

Army War College. He has served as an Army Chaplain in assignments at Fort McClellan, Alabama, Republic of South Korea; Fort Knox, Kentucky; Washington, DC.; Frankfurt West Germany; and Fort Bliss, Texas. He also served as the Staff Chaplain of the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee for the 1984 Presidential Inauguration of Ronald Reagan and George Bush. During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, he served as the Brigade Chaplain for the 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade.

Before attending the U.S. Army War College, he was the Division Chaplain for the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Upon graduation from the Army War College, he served as the Mobilization, Training, and Military operations Chaplain, U.S. Army Forces Command, Fort McPherson, Georgia. He also served as the Deputy Command Chaplain, U.S. Army Forces Command. Prior to his current assignment as Command Chaplain, U. S. Army Materiel Command, he was the Installation Staff Chaplain, Fort Stewart, Georgia, he is currently serving as Command Chaplain, U.S. Army Materiel Command. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit Medal, Bronze Star Medal, seven awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal. Southwest Asia Service Medal (with three stars), Liberation of Kuwait Medal, and the Air Assault Badge.

I am especially proud of his accomplishments as a distinguished Army Officer and Chaplain from my district in Charleston, West Virginia. His accomplishments speak to his courage, compassion, integrity, and loyalty to his country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this house please join me in recognizing, honoring, and congratulating this outstanding army officer, soldier and clergyman.

CALIFORNIA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

SPEECH OF

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I join my colleagues in celebrating California's 150 year anniversary of statehood. This is a monumental time in our history not only as a people from a state but as a constantly growing and ever changing nation. I am proud and honored to be a part of such a special event.

Throughout my life, I have been lucky enough to call the 46th Congressional District in Southern California home. It's experience has been an honor to not only serve my constituents, but enjoy the many opportunities that our state has to offer.

Orange County, California is known the world over for it's performing arts, education and the Anaheim Angels major league base ball team. Anaheim, California is home to Disney Land, the "Happiest Place on Earth" which has entertained families for over fifty years.

For over a century, my state has been a leader and the very backbone for economic opportunity in almost every major field. It is

this nations leader in trade and shipping as well as a model for education, environmental initiatives, and the world's largest entertainment industry.

The 46th District in California is culturally diverse and represents the best of what California has to offer. I am deeply honored to represent those from the 46th Congressional District in California, and I will continue my responsibility to all who call Orange County, California home.

HONORING THE HEROES OF THE 44TH INFANTRY DIVISION

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the brave Americans of the 44th Infantry Division. From September 21 to September 24, 2000, the 44th Infantry Division Association will be celebrating the 55th anniversary of the end of World War II at the Midway Hotel near Chicago, Illinois. This venue is very appropriate, as the State of Illinois contributed over eleven hundred soldiers to the 44th Division. Today, it certainly gives me great honor to remind my colleagues and the American public of the sacrifice these great men gave for the freedom and prosperity that is enjoyed by so many.

Maj. General William F. Dean commanded the 44th Infantry Division of roughly fifteen thousand men, comprising about one-fifth of the 7th Army. On September 15, 1944, the 44th Infantry landed at Cherbourg, France, to relieve the 79th Division that invaded Normandy on D-Day.

Forty days later, the 44th received their first attack from axis forces east of Luneville, France. In midwinter 1944, the 44th Division fought through the Maginot line, as well as the Vosges Mountains in northern France. In fact, the first United States soldiers to reach the Rhine River between France and Germany were members of the 44th Infantry Division. Along the way, the 44th held off several savage assaults from German Panzer divisions. In addition, the 44th was called to relieve two divisions of allied forces that were to be employed in the Ardennes Forest counteroffensive.

In the beginning of 1945, the 44th Infantry Division was forced into a defensive posture, as three German divisions, including the elite 17 SS Panzer Grenadier Division, conducted an all-out attack on United States forces. Amazingly, the brave Americans held off the brutal attack that would have cut off the allied forces in Alsace, as well as the Vosges and Hardt Mountains. In mid-March 1945, the division earned a well-deserved 2-day rest after other allied divisions passed through their fortification for the final assault on Germany. I should note that the 44th had undergone 144 days of continuous commitment.

On March 27, 1945, the 44th finally crossed the Rhine and provided for the capture of Mannheim and Heidelberg. Soon later, the 44th reached the Danube River and joined with the 10th Armored Division. On April 25, 1945, these joint forces captured the ancient German city of Ulm. Finally, the 44th swept into the Austrian Alps, after which Victory in Europe was gratefully won.

Mr. Speaker, the 44th Infantry Division fought for 203 incredible days. They captured over 44,000 enemy prisoners, and destroyed thousands more. During the European campaign, the 44th lost roughly 2,000 men in combat. Since the end of World War II, another 6,000 have passed on. Today, our country is graced with over 5,000 survivors of the 44th Infantry Division. With roughly 1,000 World War II veterans leaving us each day, I am very pleased to see these veterans enjoying the years that they earned so courageously. Mr. Speaker, I hope these brave Americans will continue to relate their incredible experiences gained during the greatest, most noble war ever fought by man.

TRIBUTE TO TROOPER ROBERT PEREZ, JR.

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ohio State Highway Patrol Trooper Robert Perez, who dedicated his life to law enforcement and assisting people in need. At the age of 24, Trooper Perez died in the line of duty as a result of a roadside fatality.

Known and respected for his integrity, dedication and ability, Trooper Perez distinguished himself as a community leader and devoted family man. Trooper Perez began his law enforcement career as a Vermilion Ohio Police Explorer, where he had the opportunity to accompany police officers and gain first hand experience. After graduating in the 132nd Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy Class in 1999, he served at the Highway Patrol Post at Fremont and then Milan, Ohio. He was also involved in the Ohio's Trooper Coalition, the Ohio State Trooper's Association for Safer Ohio and Ohio Trooper's Caring. Trooper Perez also served as a Member of the Army National Guard and was a Lorain (Ohio) Corrections Officer.

Trooper Perez took great pride in helping his family. From an early age, he took care of his brother, sister and mother by mentoring his siblings and giving his earnings to his mother. Trooper Perez's willing and giving heart made him a son and brother his family will always be proud of.

GENERIC DRUGS SAVE CON- SUMERS BILLIONS WHILE IN- CREASING CHOICE AND COM- PETITION

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, since the Drug Price Competition and Patent Restoration Act, better known as the Waxman-Hatch Act, was signed into law in 1984, generic drugs have been a major source of relief for many Americans who face extraordinarily high prescription drug prices.

The law struck a balance between the generic pharmaceutical industry and brand-name

companies. It did this by speeding up the approval process for generic drugs, and also by guaranteeing brand-name companies a minimum amount of market exclusivity before generics are allowed to compete.

After the passage of Waxman-Hatch, the generic pharmaceutical industry grew from a \$2 billion industry in 1984 to \$8 billion in 1997. Over the same period, brand-name companies' sales grew from \$17 billion to \$77 billion.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, generic pharmaceuticals saved consumers \$8 to \$10 billion dollars in 1994 alone. As fast as drug prices have been rising in recent years, they would have increased much faster if consumers had not had access to generic alternatives.

Despite the great benefit generic alternatives have provided to many patients, I am concerned about the activities some brand-name manufacturers have engaged in to obstruct generic competition. These efforts by brand-name companies include using payments to generic competitors, which are legally entitled to a period of being the exclusive competitor for 180 days, not to bring their product to market—in effect, this is buying a perpetual monopoly. Attempts to spread false information, lobby state legislators to restrict generic competition, and circumvent the ordinary process by having Congress pass special legislation granting patent extensions are other examples of anti-competitive behavior.

I have a great appreciation for what the generic pharmaceutical industry has done to benefit American consumers, and I am hopeful that in the not-too-distant future Congress will consider additional pro-consumer legislation to ensure consumers have increased access to more affordable generic prescription drugs.

GENERIC DRUGS AND BRAND NAME DRUGS MEET THE SAME FDA STANDARDS

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, expanding government prescription drug programs is one way to ensure Americans have access to the medicine they need. Another way is to educate them to make better choices among health care options so that they are able to get the best health care at a fair price. Part of the education process must include a primer on generic drugs.

Most Americans do not take advantage of generic drugs and the substantial cost savings they represent because they do not really know the truth about them. The truth is, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration holds generic drugs and brand drugs to the exact same standards. The FDA requires that generics and brands contain the same active ingredients and deliver the same health benefits. The FDA also monitors generic manufacturing facilities to ensure that their drug products maintain high quality and effectiveness.

Generics are safe, effective, and more affordable than brand name drugs. Let's do our part to make sure more Americans are aware of the tremendous health care value they can get from generic pharmaceuticals.

IMPROVE ACCESS TO GENERIC PHARMACEUTICALS

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I'm here today to deliver good news for American consumers, seniors and taxpayers, all of whom are seeking more affordable medicine. That's right, good news!

Over the next decade, patents on nearly \$50 billion worth of brand name drugs are scheduled to expire. If you assume that generic versions of those drugs will be introduced at a price 50 percent lower than the brand price—and that's conservative—Americans will enjoy \$25 billion in savings. That figure is in addition to an estimated \$10 billion Americans are already saving each year through the use of generic drugs.

With so much profit at stake, we can expect brand drug companies to do everything in their power to delay the expiration of those patents. But as representatives of the people, we must put patient health ahead of profits and vote no on these unfair and unwarranted patent extension requests.

DELAY OF CONSIDERATION OF THE FINANCIAL CONTRACT NETTING ACT OF 2000, H.R. 1161

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, notice of expedited floor action on H.R. 1161, legislation to insure against potentially destabilizing legal uncertainties in the financial markets, was circulated in the House. The Committee on Banking and Financial Services has reported favorably. In fact, all committees of jurisdiction on the Financial Contract Netting Act of 2000 have acted. Controversy on this bill is virtually non-existent. Broad bipartisan support for the measure is assured. Signature by the President has long been assumed should Congress complete action of the bill. Moreover, the bill, as a separate non-controversial part of the more general and contentious Bankruptcy Reform Act, has passed both the House and the Senate. The bankruptcy legislation itself has not, of course, been finally adopted due to its long-pending conference and highly contentious provisions.

Yesterday, the netting bill was pulled from consideration on the suspension calendar. The precipitous action of the Republican leadership calls into very serious question the ability of Congress, given the short time until adjournment, to enact this vital legislation under the most favorable of circumstances.

H.R. 1161, while highly technical and complex legislation, has broad support because of the critical need it fills. The legislation is a top priority of the Federal Reserve and the Treasury Department. It is essential to provide an orderly structure through which financial corporations can work out their debts in bankruptcy without destabilizing financial markets. It is consensus, must-pass legislation.

In contrast, the successful conclusion of the longstanding conference on the Bankruptcy

Reform Act is increasingly in doubt, because of fundamental problems and substantial controversy surrounding that underlying legislation. Apparently, companies supporting passage of that controversial legislation have now mustered the political clout to block the non-controversial H.R. 1161. I deplore what I view as a cynical effort by some industry lobbyists to hold the vital netting legislation hostage. Doing so will not save the otherwise controversial bankruptcy bill, and such tactics are irresponsible in the extreme. Not only are they contrary to good and necessary public policy, they are also very risky for many of the affiliated banks and brokerage firms of the obstructing companies involved. These firms are also active in the very sophisticated financial markets which risk being thrown into disarray in the event of failure of a major domestic or, indeed, foreign financial institution, absent the netting legislation.

The Financial Contract Netting Act is essential to ensure that financial markets function smoothly, especially in the event of the failure of a large institution. Monetary experts have been strongly urging the approach of H.R. 1161 since the Promisel Report in 1991. From then to the present, the need for this legislation has become more acute each year, because of the increasingly outdated nature of statutes which are supposed to set the bankruptcy and receivership rules for financial firms. The rise of the \$40–50 trillion swaps market is the main force which has rendered these statutes increasingly irrelevant and effectively inoperable.

Under H.R. 1161, a bankrupt financial firm's debts, that are related to financial instruments in the exposed process of transfer, can be quickly reduced to clear, single amounts owed to other healthy financial companies, according to their respective claims. Under present law, such simplification might well not be able to occur due to inconsistencies among governing statutes. Needless litigation and disavowal of debt could therefore occur. Such disruption is highly risky in an environment where clarity regarding debt obligations and payment is a must if our value and claims transfer system is to work with the flawlessness demanded by this increasingly sophisticated economy.

The public dangers here are quite real. I deplore the fact that companies pressing for bankruptcy legislation seem focused only on their narrow interests without giving due consideration to stability of the financial markets these companies heedlessly jeopardize and the broader issues confronting American finance. In particular, potential financial disruptions due to stresses on the energy supply and in the currency markets make the netting legislation imperative before Congress adjourns sine die.

I urge expeditious and independent action on the netting legislation.

ADVO 100TH RECOVERY

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take a moment to congratulate ADVO, Inc., in its recovery of the 100th missing child that has