

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RELATING TO CONSIDERATION OF
SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R.
3009, ANDEAN TRADE PROMOTION
AND DRUG ERADICATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2002

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, global commerce is a force for progress. However, current trade rules are too often used to undermine environmental protections and democratic rights in the name of "free trade." Fast track is the expansion of presidential authority in international trade. However, the Thomas substitute would aid powerful corporations searching the globe for cheap labor, lowering standards for workers' rights, public health and education, consumer rights and environmental laws worldwide, and causing developing countries to become even more impoverished. Fast track legislation consistently overlooks the rights of workers in developing countries.

The Ways and Means Chairman, Representative BILL THOMAS, has created a substitute for the fast track authority which provides that a nation only need enforce its own labor laws, whatever they might be, no matter how inadequate. Furthermore, H. Res. 450 would eliminate Senate amendments that restrict child labor in trade agreements, require countries to cooperate in the war against terrorism, and require a respect for non-discrimination in employment. In addition, the Thomas substitute fails to provide any enforceable environmental protections. The Thomas substitute, also, fails to provide an adequate oversight role for Congress.

Chairman BILL THOMAS is adding a never-before-considered legislative proposals to a rule on a procedural motion. He is denying this body an opportunity to debate, amend or offer a substitute to his proposal. He is denying us our right to free speech. The step of going to conference with the Senate is proforma and non-controversial. However, Chairman THOMAS is proposing a convoluted rule that, if adopted, will add up to a dozen extraneous and new items to the conference process. The Democratic Rules Committee staff is not aware of any other instance in this or any recent Congress in which a self-executing rule has been used to insert never-considered legislation into conference.

Trade authority goes far beyond tariff reduction and involves tradeoffs on intellectual property rights, environmental standards, basic labor laws and other issues of such importance to the American worker. The Thomas substitute includes a new Republican Trade Adjustment Assistance bill. This is an amended version of the House fast track bill, which passed in December by a one-vote margin. Each of these proposals has serious flaws. The Thomas substitute undermines the Senate TAA health care provisions by reducing

the level of support for workers from 70 percent to 60 percent. The Senate bill increases the TAA funding threefold, from \$100 million to \$300 million. This reflects the fact that the TAA annually runs out of money. But the Thomas substitute would only raise TAA funding only slightly, from \$100 million to \$110 million. Under the Thomas substitute, TAA and steelworker health care benefits would be severely limited in availability and cost too much for most workers to afford.

The Thomas substitute guts the Senate TAA non-health care provisions, by narrowing the benefits coverage of secondary workers even further than existing law, by eliminating the pilot wage insurance program for older workers with low-to-medium incomes. In addition, the Thomas substitute cuts almost two-thirds of the increased funding that is in the Senate bill.

During a time when the public has clearly voiced its concern that global trade matters move more into the eye of public scrutiny. This Thomas substitute would make the fast track trade bill the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on steroids. Since NAFTA's passage in 1995, the trade deficit between the United States and Mexico has ballooned to \$29 billion annually. An estimated 700,000 American jobs have been lost to nations that don't have to play by the same labor and environmental rules that American workers do.

If we approve the Thomas substitute, our Representatives and Senators will limit themselves to having no more than 20 hours to debate any trade deal brought before them for ratification and to vote on the issue within 60 days of when it is introduced. Those limits would curtail public discussions about trade policy. Extended debates on Capitol Hill give ordinary citizens the chance to influence public policy by expressing their opinions to their elected representatives. If trade legislation is sped through Congress, that would limit the opportunities for careful deliberation on the merits and weaknesses of complex trade agreements. Curtailing discussion and debate of legislation is fundamentally undemocratic.

The sole purpose of this extraordinary and unprecedented legislative sleight of hand is, as Rules Committee Chairman DAVID DREIER says, to "strengthen the hand of House conferees before we get to conference." This is a political move. Furthermore, it would do so by short-circuiting the democratic processes of this body. This would deprive all members of the opportunity to consider important legislative proposals in a manner consistent with the parliamentary traditions of this House.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to strongly oppose H. Res. 450.

RELATING TO CONSIDERATION OF
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SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 2002

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H. Res. 450, the so called Thomas Rule on the motion to go to conference on Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) legislation. But I also want to make clear that I support Trade Promotion Authority for the President and I hope I have the opportunity to vote in favor of a conference report on TPA later this year.

Globalization is here to stay. With markets now linked globally by computers, satellite communications, and advanced transportation networks, international trade and investment will play an increasing role in American prosperity. We cannot, as a nation, afford to retreat from a proactive strategy of trade expansion that takes advantage of our position as the world's most prosperous and dynamic economy.

Trade liberalization is also an important tool toward developing responsible global relations. It is a tool, as the preamble of the GATT states for "raising standards of living, ensuring full employment, developing the full use of the resources of the world and expanding the production and exchange of goods." Indeed, open markets are an important engine of economic growth, which can expand opportunities, raise living standards, and affect social change. More importantly, however, trade liberalization provides our nation with an additional diplomatic tool with which to deal with international disputes and/or coalition building; trade's national security component cannot be understated.

Unfortunately, however, today's vote is not about trade. It isn't even a pro forma exercise to go to conference and reconcile the differences between the House and Senate. It is a cynical and unprecedented procedural move to expand the scope of the underlying trade bill and to strengthen House negotiators' position in conference.

I understand and accept that the bill approved in the other chamber (H.R. 3009) contained provisions on which this House has spoken and that this Rule attempts to solidify the House's voice on matters such as the Andean Trade Bill, Customs Security, Dispute Resolution, and of course TPA. This Rule also, however, includes provisions on which this House has not yet had a clear debate and vote. I have deep concerns about the House of Representatives making an end-run on its rules and the guiding principles of a democratic body in this matter. It is for this reason that I oppose this Rule.

Mr. Speaker, on December 6, 2001, I voted for TPA. I have supported every piece of trade

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

legislation brought before the House since being elected to Congress. My record on trade is clear—I support free trade. This Rule today, however, is not about trade and I cannot support moves that undermine our body's rules and ideals in the name of expediency and process. Again, I hope to vote later this year on legislation granting the President Trade Promotion Authority and hope House and Senate negotiators can expeditiously develop a conference report for which I can soon vote.

HONORING REVEREND JOHN J. HURLEY

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Reverend John J. Hurley, OSFS for his most recent achievements as the Moderator of the Model United Nations Program at both Father Judge and Northeast Catholic High Schools located in my Congressional District. Since January of this year, Fr. Hurley has been awarded three distinct honors for his work in advancing the understanding of international relations on the high school level. He is truly a beacon of diplomacy and deserves great acclaim for his dedication to the younger generation of Americans.

For the second time in the last three years, The International Relations Association of Georgetown University has named Fr. John J. Hurley, OSFS as the National Coach-Moderator of the Year. This award was presented to Fr. Hurley, OSFS on February 17, 2002 at the closing ceremonies of the 39th Annual North American Invitational Model United Nations Conference (NAIMUN XXXIX). Over 3,000 high school students from three hundred high schools in the United States of America, Canada, Brazil, Germany, Japan, The Netherlands, and Oman participated in NAIMUN XXXIX.

Additionally, on March 15, 2002, the Middle States Council for Social Studies awarded its 2001–2002 Distinguished Service Award to Fr. Hurley, OSFS. In making the presentation, Frances Warren, award chairperson, noted Father Hurley's significant service and support for the advancement of social studies in the Middle States area.

On May 4, 2002, the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA) presented its highest award for the best delegation at its annual International Academic Competition to a Joint Team of Students from Northeast Catholic and Father Judge High Schools. Seven hundred students from around the globe participated in this international convention at UN Headquarters in New York City, which was co-hosted by the United Nations and Columbia University. Fr. Hurley served as the coach of this team.

Mr. Speaker, what will be next for Fr. Hurley in the remaining six months of this year? This noted scholar and advisor has worked tirelessly since 1954 in the pursuit of advancing the awareness and understanding of international relations. Let it be known that Fr. Hurley's work in international relations is in addition to his leadership position as the National Director of the Foreign Mission of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales. Mr. Speaker, I agree

with The Reverend Joseph G. Morrissey's, OSFS, the Provincial of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, statement; "Fr. Hurley is a positive role model and leader to so many young men and women in the various schools. He invites, draws, and attracts them to a knowledge of world affairs in a Salesian tradition that will remain with them for the rest of their days."

TIME FOR A CAREER CHANGE

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I have been blessed with the honor and privilege of representing the people of Western New York for thirty-two years: two in the New York State Senate, two in the New York State Assembly, and twenty-eight in the U.S. House of Representatives. For eight of my years in the House, I served as Chairman of the important Small Business Committee. For the last five years, I have served as Ranking Democrat on another major committee of even broader reach and import, the House Financial Services Committee.

I am extremely grateful for the honor the citizens of Western New York have given to me and most especially for the trust they have imparted to me over the course of those thirty-two years. During all that time, I have tried my best to serve the people of Western New York honestly, diligently, faithfully and intelligently and have worked hard to honor, earn, and deserve their trust.

In that span of three decades, I have met and worked with some of the most talented and noble men and women in this country. I shall treasure each and every one of those relationships.

But there comes a time to seek new horizons. And, for me, this is the right time. So I announce today that I will not be seeking another term in Congress.

I pondered very seriously whether to seek new horizons in 1992, at the time of the last redistricting, when my two closest friends in Congress, Henry Nowak and Matt McHugh, decided to leave. For many years now, I have been thinking about what I should do subsequent to the 2002 redistricting. I very much want to see the Democrats regain a majority in the House. Had the court-imposed plan not been withdrawn today, I might well have decided to run and be part of that effort.

But I have every confidence that a Democrat will win in the new 28th Congressional district and there are many talented Democrats who could represent it well: Congresswoman LOUISE SLAUGHTER, Mayor Bill Johnson of Rochester, Mayor Anthony Masiello of Buffalo, State Senator Byron Brown, State Senator Richard Dollinger, many Assemblymen and women, including Robin Schimming, Sam Hoyt, Arthur Eve, Francine DelMonte, David Gantt. There are others who are also equally well qualified, including former Erie County Legislative Chairmen Len Lenihan and Chuck Swanick, Niagara Falls Councilman Paul Dyster, Niagara County District Attorney Matt Murphy, County Legislator Lynn Marinelli, etc.—the list goes on and on.

Engaging in a contest against other talented and honorable Democrats such as these is not

something I choose to do. Instead, I choose to pursue new horizons.

Until this very day, I have been making contingency plans to run, not knowing what the Court would ultimately decide. And the information I have been receiving, including polling data, has made it clear that I would win both a primary and a general election. The primary election because of the historic Democratic primary voter turnout in Erie, Niagara and Orleans Counties, which has always been far higher than the turnout in Monroe County (approximately 3 to 1); and the general because the new 28th has a significant Democratic voter registration advantage—the first time I would have had such an advantage.

But winning has never been the issue. The issue has been whether I wanted to seek new horizons within the new 28th District by getting to know and seeking to serve the 410,000 of the 654,000 residents who would be new constituents for me, or whether I wanted to seek new horizons elsewhere.

And so this time, this year, I have decided to pursue those new horizons elsewhere rather than seek re-election. I have no plans to retire. I am doing what so many in this country now do at my point in life—changing careers. Whether this career change will take me back to the law, or a career in social justice, academia, corporate governance or other public service, I simply do not know. But I am excited and enthusiastic at the prospect of exploring this vast range of new opportunities.

I am pleased to have been able to assist the citizens of Western New York and to help our local communities over the past three decades. While I have decided not to seek another term, I plan to continue working hard on behalf of my district and country for the balance of this year and beyond.

I have often been asked why I chose to be in public service. The answer is simple: there is no greater satisfaction than to serve one's community. I have consistently believed and said that public service gives one a unique opportunity not only to serve one's fellow citizens, but to be engaged in, and apply one's mind and heart to, the great issues of our day, to be fully involved in the action and passion of our time. My experience has underscored that perspective. I am grateful to the citizens of Western New York for giving me that privilege, and most especially, for the trust they have placed in me.

HONORING DR. PAUL PRIESZ OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Paul Priesz, Principal of Valencia High School which is located in the Santa Clarita Valley. Recently, the Association of California School Administrators named him the top secondary principal in the state of California.

As June comes to an end and the school year closes, it is a fitting time to reflect upon the capable leadership of Dr. Priesz. He was assigned the formidable responsibility of planning and opening a new high school and has been the guiding influence at Valencia High