

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JOHN P. FAULDS

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, Senior Chief John P. Faulds, of the United States Navy has continually demonstrated a superlative degree of professionalism, care and commitment to the Navy, his family, and his community; and,

Whereas, he has consistently demonstrated excellence in a remarkable 19 years of dedicated service; and,

Whereas, he has served thirteen years at sea, with three consecutive overseas tours; and,

Whereas, his exemplarily service has been recognized by the city of Cleveland, by the Commander Amphibious Group "Three Sailors of the Year" award, as well as being named the Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist, and

Therefore, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the dedication and service of a man who serves as an example to us all.

SMALL BUSINESS EXPORT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2001

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2001

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate National Small Business Week, let's not forget the fastest growing, and most exciting segment of the small business community—those getting involved in international trade. According to the Commerce Department, between 1987 and 1997, the number of small business exporters tripled, going from 66,000 to 202,000. Small businesses now account for 31 percent of total merchandise export sales spread throughout every industrial classification. What is more surprising is that the fastest growth among small business exporters has been with companies employing fewer than 20 employees. These very small businesses represented 65 percent of all exporting companies in 1997.

In fact, out of the 53 state Small Business Persons of the Year, 22 percent export goods and services representing 20 percent of sales. Additionally, 17 percent of the winners who currently do not export anticipate doing so within two years. Countries receiving exports

include: nations of Great Britain, Canada, Mexico, Australia, Germany, China, Switzerland, Japan, Cyprus, Israel, Norway, France, Singapore, Russia, Argentina, Kazakhstan, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, Greece, Indonesia, Italy, Poland, Romania, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Thailand, Turkey and Venezuela.

Despite these encouraging statistics, there is still more work that needs to be done. Even though the number of small business exporters tripled, they form less than one percent of all small businesses in the United States. Even among these cutting-edge firms, nearly two-thirds of small business exporters sold to just one foreign market in 1997. In fact, 76 percent of small business exporters sold less than \$250,000 worth of goods abroad. In other words, these are "casual" exporters. The key is to encourage more small businesses to enter the trade arena and then to prod "casual" small business exporters into becoming more active. If we were able to move in this direction, it could boost our exports by several billion dollars.

With the growth of the Internet economy, more small businesses are able to export overseas but sometimes face difficult obstacles in completing a sale. We need to insure that all our government agencies are up to the challenge so they can continue to help increase exports from the small business community.

While most of the trade focus in the federal government for small business is on export promotion, the office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) can continue to play a vital role in formulating trade policy beneficial to small business. With the President requesting Trade Promotion Authority to negotiate more trade agreements, including the Free Trade in the Americas Agreement (FTAA), small business exporters need to be at the table.

These trade talks could have positive benefits for small business exporters, primarily in the area of trade facilitation. Topics of discussion under this umbrella are streamlining trade dispute resolution procedures; reforming the documentation and filing procedures for patent and trademark protection; opening the public procurement process by foreign governments to small businesses; enhancing transparency in international tax, finance, customs procedures, and trade rules; and exploring means to internationalize the recognition of technical certification of professionals. How these issues get resolved will be of key interest to small business exporters.

That's why I have introduced legislation to create an Assistant USTR for Small Business so that one person is primarily responsible for

these tasks. In addition, the Assistant USTR for Small Business can play an outreach and advocacy role throughout the United States to solicit input from the small business community. Many small business exporters find our government bureaucracy very mystifying and complicated. Many times, small business exporters do not know who to ask a trade policy question. They get bounced or referred to one person after another. Having one person in charge who is empowered to go beyond the Washington Beltway to listen to small business may help alleviate this problem.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Small Business Export Enhancement Act of 2001.

COMMENDING CATAWBA MEMORIAL

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2001

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Catawba Memorial Hospital, a health care facility in my district that for years has provided first-rate care to those in need.

Nearly forty years ago, I joined a number of business, civic and community leaders for the groundbreaking of Catawba Memorial Hospital. Since then, my wife and I have maintained close involvement with the hospital for a number of years. During this time, we've both watched as Catawba Memorial has grown in size and prominence in the health care community. Much to my expectation and pleasure, Catawba Memorial Hospital has gone on to become one of the region's leading health care facilities.

Aside from merely wanting to heap praise on a hospital that clearly deserves it, I also rise today, Mr. Speaker, to commend Catawba Memorial Hospital for its recent designation as a Magnate Hospital by the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Catawba Memorial is only the 32nd hospital in the nation to receive this prestigious award. It was chosen for Magnet Hospital designation for its excellence in nursing services. Although I'm certainly not surprised that Catawba Memorial was singled out for such a distinction, I am pleased nonetheless to congratulate Catawba Memorial Hospital's doctors, nurses, and staff for their tremendous achievement. We are indeed fortunate to have such a distinguished facility in the 10th District of North Carolina.

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