxed again on the same money. The accountants call it double taxation. Every incentive of the tax system is to reduce profits and to reduce the amount of money in your company so that you can reduce taxes. I would like to change that.

The very first dollar of new businesses is taxed and businesses are encouraged, just as I was in my business, to allow any excess capital to pass through. The ultimate result is less growth and less staying power for many small businesses. An April 1999 Dun & Bradstreet survey confirmed, and I quote, cash flow is the pervasive financial management issue for small business owners. It manifests itself in ongoing capital, managing inventory, extending credit to customers, all kinds of problems related to finances.

The DeMint-Baird Start-Up Success Accounts Act begins to alleviate some of this problem. What it does is it will allow companies in each of their first 5 years of business to set aside 20 percent of taxable income into an account that will last for 5 years. So the span of these accounts can last up to 10 years when you put all 5 years together. What this does again is encourages small businesses to save money and to leave money in their company so that they can use it to create growth and opportunity. So 20 percent of taxable income each of the first 5 years for start-up savings accounts. This will help businesses stabilize and grow.

In addition, small businesses could draw down on the funds of the accounts in lean years. That is many times the problem with small businesses. They will have one good year, they will take money out to avoid double taxation, the next year is a lean year and they have difficulty staying in business. This gives new businesses and small businesses the flexibility to keep capital in their company so they can invest it for the future.

Small businesses are the engine to our economy today in this country. More small businesses that can find stable footing in those first few years

will mean more jobs and more opportunity for many Americans. We must return dollars, decisions and freedom to our Nation's new small businesses. I believe the Start-Up Savings Accounts Act is a good step in that direction.

INTRODUCTION OF "GO GIRL"

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask you, what is wrong with this picture? Females make up slightly more than 50 percent of this country's population, yet less than 30 percent of America's scientists are women. Even fewer engineers are women, less than 10 percent.

In 1994, there were 209 tenured faculty at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Fifteen of those 209 were women. Of course these figures are not at all surprising when we learn that in 1985, women earned less than 30 percent of the bachelor degrees in the physical sciences and less than 10 percent of the bachelor degrees in engineering. You do not even want to hear the percentage of Ph.D.s in the science and math fields that are earned by women.

Just to give Members an example, about 8 percent of the Ph.D.s in physics in 1988 were awarded to women. Eight percent. My colleagues may be asking themselves, "So what? Is this some national problem?"

The answer is yes, this is a big problem, a big problem for employers, a big problem for women as wage-earners and a big problem for our Nation as we compete in the global marketplace.

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The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that between 1994 and the year 2005 the number of women in the labor force will grow twice as fast as men. Yet a recent study of school-to-work projects found that 90 percent of girls are clustered in five traditionally female occupations.

My colleagues do not need me to tell them that careers in traditionally female occupations pay far less than careers in science, math, and technology. For example, a data analyst can expect to earn \$45,000 a year while a licensed practical nurse makes less than \$25,000 a year. Men become analysts, women become nurses, and a kindergarten teacher, mostly females, make only \$18,000 a year when they first get started as compared to a starting engineer at over \$30,000 a year.

In addition, the National Science Foundation reports that the jobs facing workers in the future will require higher skill levels in science, math, and technology than ever before. The NSF report is verified by a letter that I recently received from the American Electronics Association. The AEA wrote to me to tell me that today the high tech industry is facing a critical shortage of skilled workers, and the future looks even worse they say. A re-

cent AEA report showed that the number of degrees in computer science, engineering, mathematics, and physics have actually declined since 1990. Quite clearly, Mr. Speaker, there is no way that America can have a technically competent work force if the majority of students, females, do not study science, math, and technology.

That is why today I am introducing a bill to help school districts encourage girls to pursue careers in science, math, and technology. Although my bill is titled Getting Our Girls Ready for the 21st Century Act, it will be known around here as Go Girl. Go Girl will create a bold new work force to energize young women in math, science, and technology. Go Girl is modeled after the TRIO program which has successfully encouraged 2 million low-income students to attend and graduate from college when their parents never attended college.

Similarly, the lack of female role models hampers female interest in studying science, math, and technology. Girls and their parents first must be able to envision a career in these fields. Then they need practical advice on what to study and how to achieve the necessary academic requirements. Go Girl follows girls from the fourth grade, the grade when girls typically begin to fall behind boys in math and science, and they are followed through high school to encourage these young women to be interested in math, to care about science, to want to learn technology in the early grades. Girls will participate in events and activities that increase their awareness of careers in these fields, and they will meet female role models.

The issue is: Go Girls.

DOING THE RIGHT THING FOR THE TAXPAYERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, in today's papers across the country typically it would be among the leading stories, if not the leading story, was that the Federal Government is now awash in a trillion dollar surplus.

Now I have been here a year and a half, and it is amazing how many projections there are when it comes to the budget surplus. It seems as if every month there is a new projection, and I have a feeling, if we wait long enough, it will be a zillion dollar surplus.

The point is that with the American people and I would hope that Members on either side of the aisle here remember is that those surpluses are the results of the hard work of the American taxpayer, whether it is from where I am from in Staten Island or Brooklyn, anywhere across New York and across this country. It is the folks who get up every morning 5, 6 o'clock, working two, sometimes three jobs, to put food on their table, to send their children to

school, to pay the mortgage on their house, and then enough left over to send to Uncle Sam.

And I understand the temptation in Washington for the most part to spend that money, and by the way, when you project a lot, you get to spend a lot. I would hope that we would exercise responsibility, understand that the basis for the surplus is not because in the last several years the Congress, controlled by the Republicans, has spent so much money, but has taken the responsible approach of not spending all the taxpayer money, and the seeds of this prosperity I would argue were sowed in the eighties, when we cut taxes, when we decided that regulations or too much regulation, only stifled productivity and creativity and inhibited growth, and I think that is what laid the foundation to this surplus.

Now there are those who can argue that, well, we raised taxes, and that is why we have a huge surplus. What I think that does is underestimates the American people. We need to understand that when we lower taxes, when we reduce regulation, when we allow the American taxpayer, the small business owner, employee or the employer, to unleash their spirit to produce and to create and, yes, to give back to their local community; that is the America that we should all be proud of, not when we sit in Washington and say how are we going to divvy up this trillion dollars that the people across this country are working so hard to generate?

We are fortunate enough these days that there is a lot of prosperity around, but the best days lie ahead, and again I can only urge those in Congress and in the White House that it is the taxpayer money that we are the stewards of here, and it is our obligation to do what is responsible, to promote economic growth and to lower taxes when we can, and if we want to keep this economy growing, we use a big chunk of this so-called surplus to cut taxes.

And there is a lot of proposals on the table. The elimination of the marriage penalty tax or the capital gains tax to spur investment, which is a tax on capital. I would like to see a reduction in the personal income tax across the board, so that way any American who pays taxes receives a benefit, or, in short, more of their hard-earned money in their pocket because frankly when we provide the freedom and the liberty and the opportunity to the hard-working American to spend his or her hard-earned money as they see fit on their vacation or their child's education or a second home or whatever they desire, we are doing the right thing for America, the right thing for the taxpayer, and I hope in the days ahead the Congress and the White House recognizes the seeds of that prosperity are not sown here in Washington but across Main Street, across this great country of ours, the United States of America.