

This unprecedented consolidation has led to whole states, regions and entire industries becoming captive to a single railroad. This level of concentration and the lack of competition it has brought were never envisioned by Congress in the 1980 Act.

Over this same period the agency that administers rail law, the Surface Transportation Board, has produced rulings, which have skewed the freight rail market place to the point that it is now a Federally protected monopoly. Railroads are operating within the law, but that law is outdated given the current number of railroads and market conditions of the new century.

Mr. Speaker, as you may know, Louisiana industry is in dire straits. Every month companies announce closures, lay offs, and moves—depriving our economically struggling state of hundreds of important jobs. When these jobs are lost, so are the workers' pensions, salaries, and health benefits. When hundreds of jobs are lost, it affects other small businesses that rely on workers to keep them viable.

Though Louisiana industry faces many financial challenges, premier among them is the cost to do business—and aside from energy supply, the most expensive cost of business is the artificially inflated rates imposed on Louisiana companies that, through no fault of their own, exist under a railroad monopoly.

Mr. Speaker, this situation is not exclusive to Louisiana. It exists in West Virginia, North Dakota, Idaho, Georgia, Florida, Montana, Minnesota—in fact, Mr. Speaker, there is not a state in the union free from this blemish on the free enterprise system.

The bill we are introducing today will truly match the deregulation goals of the Staggers Act with the tried and true American tradition of a competitive free market.

Our bill takes deregulation to a higher level by fortifying healthy market competition. The bill would remove artificial protections maintained by an outdated policy which allows freight railroads to operate in an atmosphere which no other business in the country enjoys—including exemption from anti-trust law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all pro-market, pro-consumer, pro-deregulation, pro-fairness, pro-jobs, pro-economy, pro-transportation, and pro-railroad Members to join me in completing the deregulation goals of the Staggers Act of 1980 by cosponsoring the Railroad Competition Act of 2003.

THE RAILROAD COMPETITION ACT OF 2003

Clarification of National Rail Policy: Clarifies that the STB has the following primary objectives: (1) ensuring effective competition among rail carriers at origins and destinations; (2) maintaining reasonable rates in the absence of effective competition; (3) maintaining consistent and efficient rail transportation service for rail shippers, including the timely provision of rail cars; and (4) ensuring that small carload and intermodal shippers are not precluded from accessing the rail system.

Requirement that Railroads Must Quote Rates to Their Customers: In order to increase rail customer access to competition, railroads must quote rates between any two points on their systems where freight movements can originate, terminate or be transferred, when requested by the customer.

Arbitration of Certain Rail Rate, Service and Other Disputes: Provides final offer arbitration (baseball arbitration), at the choice of the non-rail party to a dispute, for all rail rate matters and other disputes at the STB involving a railroad change.

Removal of "Paper Barriers": Prohibits including paper barriers in future sales or leases of rail line to short line or regional railroads and allows the STB to invalidate such provisions that have been in existence for 10 years.

Removal of "Anti-Competitive Conduct" Test from Terminal Area and Switching Agreements Policy of ICC/STB: Changes the "antitrust" test added in mid-1980s by the former Interstate Commerce Commission to the statutory "public interest" test included in the terminal area and switching agreement provisions of the ICC Termination Act.

Tri-Annual DOT Study of Extent of Rail-to-Rail Competition.

Areas of Inadequate Rail Competition: On petition of a state, the STB may declare all or part of a state to be an area of inadequate rail competition. Special rail customer remedies apply in such areas.

Rail Customer Advocacy Office Established at Department of Agriculture.

THE HORN IN PERIL

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following document for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the Financial Times, June 17, 2003]

THE HORN IN PERIL

When is a "final and binding" decision reached by a neutral body of legal experts open to negotiation? The international community is facing this question in the Horn of Africa, where the regional giant Ethiopia has rejected as "unacceptable" a Border Commission ruling on its border with tiny Eritrea.

The outside world was appalled when two of Africa's poorest countries went to war in 1998. It heaved a sigh of relief when both governments agreed, after losing at least 70,000 lives, to submit their frontier to international arbitration. But Ethiopia's rejection of the unanimous decision reached by a Border Commission sitting in The Hague has raised the prospect of, at worst, a new war and, at best, an indefinite stand-off.

External donors sympathise with the tricky position in which the ruling places Meles Zenawi, Ethiopia's prime minister. Undermined by hardliners in his own party, Mr. Meles is also resented by ordinary Ethiopians who have never accepted the independence of Eritrea, their former coastal province. Foreign governments know that losing Badme, the settlement that was the flashpoint for the war, represents a symbolic humiliation for the prime minister. They also nurse a certain distaste for an authoritarian Eritrean government that has jailed domestic dissenters and closed down the private press.

But if international arbitration were easy for losing parties to swallow, wars would never occur in the first place. If the Border Commission's decision on Badme were to go unenforced, Eritrea could reconsider its prompt pull-out from the contested Greater Hanish Island, allotted by an international court to Yemen in 1998. Nigeria could continue to defy the International Court of Justice's ruling last year that the oil-rich Bakassi Peninsula belongs to Cameroon. "Might is right" must not become the deciding principle in territorial disputes across Africa, where so many colonial borders cut across cultural and ethnic lines.

Ethiopia's rejection comes at a time when both countries are appealing for millions of dollars in food aid to alleviate a four-year drought. The failure to settle the border dispute will not come cheap. Maintaining a 4,000 strong United Nations buffer force has already cost about \$500m (euro 420m), which could have been better spent feeding starving rural families.

Donor countries cannot sit idly by while positions harden to a point where future compromise becomes impossible. While there is an understandable reluctance to use humanitarian aid as a bargaining chip, they should leave Ethiopia in no doubt that longer-term development aid is at risk. And they should firmly spell out this link before Ethiopia's ruling party conference takes place this autumn, when Mr. Meles risks being boxed in by the impassioned nationalistic rhetoric of his colleagues. There is far more at stake here than the relationship between Ethiopia and Eritrea.

COMMENDING THE JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL BOWLING ASSOCIATION

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Japanese American National Bowling Association (JANBA). From its noble inception to oppose discrimination after World War II, JANBA continues to be a forum for social interaction and friendly competition for its thousands of members throughout the United States.

After internment in World War II, Japanese Americans trying to return to a life of normalcy discovered bowling as an engaging social pursuit. The sport quickly became a popular pastime with many joining bowling leagues and competitions. However, a restriction against Japanese Americans on the national stage was quickly realized.

In 1947, Mr. Rokuro "Fuzzy" Shimada was planning to bowl in a Santa Clara bowling league. However, he was denied acceptance due to the league's "whites only" membership policy set by the American Bowling Congress (ABC). In objection, the National Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) Nisei Bowling Tournament was birthed later that year. The selected venue was Salt Lake City, Utah, the headquarters of the National JACL at that time. Despite its inaugural year, the tournament was able to attract nearly 300 participants.

Admirably, Mr. "Fuzzy" Shimada was inducted into the ABC Hall of Fame as a Pioneer in 1997, after the discriminatory rules were absolved in 1951.

From 1947 to 1973, the National JACL Nisei Bowling Tournament was held annually at multiple locations across the United States. Then in 1974, the Japanese American National Bowling Association was spawned when it was agreed by the JACL Advisory Board of Bowling to form a separate organization from the JACL. Mr. Ozzie Shimada acted as the president pro tem for the first year.

The Annual JANBA Tournament has continued its heralded traditions passed down from the JACL. Recently, the 2003 JANBA tournament was held in San Francisco. Over 800 men and women bowlers of all ages enjoyed

competing in multiple tournament formats during the weeklong event.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Japanese American National Bowling Association (JANBA) for its courageous beginnings to oppose segregation in the aftermath of World War II and providing a venue for social interaction and friendly competition for fellow Americans.

EDUCATORS HONORED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two faculty members of the College of Southern Maryland who have been honored by the Association of Community College Trustees. Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Elaine Ryan, is the recipient of the 2003 Chief Executive Officer Award and Professor Bill Morton is the recipient of the 2003 Faculty Member Award.

Mr. Speaker, the ACCT awards program is very competitive at a national level. This program annually recognizes the contributions made by trustees, chief executives and faculty members. The association is a non-profit educational organization of governing boards, representing more than 6,500 elected and appointed trustees.

Being selected the recipient of the 2003 Chief Executive Officer award is a great honor and privilege. Dr. Ryan has devoted over thirty years to the College of Southern Maryland and in 1998, was appointed the college's third president. She is the first female to hold such responsibility at this college. Under her leadership, the community college has become a regional institution serving three counties with four campuses. According to the 2003 Maryland Higher Education Commission Report on Retention, Transfer and Graduation Rates, the College of Southern Maryland ranked first in the State for the highest four-year graduation and transfer rates among Maryland community colleges for its first-time, full-time entering freshman class of 1998. This is a significant achievement for the college. Dr. Ryan, as CEO, no doubt has had a very active part in making the college as successful as it is today. She is admired and respected for her administrative ability, intellect, and love of her community. She is very active in her community serving on the Governor's Information Technology Board, the Southern Maryland Workforce Investment Board, the Charles County's Vision in Teamwork and Leadership organization and the Board of Directors for the Maryland Mentoring Partnerships, as well as many other community organizations. She is a role model for many young people in the community and has been nationally recognized for her efforts in education.

No college can be successful without the intelligent and caring men and women who strive everyday to make a difference in the lives of today's youth. Having professors who love to teach students is what makes a college the best that it can be. Professor Bill Morton has been recognized by the ACCT for his innovative instruction in accounting, econom-

ics and management. He is a pioneer in his field, utilizing distance learning through broadcast and video-based telecourses, interactive television, online courses, and cooperative education. He has devoted thirteen years to educating youth at the College of Southern Maryland. He believes that the only way to teach students is to reach students. Morton integrates his own life lessons into his teachings by drawing on his fifteen years of military and private sector experience. In 2000, the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (Region 2) awarded Morton the Teaching Excellence Award. For the past two years, the faculty at CSM selected the professor to receive the Faculty Excellence Award. Morton's expertise in his subject, positive attitude toward his students, and passion for teaching draw admiration from his peers and pupils alike.

On this day, I would like to recognize these individuals for their achievements in the field of education. Teaching is one of the most important professions in our Nation today and it is important to recognize those outstanding teachers for educating our Nation's youth and inspiring them to succeed in life. Dr. Elaine Ryan and Professor Bill Morton have worked hard to achieve this outstanding award presented by the ACCT. Their dedicated service to the College of Southern Maryland, to their profession and to their community has benefited and enriched the lives of so many. Southern Maryland is fortunate to have such committed professionals and we all thank and congratulate them for a job well done.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF LODGE NO. 83 IN LEBANON, MISSOURI

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to recognize the 150th anniversary of the Laclde Lodge No. 83 of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in Lebanon, Missouri. The Freemasons of this lodge have worked diligently and provided many hours of community service in Lebanon and Laclde County.

Lodge No. 83 was chartered in 1854 and the first Master of this lodge was Dr. I.W. Greenstreet. The lodge was first located on Wood Street in "Old Town" Lebanon. Currently the lodge is located at the corner of Second and Madison Streets in Lebanon.

The Laclde Lodge and its members have stood the test of time. From the beginning, the lodge had to survive a Civil War and hardships from local congregations who did not understand the mystic brotherhood. Today the lodge thrives in a wonderful community and gives back to that community at every turn.

Mr. Speaker, the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons can be proud of the 150 year history they have in Lodge No. 83 and with the Lebanon and Laclde County communities. I know the Members of the House will join me in congratulating Lodge No. 83 for 150 years of fine service.

HONORING OUTSTANDING TEACHERS IN THE 5TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 25, 2003

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I am privileged to honor some of the most treasured individuals in the Fifth Congressional District of Texas, our public school teachers. As a product of the public school system, from kindergarten to graduate school, I am especially proud to recognize the work of teachers in my district.

Public school teachers are unsung heroes who labor tirelessly in the classrooms and on the playing fields. They are the backbone of our education system in Texas and truly worthy of high praise in this chamber.

While you will never find a teacher on a Fortune 500 list, teachers train and educate the men and women who become leaders in our nation's economy, government, and houses of worship. Teachers push our children to learn and make a contribution to our communities, and all too often they do so without the thanks that they so richly deserve. Public school teachers are some of our communities' most valued leaders.

Many school districts in the Fifth District of Texas honor their Teachers of the Year, and today I am pleased to showcase several individuals whose care, dedication and hard work have earned them that special recognition. They include: Nancy Bagwell—Dallas ISD; Paula Conditt—Malakoff ISD; Jason Cunningham—Malakoff ISD; Lisa Cunningham—Richardson ISD; Shannon Hansel—Palestine ISD; Joy Hounsel—Sunnyvale ISD; Betty Mendoilea—Elkhart ISD; Nancy Northcutt—Palestine ISD; Jennifer Pugh—Malakoff ISD; Cindy Smith—Malakoff ISD; Rick Urbanczyk—Richardson ISD; Ann Wilson—Mabank ISD.

Mr. Speaker, these teachers have gone above and beyond the call of duty. I thank them for their service to our children and our future.

UNITED STATES-CHILE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to express my concerns regarding both the Chile Free Trade Agreement and the Singapore Free Trade Agreement.

While, I support free trade with Chile and Singapore in principle, this agreement is a serious erosion of the noble position we stood up for in prior agreements in regards to upholding labor rights. I recognize that free trade has the potential to provide an opportunity to expand markets for U.S. goods and services. However, if we do not first guarantee fair trade; we do not have free trade.

Fair trade agreements are an important way to maintain the United States' leadership in