

Souder
Traficant

Udall (CO)
Visclosky

Watkins (OK)
Waxman

□ 1906

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION OF H.J. RES. 84, DISAPPROVING THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE PRESIDENT UNDER SECTION 203 OF THE TRADE ACT OF 1974 TRANSMITTED TO THE CONGRESS ON MARCH 5, 2002

Mr. REYNOLDS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-447) on the resolution (H. Res. 414) providing for the disposition of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 84) disapproving the action taken by the President under section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974 transmitted to the Congress on March 5, 2002, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

OFFICER MARLENE LOOS NAMED OFFICER OF THE MONTH

(Mr. GRUCCI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Suffolk County Police Officer Marlene Loos, who was recently named the Officer of the Month by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. Marlene Loos epitomizes the bravery of the men and women who patrol our streets, serve our neighbors, and protect our children day and night.

On the morning of December 10, 1998, while responding to a 911 call, Officer Loos was shot point-blank in the chest. After struggling to her feet to try and protect people surrounding the incident, she was shot again in the arm. Despite being shot twice, Officer Loos was able to cover a bystander with her own body, hoping that her body armor would protect them both.

Fortunately, Officer Loos was able to survive the attack on that December morning. Coming from a family of police officers, she continues to serve our community on Long Island, and I am extremely proud to have her as my constituent.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Officer Loos on this recent honor and thanking her and her fellow officers for protecting and making our communities safe throughout this Nation.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN). Under the Speaker's an-

nounced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

J-1 VISA WAIVER

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor this evening to express my opposition to the termination of the J-1 visa waiver program.

Currently, foreign medical graduates are allowed to come to the United States on a J-1 visa for up to 3 years to train in accredited residency programs in rural underserved parts of the country. The impetus behind accepting physicians from other countries, foreign medical graduates, and training them in American residency positions is to attract physicians to provide care to the medically underserved who live in rural areas where doctors trained in the United States do not want to practice.

Mr. Speaker, the law states that once a residency program is complete, the doctors are required to return to their country of origin for 2 years. However, the government has the authority to waive the requirements if it is in the United States' interest to keep the physician here. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Branch was thrilled by the waiver because it provided the opportunity to retain medical trainees who would continue to serve in typically medically underserved communities in rural America.

But, Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, in the past few weeks, the USDA has indicated an intention to stop granting such permission under the J-1 visa waiver program. Although it is clear there is a lack of sufficient health care in rural America, and although it is clear that qualified physicians from abroad are willing to come to the U.S. to serve in these medically lacking communities, nevertheless, the government has proposed to end this program entirely.

Mr. Speaker, since September 11, national security concerns have taken hold and new extensive background checks have been put in place. The USDA claims the extra money required to implement background checks on foreign medical graduates would be too burdensome and therefore the program must end. Currently, there are approximately a little more than 80 applications for the waiver that are still pending, and after these applications have been processed, the program is slated to end.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that there is not justification for the cessation of the J-1 visa waiver program. Terminating this program and preventing qualified physicians from serving communities in America that lack sufficient health care does our country a

great injustice. Mr. Speaker, stopping the granting of these waivers is unacceptable, and I would ask that the USDA reconsider, and that we do whatever we can, myself and my colleagues, to prevent this valuable program from ending because it is so important to rural America and to the health care of Americans in rural areas.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded on rollcall vote number 126. I was unable to make that vote at the time. Had I been here I would have voted "yes" on that rollcall vote, and I would like that to be reflected in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL FACCHINA, AN EXTRAORDINARY CITIZEN

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, a week and a day ago, Charles County, Calvert County, and Dorchester County in Maryland were hit by a tornado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to your attention a truly remarkable individual from my district who is helping us respond to that tornado.

As you know, Southern Maryland was recently devastated by what is believed to be the second most powerful tornado ever to hit the East Coast. It is tough times like these, Mr. Speaker, that brings out the best of what America has to offer, for those who have lost a great deal themselves rise to the occasion to help others who are in need.

Mr. Paul Facchina is a tremendous example of one such extraordinary person who heads up a company peopled by extraordinary individuals. Mr. Facchina owns and operates Facchina Construction in LaPlata, Maryland. That small town in Charles County completely lost 48 businesses in the matter of minutes that the tornado took to pass through. Lawyers' offices, banks, convenience stores, fast food restaurants, grocery stores, a lumber yard, all destroyed.

Mr. Paul Facchina's company was among those that were decimated, and he has every intention of rebuilding a

brand new headquarters, which he happened to have already planned just across the street from the one that was destroyed. And though he and his employees are busy finalizing plans for the new building, while at the same time cleaning up the old, he did not forget about those other businesses in LaPlata that were destroyed and put out of business.

□ 1915

Instead, Facchina Construction began work on a "temporary town center" just hours after the powerful F5 tornado ripped through the county.

Recognizing the devastation that loss of customers could mean to his neighboring small businesses, Paul Facchina acted quickly to create a 2-acre home for them on company property in the center of LaPlata's business district. This temporary town center will consist of 21 office trailers, complete with utilities and a paved parking lot to accommodate any LaPlata business that was displaced by the tornado. On Friday after Congress adjourned, I was on the Facchina construction site. It was amazing what they had done in the 4 days since the tornado hit, plumbing being installed, pads being prepared.

And what does Mr. Facchina ask for in return for his generosity, the generosity of his company and his people? Nothing more than what a business can afford to pay. If they are not doing any business because they have been blown out of the water, so to speak, they will not pay anything. Otherwise, they will pay a commensurate lease.

Facchina Construction is no stranger to disaster response. The company was on site at the Pentagon on September 11, and crews were involved in the subsequent rescue and recovery of people in the Pentagon. Facchina headed up the restoration of the damage to the Pentagon and recently completed the project 3½ months ahead of schedule. They made it clear to the world that we have healed our physical wounds and are moving ahead with the business of this country.

Mr. Speaker, there are those who say that capitalism inevitably creates a dog-eat-dog world in which only the strong survive. Mr. Speaker, I offer to them the example of Facchina Construction and Mr. Paul Facchina. In a time of turmoil, we rely on people like this to remind us what America is about and to tell those whose lives have been turned upside down that everything will be okay.

The author said in a "Tale of Two Cities": "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." Sunday, 7 p.m. a week ago was the worst of times in LaPlata, Maryland. We lost five people to that tornado; but Paul Facchina and his people and neighbors, neighbors who had been hit by the tornado, neighbors whose houses had been spared, businesses hit by the tornado came out into the streets right after that tornado passed to help their neighbors, help their community say

that they were not going to be defeated by nature, as we have not been defeated by terrorists.

Mr. Speaker, we all owe a debt of gratitude to these courageous people.

4-H IS PREMIER YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as a young person growing up, I had the good fortune to be a member of a 4-H club, and I rise today to recognize the centennial of 4-H clubs as one of our premier youth development organizations. Indeed, 4-H accomplishments over the past 100 years have helped developing youth to become productive citizens and are a catalyst for positive change, to meet the needs of a diverse and changing society.

Through the tireless efforts of 4-H over the past 100 years, and its sponsorship of numerous programs dedicated to developing our youth, the world is a better place. I applaud 4-H's history, and herald its future.

In the last 100 years, millions of 4-H members have raised their hand to recite the pledge: "I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living for my club, my community, my country and the world."

These words have been a blueprint for success. Millions of members have also lived by the 4-H motto: "To make the best better." Although the 4-H pledge and motto have remained basically the same over the decades, the 4-H movement has constantly sought diversity, both in its programs and participants.

Over the last 100 years: In 1902, A.B. Graham, superintendent of schools in Clark County, Ohio, organized a boys' and girls' agricultural club in Springfield Township.

1903 saw the development of corn clubs.

Pig clubs were later introduced, as were canning clubs.

Federal-State-county programs began to develop, and the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 established the Cooperative Extension Service, of which 4-H is a component.

During the 1920s and 1930s, 4-H expanded to Europe. World War II saw active participation of 4-H in the war effort. "Food for Freedom" was the slogan, and 4-H'ers were responsible for increased agriculture production.

Following World War II, international exchange programs were furthered in Europe, as well as Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

The decades of the 1960s and 1970s saw increased emphasis on participation by minorities and disadvantaged youth. In 1966, a national workshop was held in Chicago to expand 4-H for disadvantaged youth in both rural and urban areas.

In the 1980s and 1990s, 4-H focused heavily on Youth at Risk, highlighting school-age child care and education, community programming, and development of literacy and technological literacy.

4-H programs now span the gamut, touching on critical areas of our world: the environment; health, wellness and safety; workforce preparation; youth decision-making; biotechnology in agriculture; and community building.

I have been struck by the impact of these programs over the years and want to commend the University of Illinois and its agricultural extension programs. Not only are their 4-H clubs actively involved in rural communities, but its urban programming has been significant and productive.

Yes, indeed, 4-H'ers have indeed helped to improve the quality of life and to make a better world. So we proudly say when we pledge: "I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands for useful service, for better living, for myself, my club, my country and for the world." Congratulations to a great movement, the 4-H Club.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

BLUE DOG DEMOCRATS AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to be here tonight for the next hour to talk about something that is very important to a group of individuals that I like to coalesce around here, and that is the Blue Dog Democrats.

Before I get into talking about some of the substantive things that I would like to speak about tonight, mostly fiscal responsibility, I would like to give an overview who are the Blue Dog Democrats. Members might have heard several times about our group and how active we are, but we are a group of 33 individual Members of Congress from all over the country. We come from California. We have a Member from New York, a couple of Members from Georgia and Tennessee and Texas; but we come from all over the United States geographically. But what brings us together, what has brought us together and what has really gained us a lot of credibility in this body is our focus on fiscal responsibility.

We meet every week and we talk about different issues, but we do not