

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DAVID
BARTON AND WALLBUILDERS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, September 25th a dinner gala will take place in Arlington, TX honoring the WallBuilders organization. I rise today to recognize WallBuilders and its valuable contributions to our great country.

WallBuilders is a national pro-family organization which distributes historical, legal, and statistical information that encourages people become active in their local schools and communities.

WallBuilders has been a renowned resource for educating Americans of their rich faith based heritage since 1989 when David and Cheryl Barton founded the organization. Since then, WallBuilders has produced numerous works and award-winning videos applying the lessons of our national history to contemporary issues.

WallBuilders derives its name from the Old Testament book of Nehemiah, when the nation of Israel rallied together to help rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

Sadly, the moral foundations of America have been severely shaken. As the English Statesmen Edmund Burke said, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing." Thankfully WallBuilders, under the steady leadership of David Barton, is doing something.

The dedication and devotion to the constitutional, moral, and religious foundation on which America was built remains essential for a return to original intent. I believe that a public understanding of our founding principles is vital to the continuity of our Republic.

The reach of WallBuilders extends far beyond the Texas borders. For example, David Barton's message of faith and hope impacted Congressman SCOTT GARRETT of New Jersey and his wife. At a recent event discussing his personal life, GARRETT mentioned how David Barton touched his heart and changed his life. Now that's not something you hear about every day on Capitol Hill.

We Americans share a noble past. The blood of our ancestors has given us freedom and independence. I join WallBuilders and all those attending the dinner gala in celebrating God's gift of liberty. May our resolve for defending it only be strengthened.

God bless America. God bless WallBuilders. I salute you.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "FORTIFYING AMERICA'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (FAIR) ACT"

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce, with my colleague Representative GOODLATTE, the "Fortifying America's Intellectual Property Rights (FAIR) Act"—legislation that we have worked on for some time now,

to make a number of important reforms to strengthen our fight against the scourge of global piracy.

International markets are vital to U.S. intellectual property industries, providing a strong export base that sustains American jobs. However, this important sector of the U.S. economy is under attack due to widespread patent and trademark infringement, and the unauthorized reproduction, distribution and sale of U.S.-made movies, music, software, and other creative works.

The United States is the world's largest creator, producer and exporter of copyrighted materials, accounting for over 5 percent of the U.S. GDP and adding \$531 billion to the U.S. economy. The motion picture industry estimates losses due to global piracy amount to \$3.5 billion annually, not including illegal downloading. In Russia, for example, 9 out of 10 DVDs sold are counterfeit copies. Globally, 2 in 5 music recordings are pirate copies, with annual world-wide pirate sales of music estimated at \$4-\$5 billion. The software industry estimates losses of over \$13 billion due to worldwide piracy in 2002.

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) has been charged with identifying countries that deny adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights. The negotiation of bilateral free trade agreements has proven to be an excellent mechanism for achieving legally binding bilateral obligations to address rampant international copyright piracy.

These efforts have been undertaken with only very limited resources available, and could be more effective if additional tools and resources are provided. The legislation I am introducing today with Representative GOODLATTE will make a number of reforms in the Office of the United States Trade Representative. Specifically, our legislation will establish a new USTR office dedicated exclusively to intellectual property matters, increase the resources dedicated to securing high standards of intellectual property rights protection in trade agreements and enforcing these provisions vigorously, and establish this as the lead office in the Administration for all international trade-related intellectual property matters.

The protection of our intellectual property rights abroad is vital to promoting America's competitive advantages in world commerce. As our trade deficit continues to soar, Congress must step in now to ensure that we aggressively protect our intellectual property rights at home and abroad.

STATEMENT IN HONOR OF PAT
LYNCH

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Virginia Summers Lynch, known to her family and friends as "Pat," who passed away on August 1, 2004. Involved in politics and in her community, Pat's boundless energy and enthusiasm were an inspiration to all who knew her. She epitomized the best of San Francisco.

Pat was a fifth-generation Californian and a descendent of Spanish colonists who settled

in the Monterey area in the 18th century. She spent her childhood in the San Simeon area and then attended UC Berkeley where she met her future husband, a law student from San Francisco named Thomas Lynch. They settled in San Francisco and remained happily married until his death in 1986. Together, they had two wonderful sons whom she loved dearly.

Pat was actively involved in San Francisco's civic life. She was a founding member of JACKIE, a foster childcare organization, and she served as President of the Democratic Women of the San Francisco Bay Area. Pat was on the boards of directors for many organizations, including the Humane Society of San Francisco and the Humane Society of United States.

Pat played an integral part in her husband's demanding legal career. Thomas Lynch served as San Francisco's District Attorney and was later appointed by Governor Pat Brown to be California's Attorney General. Pat's support was crucial to her husband's success.

Loved and admired by her friends, one of Pat's most celebrated friendships was with the San Francisco Chronicle's famed columnist Herb Caen. Pat was the source of many of his items and was frequently mentioned in his column.

We thank her sons, Kevin and Michael, for sharing their magnificent mother with us. I hope it is a comfort to them that so many people share their loss and are praying for them at this sad time.

THE COMPREHENSIVE LONG TERM
CARE SUPPORT ACT

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Comprehensive Long Term Care Support Act of 2004. This Act will make it easier for families to obtain critical long-term care insurance.

As I traveled around my home state of South Dakota this August, the most common concerns I heard relate to health care needs. We sit on the verge of a new crisis in health care. Health care should not be considered a luxury for anyone—but quality, affordable care remains out of reach for far too many Americans. Medicine has moved dramatically toward treating and curing many illnesses through pharmacology and advances in technology, often avoiding the need for invasive surgical procedures. Public policy, however, still has not done enough to keep pace with these advances.

As members of Congress we must be committed to improving our health care system and directly addressing the rising cost of health insurance and prescription drugs, the high number of uninsured, and the challenges associated with long-term care.

A year in a nursing home now averages more than \$55,000, while daily home care can cost just as much. In South Dakota—where we have the nation's highest rate of women over age 85 living at or below the poverty level and the second highest rate of people over 65 living alone—the average cost of a

year in a nursing home is over \$47,000. Long-term care insurance is often the only way to meet these expenses without sacrificing one's life savings and other assets in order to qualify for Medicaid.

We know that we need to do more to make long-term care more affordable. But often lost in that discussion is the important role that adult children and other family members play in providing care for their parents. Today I introduce legislation to help alleviate the burden

of providing long-term care for our nation's families.

This legislation makes long-term care insurance premiums tax deductible—separate from itemized deductions—for those who pay the premiums for themselves, their parents, or for any other family member. It also gives a tax credit of up to \$3000 for those caregivers with an income of less than \$75,000/year who are responsible for an individual who has been certified as having long-term care needs.

Family caregivers are a critical source of care to older persons with disabilities and

chronic health problems. The unpaid and informal care they provide is an essential source of help for elders in the community. The National Family Caregiver Support Program helps caregivers obtain vital information and supportive services in their community. This legislation also doubles the authorized funding for this successful program.

Health care, including long-term care is essential for the social and economic health of our communities. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.