

H.R. 3684 FOOD ALLERGEN AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2003

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3684, the Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act. This act mandates clear labeling to protect consumers from medical problems caused by the eight major food allergens: milk, eggs, fish, crustacean shellfish, tree nuts, peanuts, wheat, and soybeans. These irritants are found in a wide variety of packaged foods, and account for an estimated 90 percent of all food allergies.

Food allergies can drastically affect the quality of life for the seven million Americans who suffer from them. Approximately 30,000 individuals each year require emergency room treatment for food allergies, and about 150 die each year. The eight percent of all children in America who have these allergies and their families deserve our help and support in dealing with the challenges they face in their daily lives.

As there is no cure for food allergies, the only protection against reactions to these foods is to avoid them altogether. But without proper labeling, parents cannot ever be sure their children are safe. One mislabeled product, one misleading claim, can be fatal. We need tough standards to ensure that food producers provide adequate information on packaging. This legislation provides those standards by requiring that foods containing any of the eight major food allergens be labeled in a clear and easy-to-understand way, so parents can feel confident in their choices.

This bill also addresses trace allergens, another major concern of those who live with food allergies. Products which claim to be allergen free can still be contaminated with these products during the manufacturing process. This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to effectively track which foods are unintentionally contaminated with major food allergens during the manufacturing process, and to recommend alternate processes to reduce such contamination.

Mr. Speaker, food allergies create a major obstacle for allergy sufferers and their families. The dangers of allergic reactions restrict options for travel, socializing, working and learning. This legislation can help prevent avoidable allergic reactions and provide additional peace of mind to families. I commend the gentlelady (Mrs. LOWEY) from New York for bringing this legislation to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO NAME A POST OFFICE IN ROSINE, KENTUCKY, AFTER BILL MONROE

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, the tradition of Bluegrass music is something we

can all be proud of. It is a very significant part of the culture that I cherish and is as much Kentucky as horses and basketball. There is one man we can all recognize for this pride, the father of Bluegrass music, Bill Monroe.

Mr. Monroe is the creator of a musical art form that is focused, and often composed, of the family. In 1939, he founded the legendary band the Blue Grass Boys, which at times included the guitarist Lester Flatt, banjo picker Earl Scruggs, fiddle player Chubby Wise, and his son, bass player James Monroe.

In 1970, Mr. Monroe was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. The following year, he was recognized for his songwriting craft and was entered into the Nashville Songwriters Association International Hall of Fame. Mr. Monroe was also rightfully recognized with the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mr. Monroe's songs like "Kentucky Waltz" bring back pleasant memories of the past that we tell our children about. Because of the influence he has had on me and many others I am honored today to introduce legislation that names the post office in Rosine, KY after Mr. Monroe. This is one small way that I, as a Member of Congress, can recognize a lifelong idol who is a proud part of the lives of many Kentuckians.

HONORING JOSEPH AND ANNE QUINN ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph and Anne Quinn of Smithtown, New York, who will observe their 50th wedding anniversary on August 15th, 2004. Born in New York City, they met as freshmen in college. Joe was a student at Iona College in New Rochelle and Anne attended St. John's University. They were married on August 1, 1954 at St. Joan of Arc Church in Jackson Heights, New York. The Quinns moved to Suffolk County in 1955 when Joe began a thirty-three year career in education with the Middle Country School District. The couple has lived in Smithtown since 1958.

The Quinns have ten children—Kathleen, Terence, Brendan, Marybeth, Patrick, Neil, Regina, Timothy, Lawrence, and Julianne—all of whom are married. They are the proud grandparents of twenty-two.

Joseph retired in January 2003 from a second career as Staff Assistant to Congressman GARY ACKERMAN. Anne retired in December 2002 from her position as a New York State Taxpayer Service Representative. Mr. Quinn was Chair of the Smithtown Democratic Committee for twenty-two years and is still greatly interested in politics.

The Quinns have been active members of St. Patrick's Parish since moving to Smithtown. They plan to continue travelling all over the country to visit their widespread family.

The Quinns will mark their fiftieth anniversary with a renewal of vows at St. Patrick's Church and a dinner at the Bellport Country Club. Their children have also planned a family trip to Colorado as a reunion to celebrate this landmark anniversary.

I am proud to honor this distinguished couple and their long-standing commitment to the community and to one another.

TRIBUTE TO FILM AND TELEVISION COMPOSER JERRY GOLDSMITH

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the passing of one of this nation's great cinematic artists, composer Jerry Goldsmith. Mr. Goldsmith died on July 21, 2004 at the age of 75. He leaves behind a distinguished repertoire of outstanding and memorable film scores and television themes that are as recognizable as they are innovative.

Scoring movies and television programs is a vastly underappreciated art form. Too often this music is considered as just another part of things that are popular but are only entertainment, not art. However, his scores, like the work of his colleague film and television composers, are essentially classical music pieces. As such, they should not be dismissed simply because they happen to be associated with films and television shows, which in fact are valid art forms.

As anyone in the entertainment industry can attest, music is an essential and integral part of the final artistic product. It sets appropriate moods and tones and can help make action scenes more thrilling and tense as well as stir the emotions in more quiet interludes. Mr. Goldsmith was a master at the full range of his craft often creating path-breaking and innovative scores.

The sound of his echoing trumpets for the soundtrack of the movie "Patton" has so permeated the culture that this music is now synonymous with military leaders. His spooky and menacing chants for the film "The Omen," for which he won the Academy Award, is now standard for horror films. And his experimental use of electronics, woodwinds and percussion helped create the sense of "other worldliness" in the film "Planet of the Apes." The fact that these musical themes and many others of his are so widely recognized and copied not only acknowledges his versatility and genius, but also underscores the legitimacy of the scoring craft.

Jerry Goldsmith was born Jerrald Goldsmith on February 10th 1929 in Los Angeles, California. At the beginning of the 1940s, he took piano lessons from Jakob Gimpel and Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco. While attending the University of California, he took classes with Mikols Rozsa, the famed composer of such films as "Ben-Hur," "Ivanhoe," "El Cid" and "Spellbound."

Mr. Goldsmith started his career at CBS television in the early 1950s as a clerk typist and eventually got assignments composing music for radio plays, and later for television broadcasts. He eventually wrote music for such famous television shows such as "The Twilight Zone," "Dr. Kildare," "The Man From U.N.C.L.E.," "The Waltons," "Barnaby Jones," "Star Trek: Voyager" and "Star Trek: The Next Generation."

Mr. Goldsmith's first motion picture score was in 1957 for a long forgotten B-western

named "Black Patch." However, his first major recognition as a film composer did not occur until 1962 for his score of the Kirk Douglas film "Lonely Are the Brave." That same year, he got his first Academy Award nomination for the film "Freud."

Throughout his career, he became associated with distinguished directors such as the late Franklin J. Schaffner who, with Mr. Goldsmith scoring, made "Planet Of The Apes," "Patton," "Papillon," "The Boys From Brazil," and "Lionheart." He also worked on a number of Paul Verhoeven films including "Total Recall," "Basic Instinct," and "Hollow Man." He wrote the scores for director Fred Schepisi films "The Russia House," "Mr. Baseball," "Six Degrees Of Separation," and "I.Q." And director Joe Dante gave Mr. Goldsmith the opportunity to show his talents for films like "Twilight Zone: The Movie," "Gremlins I and II," "Innerspace," "Explorers," "The 'burbs," "Matinee," and "Small Soldiers."

Mr. Goldsmith received 17 Academy Award nominations for his work starting in 1962 for "Freud," and including his work on films such as "Chinatown," "Hoosiers," "Basic Instinct," "LA Confidential," and finally for his score of the animated "Mulan" in 1998. He won four Emmy Awards for his television work and was nominated for five Grammy Awards.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the life and work of Jerry Goldsmith. He was a national treasure. Although we will no longer get the opportunity to hear new scores from him, his musical legacy will live on in his recordings for generations.

DECLARING GENOCIDE IN DARFUR, SUDAN

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2004

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill, declaring the atrocities unfolding in Darfur, Sudan, as genocide.

In Darfur, villages are being burned to the ground. Death squads herd African villagers into refugee camps until they are full to bursting, lacking food and basic medicines.

In a matter of months, government-backed militias have killed 30,000 people and forced more than one million from their homes.

People talk about "indicators of genocide" and lawyers argue whether the killing, which the administration has already characterized as ethnic cleansing, is genocide.

Whatever label one attaches to these killings, there is a moral obligation to do everything possible to stop them. To ignore slaughter on this scale is unforgivable.

To its credit, the administration is pushing a UN Security Council resolution. But as that process unfolds, the killing continues.

The time has come for action, for the international community to exercise its moral and political and arguably also legal obligations to intervene in Darfur.

Genocide has shown its ugly face too often this century: European Jews during World War II, Cambodians in the late 1970s, and Rwandans in 1994.

The lesson is clear. We must stop the genocide; prevent further atrocities; and bring those

guilty of genocide or ethnic cleansing to justice.

INTRODUCTION OF POVERTY STATS LEGISLATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation with Representative WILLIAM LACY CLAY, D-MO, that requires the annual poverty estimate and the National Assessment of Educational Progress to be subject to certain guidelines on the release of the information to the public. I am deeply concerned at what appears to be the politicization of data by the Bush Administration on important issues ranging from worker safety to the dangers of lead paint to emergency contraceptives. Because data regarding poverty and educational progress are essential to lawmakers at all levels of government to implement policies addressing these issues, it is critical that this information is disseminated in an open and timely process.

Last year, the Census Bureau decided to break with tradition to release its annual poverty estimates on a Friday in Suitland, Maryland, rather than during the middle of the week at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. Because that report was expected to announce the loss of millions of jobs, the questionable circumstances regarding the release of those statistics led myself and Representative CLAY to seek an investigation by the Government Accountability Office, GAO, as to why the Census Bureau made its decision. We should not be playing politics with science, which is why I believe this legislation is so important.

**C. J. CHEN, TECRO
REPRESENTATIVE**

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, C. J. Chen soon will be concluding his term as Representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office ("TECRO"). In this capacity C. J. Chen has spent the past four years as Taiwan's unofficial ambassador to the United States, an important posting and a critical position for the twenty-three million people on Taiwan.

Few diplomats have a greater understanding about East Asia and the United States than C. J. Chen. He has been a member of Taiwan's foreign service for more than three and one half decades, and he has spent most of that time focused on fostering ties between Taiwan and the United States. By all accounts, he has done an excellent job.

Representative Chen's diplomatic career has been most impressive. He has held a number of important positions in Taiwan's Ministry of External Affairs and capped his long diplomatic career in Taipei by being named Foreign Minister. During the past four years while serving as head of TECRO, Representa-

tive Chen has used his vast experience to preserve and expand ties between Taipei and Washington. Representative Chen's advice and counsel have always been sought by Members of Congress who have a keen interest in matters involving the Taiwan Straits. Therefore, his impending departure is a loss for Taiwan's friends in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I wish Representative Chen and his lovely wife Yolanda well as they prepare to return to Taipei for new challenges. I look forward to seeing him again in Taipei or when he returns to Washington in the months ahead.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY FAIRNESS FOR MERCHANT MARINERS ACT OF 2004

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Social Security Fairness for Merchant Mariners Act of 2004" (H.R. 4904).

There were three major roles in World War II: the fighting forces overseas, the production army at home, and the link between them—the United States Merchant Marine. The maritime power of the Merchant Marine may have been the difference between victory and defeat.

The World War II Merchant Mariners suffered the highest casualty rate of any of the branches of service while they delivered troops, tanks, food, airplanes, fuel and other needed supplies to every theater of the war. Enemy forces sank over 800 ships between 1941 and 1944 alone.

Given the role of the Merchant Mariners in World War II, it is unbelievable that they were not given their proper recognition as "veterans". I would hope that this was an oversight, not a deliberate attempt to exclude them from benefits.

One of the results of this lack of the "veteran" designation is that the law does not recognize Merchant Mariners as veterans for Social Security purposes. If they had the veteran designation, their Social Security would have been calculated as if they had earned \$160 more a month than they did earn during their time in service in the Merchant Marines. Of course, what this means is a smaller Social Security check, now that they are retired.

My bill H.R. 4904, will fix this unfair situation! It will provide benefits with the status of "veteran" under the Social Security Act to the Merchant Mariners who served during World War II.

Combined with my bill, the "Belated Thank You to the Merchant Mariners of World War II" (H.R. 3729), which would compensate them for their exclusion from GI Bill benefits, Congress can fix the injustice that has been endured by the Merchant Mariners. We can never make up for years lost, but we can provide additional benefits to Merchant Mariners, many of whom are living on small, fixed incomes, in their final years.

I urge my colleagues to support and co-sponsor H.R. 4904