

It is critical that we not make this into a political tug of war at a time when there is consensus in the scientific community, environmentalists, the professionals who work in disaster mitigation about what will work, what will make things better, what will keep people out of harm's way. We need to work cooperatively to make our communities more livable with a better match between private responsibility and government policy at all levels.

ARSENIC STANDARDS IN DRINKING WATER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, I have been concerned about attacks made on the Bush administration for their decision to not immediately implement the Environmental Protection Agency's decision to reduce the standard on arsenic in drinking water from 50 parts per billion to 10 parts per billion until further research and data is provided. Since nearly everyone has heard of individuals being poisoned with arsenic, it is assumed that any amount of arsenic is detrimental and that not immediately implementing a lower standard of 10 parts per billion is anti-environment and insensitive to human health concerns. The 50 parts per billion standard has been in effect since 1942, and there is no sound evidence that having a standard of 50 parts per billion has led to increased health problems in the United States.

Most people are not aware of the fact that arsenic is a naturally-occurring substance and is present in the groundwater in most western States and parts of the Midwest and even some parts of New England. It is not put there by pesticides, fertilizers or human beings. Ninety-seven percent of the communities exceeding the 10 parts per billion of arsenic in their water supplies are small towns with populations of less than 10,000 people. There are 69 such communities in the State of Nebraska that exceed 10 parts per billion of arsenic. Nearly all of these are small rural communities, and most of them have only 11 to 15 parts per billion of arsenic in their groundwater. In order to meet the 10 parts per billion standard, nearly all of these communities would have to be assessed several hundred dollars per family and several million dollars per community.

Much of the EPA reasoning for dropping the arsenic standards to 10 parts per billion has been extrapolated from studies done in Taiwan where water contains an average arsenic level of 250 parts per billion. Some health problems have been detected as a result of the high levels of arsenic in Taiwan. Now, if there is a linear relationship in regard to the level of arsenic and health concerns, reducing the standard

level of arsenic from 50 parts per billion to 10 parts per billion would theoretically, and this is theoretically only, prevent three cases of bladder cancer and could possibly prevent a handful of deaths from all causes that might possibly be related to arsenic in the United States annually. If a linear relationship exists, even 1 part per billion poses at least some slight health risk.

At the present time, however, there is no clear evidence that there is a linear relationship between arsenic level and health. It is very possible there may be some point that a certain amount of arsenic in the water poses absolutely no health risk. Arsenic is necessary for human life and is present in every person's body. Therefore, 50 parts per billion, 40 parts per billion, 30, or 20 parts per billion could prove to be perfectly safe. We just do not know what that level is.

The cost of lowering this standard from 50 parts per billion to 10 parts per billion has been estimated by the EPA to cost \$181 million annually. However, the American Waterworks Association has stated that the cost would actually be \$600 million annually with an additional \$5 billion in capital outlays to pay for the treatment plants. There is a huge discrepancy, obviously, in these figures.

The EPA told the State of Nebraska's Department of Health to dump extracted arsenic on open fields, as arsenic is nontoxic. However, a short time later the EPA reversed its opinion and said that arsenic extracted from water must be shipped to toxic waste dumps. It does not appear that the EPA has factored the cost of shipping arsenic to toxic waste sites into their cost estimates. It would seem that the Bush administration's decision to delay implementation of standards until further study has been done is warranted. In short, it seems that all of the evidence that we currently have would indicate that an arbitrary level of 10 parts per billion may be excessively low and it is quite likely not based on any sound evidence. Further data from independent sources is clearly warranted.

INTRODUCTION OF CONCURRENT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PRINTING OF "ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER AMERICANS IN CONGRESS"

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, I proudly rise to introduce a concurrent resolution authorizing the printing of a book entitled "Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in Congress."

Each year during the month of May, we celebrate the rich heritage of Asian

and Pacific Islander Americans throughout the country, thanks to the pioneering efforts of Congressmen Frank Horton and Norman Mineta, who sponsored legislation celebrating the first official Asian Pacific American Week in 1978. In 1992, Congressman Horton authored legislation expanding the week into a permanent month-long celebration of the proud mosaic of histories and ethnicities of this most diverse national community.

Asian and Pacific Islanders are indeed a diverse constellation of peoples from 40 major subpopulation groups of Pacific Islander Americans including Chamorros, Native Hawaiians and Samoans; Southeast Asian Americans such as Cambodians, Vietnamese, Hmong and Laotians; East Asian Americans including Chinese, Japanese and Koreans; and South Asian Americans, including Indians and Pakistanis. Our national community boasts the most diverse minority group within the country, comprised of both immigrant and indigenous populations.

The history of Congress includes 33 Asian and Pacific Islander Americans that have served from 1903 to the present. These Members come from backgrounds ranging from Chinese, Chamorro, Filipino, Asian Indian, Japanese, Korean, Hawaiian, and Samoan. Thirteen of these Members were Resident Commissioners from the Philippine Islands during the time it was a territory from 1898 until it became independent in 1946. Currently, there are nine Members serving in the 107th Congress. Amongst them are two Senators, two delegates, and five Representatives.

Delegate Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole, a Native Hawaiian prince and Member of the Hawaiian royal family, was the first Pacific Islander American elected to Congress. Delegate Kuhio represented the Territory of Hawaii from 1903 to 1923.

Hawaii, not surprisingly being the State with the highest per capita population of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans, has a history of many other firsts in Congress. Senator Hiram Fong was the first Chinese American in Congress. Representative PATSY MINK was the first Asian Pacific American woman in Congress. Senator DANIEL K. INOUE is the first Japanese American and has served in Congress since being elected in 1959 after statehood for Hawaii. Senator DANIEL K. AKAKA is the first U.S. Senator of Native Hawaiian ancestry.

Amongst the other firsts, Representative Dalip Singh Saund of California was the first Asian American U.S. Representative from 1957 to 1963. Guam's first Delegate to Congress, Antonio Borja Won Pat, was the first Chamorro elected in 1973. Delegate Fofa Iosefa Fiti Sunia, the first American Samoan in Congress, was elected in 1981. And Representative Jay Kim was the first Korean American elected to the 103rd Congress.

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Benito Y Tuason Legarda and Pablo Ocampo were the first Filipinos elected as resident commissioners in the 60th Congress in 1907. Members also served in a variety of occupations before working in Congress. Seven were educators. Eight held law degrees or practiced law, and two had been judges. Others had won State and local elections before serving in Congress. Nine members have military experience, some such as Brigadier General Ben Blaz earning a Bronze Medal and Captain DANIEL K. INOUE, who was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Bill Clinton last year.

Some became great statesmen after serving in Congress, such as Brigadier General Carlos Pena Romulo who served with distinction as aide-de-camp to General Douglas MacArthur. He was a Pulitzer Prize winner, one of the signatories of the U.N. Charter and President of the U.N. General Assembly from 1949 to 1950.

Asian and Pacific Islander American members have also chaired several congressional committees. In the Senate, Senator INOUE chaired the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, Secret Military Assistance to Iran and Nica-

ragua Opposition Select Committee, and Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.

In the House, Representative Norm Mineta chaired the House Public Works and Transportation Committee. Mineta later went on to be the first Asian American member of a Presidential Cabinet, who was appointed by President Bill Clinton to serve as Secretary of Commerce. He was tapped again this year by President George Bush to serve as Secretary of Transportation.

As a member of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, one of our goals is to educate other Members and the country about the history and contributions of Asian Pacific Islander Americans.

This concurrent resolution authorizing the printing of this book will enable us to meet this goal.

I include in the RECORD a list of Members of Congress from the Asian Pacific Islander community at the end of my remarks.

This concurrent resolution authorizing the printing of this book will not only enable us to meet that goal but also educate the general public on the diversity that exists in Congress. "Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in Congress" will follow in the same tradition as "His-

panic Americans in Congress", "Black Americans in Congress", and "Women in Congress."

It is not surprising that the top leaders of our great nation have recognized the importance of Asian and Pacific Islander American contributors. President Jimmy Carter was the first to proclaim Asian Pacific American Heritage Week in May 1978. Two years later, President George Bush was the first to issue a proclamation celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month on May 7, 1990. Since then, President Bill Clinton has continued the tradition, proclaiming the celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage during the Month of May. Clinton also issued an Executive Order establishing a White House Initiative on and Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to urge my colleagues and President George W. Bush to continue and share in the tradition of celebrating Asian and Pacific Islander American culture and history, and to recognize the significant contributions they have made to the growth of our great nation. Finally, I look forward to working with the Bush administration to continue the progress of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

TABLE 1.—ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN MEMBERS AND DELEGATES IN THE 58TH-107TH CONGRESSES (1903-2003)

Congress	Dates	House	Senate
58th-67th	1903-1923	Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaʻole ¹	—
68th-84th	1923-1957	—	—
85th	1957-1959	Dalip Singh Saund	—
86th	1959-1961	Daniel Ken Inouye Dalip Singh Saund	Hiram Leong Fong.
87th	1961-1963	Daniel Ken Inouye Dalip Singh Saund	Hiram Leong Fong.
88th	1963-1965	Spark Masayuki Matsunaga	Hiram Leong Fong. Daniel Ken Inouye.
89th	1965-1967	Spark Masayuki Matsunaga Patsy Takemoto Mink	Hiram Leong Fong. Daniel Ken Inouye.
90th	1967-1969	Spark Masayuki Matsunaga Patsy Takemoto Mink	Hiram Leong Fong. Daniel Ken Inouye.
91st	1969-1971	Spark Masayuki Matsunaga Patsy Takemoto Mink	Hiram Leong Fong. Daniel Ken Inouye.
92nd	1971-1973	Spark Masayuki Matsunaga Patsy Takemoto Mink	Hiram Leong Fong. Daniel Ken Inouye.
93rd	1973-1975	Spark Masayuki Matsunaga Patsy Takemoto Mink	Hiram Leong Fong. Daniel Ken Inouye.
94th	1975-1977	Antonio Borja Won Pat Spark Masayuki Matsunaga Norman Yoshio Mineta Patsy Takemoto Mink Antonio Borja Won Pat	Hiram Leong Fong. Daniel Ken Inouye.
95th	1977-1979	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Norman Yoshio Mineta Antonio Borja Won Pat	Samuel Ichiye Hayakawa. Daniel Ken Inouye. Spark Masayuki Matsunaga.
96th	1979-1981	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Antonio Borja Won Pat	Samuel Ichiye Hayakawa. Daniel Ken Inouye. Spark Masayuki Matsunaga.
97th	1981-1983	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Fofa Iosefa Fiti Sunia	Samuel Ichiye Hayakawa. Daniel Ken Inouye. Spark Masayuki Matsunaga.
98th	1983-1985	Antonio Borja Won Pat Daniel Kahikina Akaka Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Fofa Iosefa Fiti Sunia Antonio Borja Won Pat	Daniel Ken Inouye. Spark Masayuki Matsunaga.
99th	1985-1987	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Ben Garrido Blaz Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Fofa Iosefa Fiti Sunia	Daniel Ken Inouye. Spark Masayuki Matsunaga.
100th	1987-1989	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Ben Garrido Blaz Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Patricia Fukuda Saiki Fofa Iosefa Fiti Sunia ²	Daniel Ken Inouye. Spark Masayuki Matsunaga.
101st	1989-1991	Ben Garrido Blaz Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Patsy Takemoto Mink Patricia Fukuda Saiki	Daniel Kahikina Akaka. ³ Daniel Ken Inouye. Spark Masayuki Matsunaga.
102nd	1991-1993	Ben Garrido Blaz Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Patsy Takemoto Mink	Daniel Kahikina Akaka. Daniel Ken Inouye.

TABLE 1.—ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN MEMBERS AND DELEGATES IN THE 58TH-107TH CONGRESSES (1903–2003)—Continued

Congress	Dates	House	Senate
103rd	1995–1997	Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Jay C. Kim Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta ² Patsy Takemoto Mink Robert C. Scott Robert Anacleto Underwood	Daniel Kahikina Akaka. Daniel Ken Inouye.
104th	1995–1997	Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Jay C. Kim Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta ⁴ Patsy Takemoto Mink Robert C. Scott Robert Anacleto Underwood	Daniel Kahikina Akaka. Daniel Ken Inouye.
105th	1997–1999	Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Jay C. Kim Robert Takeo Matsui Patsy Takemoto Mink Robert C. Scott Robert Anacleto Underwood	Daniel Kahikina Akaka. Daniel Ken Inouye.
106th	1999–2001	Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Robert Takeo Matsui Patsy Takemoto Mink Robert C. Scott Robert Anacleto Underwood	Daniel Kahikina Akaka. Daniel Ken Inouye.
107th	2001–2003	David Wu Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Michael M. Honda Robert Takeo Matsui Patsy Takemoto Mink Robert C. Scott Robert Anacleto Underwood David Wu	Daniel Kahikina Akaka. Daniel Ken Inouye.

¹ Del. Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaʻole died on January 7, 1922.
² Del. Fofu Iosefa Fiti Sunia resigned on September 6, 1988.
³ Senator Daniel Kahikina Akaka also served in the House in the 101st Congress until May 15, 1990. However, he appointed was to the Senate and was sworn on May 16, 1990, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Spark Masayuki Matsunaga on April 15, 1990. Subsequently, he was elected to the Senate in November 1990.
⁴ Rep. Norman Yoshio Mineta resigned on October 10, 1995.

TABLE 4.—RESIDENT COMMISSIONERS FROM THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, 60th–79th CONGRESSES 1907–1946)

Congress	Dates	Resident commissioners
60th	1907–1909	Benito Y Tuason Legarda. ¹ Pablo Ocampo. ¹
61st	1909–1911	Benito Y Tuason Legarda. ¹ Pablo Ocampo. ¹ Manuel Luis Quezon. ³
62nd	1911–1913	Benito Y Tuason Legarda. Manuel Luis Quezon.
63rd	1913–1915	Manuel Luis Quezon. Manuel Earnshaw.
64th	1915–1917	Manuel Luis Quezon. ⁴ Manuel Earnshaw.
65th	1917–1919	Jaime Carlos de Veyra. Teodoro Rafael Yangco.
66th	1919–1921	Jaime Carlos de Veyra. Teodoro Rafael Yangco. ⁵ Isauro Gabaldon. ⁶
67th	1921–1923	Jaime Carlos de Veyra. Isauro Gabaldon.
68th	1923–1925	Isauro Gabaldon. Pedro Guevara.
69th	1925–1927	Isauro Gabaldon. Pedro Guevara.
70th	1927–1929	Isauro Gabaldon. ⁷ Pedro Guevara.
71st	1929–1931	Pedro Guevara. Camilo Osias.
72nd	1931–1933	Pedro Guevara. Camilo Osias.
73rd	1933–1935	Pedro Guevara. Camilo Osias.
74th	1935–1937	Pedro Guevara. ⁸ Francisco Afan Delgado. ⁹ Quintin Paredes. ¹⁰
75th	1937–1939	Quintin Paredes. ¹⁰ Joaquin Miguel Elizalde. ¹¹
76th	1939–1941	Joaquin Miguel Elizalde.
77th	1941–1943	Joaquin Miguel Elizalde.
78th	1943–1945	Joaquin Miguel Elizalde. ¹² Carlos Pena Romulo. ¹³
79th	1945–1947	Carlos Pena Romulo. ¹⁴

¹ Elected November 22, 1907, for a term of two years, granted the privileges of the floor of the House of Representatives, with the right of debate, February 4, 1908.
² Term expired November 22, 1909.
³ Elected for a term of two years beginning November 23, 1909.
⁴ Resigned October 15, 1916, vacancy throughout the remainder of 64th Congress.
⁵ Term expired March 3, 1920.
⁶ Elected for a term of three years beginning March 4, 1920.
⁷ Resigned July 16, 1928, having been nominated for election to the Philippine House of Representatives, vacancy throughout the remainder of the 70th Congress.
⁸ When the new government of the Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands was inaugurated, the terms of office of the Resident Commissioners of the Philippine Islands expired. Both resident Commissioners served until February 14, 1936, when a selected successor qualified (48 Stat. 456). Under this law, the number of Resident Commissioners was reduced from two to one.
⁹ Appointed December 21, 1935, to fill vacancy caused by the expiration of the terms of Pedro Guevara and Francisco A. Delgado, due to the new form of government, and took his seat on February 14, 1936.
¹⁰ Resigned September 29, 1938.
¹¹ Appointed September 29, 1938, to fill vacancy caused by resignation of Quintin Paredes; service began on January 3, 1939, upon convening of 76th Congress.
¹² Resigned August 9, 1944.

¹³ Appointed to fill vacancy caused by the resignation of Joaquin M. Elizalde, and succeeded him on August 21, 1944.
¹⁴ Office of Resident Commissioner terminated on July 4, 1946.

Note.—The Philippine Islands were part of territory ceded to the United States by Spain under the Treaty of Paris of December 10, 1898. The Act of July 1902 granted the Philippine Islands the right to elect two Resident Commissioners to the United States. In 1935, the Philippine Islands became the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the number of Resident Commissioners was reduced from two to one. In 1946, the Philippines became fully independent, and the office of the Resident Commissioner was terminated.

ARSENIC LEVELS IN DRINKING WATER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISSA). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, like my distinguished colleague from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE), this Member comes to the floor to urge his colleagues to look at the facts when it comes to the issue of arsenic in drinking water. The Bush administration's recent actions on this matter have led to heated rhetoric, wild exaggerations and soundbite politics.

I suppose that was predictable, since the word "arsenic" is so emotion-loaded. It is important, I believe, to get the full story and to listen to those who would be most affected by the proposed changes.

Many State and local officials, as well as water system administrators, have expressed concerns about the problems which could be caused by the proposed changes. This Member would begin by firmly stating that, of course, everyone recognizes the importance of providing safe drinking water for all of our Nation's citizens. Also some changes in the arsenic standard may well be justified. However, it makes no sense to base those changes on anything like emotion. Instead, they should be based on sound science.

As many of us know now, in the final days of the Clinton administration, a final rule was rushed through which

would have reduced the acceptable level of arsenic in drinking water from 50 parts per billion to 10 parts per billion. However, new EPA administrator, Christie Todd Whitman, later announced that the agency would seek a scientific review of the standard before implementing a new rule. The Bush administration has made it clear that the arsenic level will be significantly reduced. However, it wants the final rule to be based on sound science.

It certainly appears that the Clinton administration made an arbitrary decision based upon questionable studies, most of which involve populations in other countries which were exposed to significantly higher levels of arsenic than those found in the United States. On the other hand, the EPA seems to dismiss the most comprehensive U.S. study on this matter. A 1999 study in Utah, which involved more than 5,000 people, failed to find an increased incidence of cancer associated with arsenic in drinking water.

It is certainly not the intent of this Member to treat lightly the possible adverse health effects of arsenic. However, this Member believes that accurate and relevant studies should be reviewed before water systems, especially those with limited resources, are forced to make such substantial investments in infrastructure and treatment. Smaller communities would have been especially hard hit by the implementation of the proposed arsenic level.

Arsenic levels in York, Nebraska, my birthplace, for example, a community of about 7,500 people, are at 34 parts per billion, and the initial cost to meet the new standard would be \$6 million. Gering, Nebraska, with a level of only 13 parts per billion, only 3 points over the arbitrary level set by the rule, would be compelled to spend about \$4.4 million.