

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4520,
AMERICAN JOBS CREATION ACT
OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity to reiterate my position regarding charitable donations of automobiles. I believe that the language of the conference report will have serious ramifications, burdening charitable organizations and precluding taxpayers from donating their used automobiles to said organizations. The Conference Committee chose to adopt the Senate proposal, which requires donors to wait until the vehicle is sold and then deduct only the amount of the sale. This is burdensome not only to the donor but also to the charity.

Prior to enactment of this legislation, those who donate their cars can deduct amounts based on fair market value. An appraisal is needed only for cars valued above \$5,000. I believe that this is the most judicious manner of treating vehicle donations and it is my contention that by altering this provision, Congress will be placing unreasonable new burdens on taxpayers, discouraging charitable donations, and hindering charitable organizations from providing much-needed benefits to their recipients.

9/11 RECOMMENDATIONS
IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 10) to provide for reform of the intelligence community, terrorism prevention and prosecution, border security, and international cooperation and coordination, and for other purposes:

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word. I rise in opposition to the amendment proposed by the gentleman from New Jersey.

The substitute offered by the gentleman from New Jersey lacks or waters down many of the important provisions recommended by the 9/11 Commission and included in H.R. 10 in its current form.

Border security is essential to national security. The 9/11 Commission recognized this truth. H.R. 10, in its current form, does justice to the 9/11 recommendations by proposing reasonable, meaningful immigration reforms to shore up border and travel security. These provisions would speed up implementation of our entry and exit tracking system and increase the number of border patrol officers. Another provision would help "push out the border" by expanding the program for pre-screening passengers before they can embark to the United States to additional countries.

The 9/11 Commission also stressed the importance of secure identity. The 9/11 Commission makes clear that without the regulation of

identification documents, those who wish to harm us can use false identities to evade detection or use false identities to enter secure spaces, such as airplanes or nuclear facilities. H.R. 10 would regulate which forms of identification can be accepted as proof of identity by Federal officials—a reform I have long fought for—so that non-secure foreign IDs cannot be utilized by terrorists or violent criminals wishing to evade the law or enter secure spaces undetected. Importantly, it would also set standards for states to ensure state driver's licenses and state identification cards are secure.

I take particular pride of authorship in the provisions that would set immigrant identification standards, expand pre-inspection efforts at foreign airports, reform the designation process for foreign terrorist organizations, increase penalties for identification fraud and for false claims of citizenship, and support creation of a unified system for transliteration of names into the roman alphabet. I am pleased that these initiatives have become part of this landmark legislation.

Each of the Title III, "Border Security and Terrorist Travel," provisions are essential to the national security and should be retained in their current form. Therefore, I urge a "no" vote on the Menendez substitute amendment.

WATER SUPPLY, RELIABILITY,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 6, 2004

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2828, the Water Supply Reliability and Environmental Improvement Act, also known as CALFED.

I am a proud co-sponsor of this legislation.

After 10 years of hard work and endless negotiations, we present the final CALFED product to Congress.

The California delegation has proven our commitment to the people of California that they are ensured a reliable water supply.

I want to congratulate Senator FEINSTEIN and Chairman POMBO for completing a top priority for California. Their hard work is much appreciated.

I would also like to thank Chairman KEN CALVERT and Ranking Member GRACE NAPOLITANO of the Water & Power Subcommittee for their hard work on CALFED as well.

CALFED is the link needed to ensure the quantity and quality of water in California.

And it is crucial to the future of my home state of California.

Without out clean water, or enough water, there can be no development of jobs or housing.

And without clean water, my children and grandchildren, or any child, cannot enjoy normal, healthy lives.

I sincerely believe CALFED will become a blueprint for water plans in other areas of the country.

CALFED increases the amount of water conservation, recycling and desalination projects. This will help ease the burden that perchlorate has placed on our water supplies.

Perchlorate groundwater contamination, combined with drought or other conditions, highlights the need for these water conservation projects.

The combination of perchlorate and drought caused my hometown, Rialto, California, to declare 2 water emergencies in one year.

With 15 wells in 3 towns in my district being shut down because of perchlorate, serving clean water has become difficult.

CALFED also provides the means to respond to rapid population growth.

With a growing population, there is a growing need for more water delivery and storage.

California has a population of 36 million, and expects to increase to 50 million in the year 2020.

We know we cannot rely solely on the Colorado River anymore for water use—we have no choice.

We know we cannot wait until California reaches a water crisis to pass CALFED legislation.

H.R. 2828 is a must for California.

I urge my colleagues to support CALFED and allow California the clean and reliable water sources it needs.

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SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 4520, the American Jobs Creation Act.

I believe that this bill does some good things. It repeals the Extraterritorial Income (ETI) program that was causing significant sanctions to be placed on a wide range of U.S. products and was hurting our world-wide trade efforts.

In addition, I strongly support the ethanol provisions that were included in the bill. This bill extends the ethanol tax credit, which is vitally important to our Illinois farmers, through 2010. It creates a \$1/gallon tax credit for agribiodiesel and a 50¢ tax-credit for biodiesel through 2006, and it ensures that the credits for ethanol do not impact the Highway Trust Fund.

However, I cannot support this bill because I believe it will provide more incentives to multi-national companies to ship jobs overseas, rather than keep them here, where American workers need them most. This bill includes 24 provisions that encourage shipping jobs overseas and provides \$36 billion in additional tax benefits for offshore operations of U.S. corporations.

I also am concerned that this bill did not include language that would make tobacco products subject to FDA regulations, a concept that had strong bipartisan support, while including some special interest tax-breaks that are not germane to this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting no on this legislation in order to send it back to the Conference Committee to address the critical problem of outsourcing American jobs.

CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN ON THEIR NATIONAL DAY

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, Taiwan will be celebrating its National Day on October 10, 2004. On this happy occasion, I join my constituents in wishing Taiwan the best in its endeavors.

This past September I had the opportunity to meet with Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian in Seattle. He was returning to Taiwan from a trip to Central America. I was impressed by his sincerity in seeking an early dialogue with China and maintaining peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait. Mr. Speaker, peace in the Taiwan Strait is vital to the political development and economic prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region as a whole.

In past years, Taiwan and the United States have been friends and allies. In times of turmoil, both have come to each other's aid. I appreciate Taiwan's efforts and actions to protect U.S. citizens in Taiwan after 9/11 and Taiwan's cooperation with U.S. intelligence agencies in combating global terrorist activities. I am also aware of Taiwan's support for the reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan. Taiwan is our friend and deserves our support.

The future of Taiwan-U.S. relations is brighter than ever. With the appointment of Dr. David Lee as Taiwan's chief representative in the United States, I look forward to working closely with Dr. Lee on issues of mutual importance.

Congratulations to Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian and the people of Taiwan on their National Day.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4520, THE AMERICAN JOBS CREATION ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great disappointment that I rise in opposition to this Conference Report. I opposed the House version of this bill in June and hoped that what would come out of the Conference Committee would be an improvement. Instead, what we see before us is much worse.

I wish I could support this legislation because it does contain some worthwhile reforms that will benefit the economy and eliminate harmful tariffs. Some of the provisions included in this legislation would greatly benefit businesses within my district. I strongly support the inclusion of incentives for corporations to repatriate their overseas profits which would stimulate the investment of hundreds of millions of dollars in our domestic economy and, in fact, worked hard to get this provision in the bill. I cannot support a \$140 billion grab-bag of special interest handouts to solve a \$4 billion problem.

We had a simple job to do: to repeal the current export subsidy that led the World

Trade Organization (WTO) to authorize tariffs against American goods. Rather than using this bill to bring the United States back into compliance with the WTO, it's become a Christmas tree for pet projects all over the country. Included in this legislation are handouts for tobacco growers, tackle box manufacturers, bow and arrow manufacturers, importers of ceiling fans, and even NASCAR race tracks.

What's worse is that this legislation does nothing to protect jobs here at home. Instead, it encourages them to be out-sourced. Despite the fact that we've lost 1.7 million jobs since this Administration took office, the Conference Report includes 24 separate provisions that actually encourage shipping more of our jobs overseas at a cost of \$42 billion. The Senate-passed version of this bill included a provision that would have closed offshore tax shelters established for the sole purpose of avoiding U.S. taxes. This Conference Report re-opens them, leaving the American taxpayer to foot the bill.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to oppose this legislation. It is not the right prescription for what ails us.

CONGRATULATING TOBY GASS

HON. C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the academic achievement and great promise of graduate student Toby Gass, who is studying Forest Resources at the University of Idaho.

Toby is being honored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as recipient of a prestigious Science To Achieve Results, or STAR fellowship, through the EPA's Greater Research Opportunities program.

She is only the second Idaho student ever to win such an award, and the first since 1999. Only 22 graduate students nationwide are receiving STAR-GRO fellowships for 2004, and I am extremely proud that one of them is from Idaho's 1st District.

The EPA's STAR graduate fellowship program is the only federal program exclusively for students pursuing advanced degrees in environmental sciences. It is highly competitive, with only 7 percent of applicants being awarded fellowships.

Toby and the other STAR fellowship recipients clearly are the best and brightest of America's future environmental scientists. These brilliant men and women will lead the way to unimaginable advances in more efficiently managing our natural resources and protecting human health and safety.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Toby Gass and all the STAR-GRO fellowship winners for their achievement, and thank them for their groundbreaking work, from which we all will benefit.

CRS SPECIALIST PAUL S. RUNDQUIST HONORED BY THE POLISH PARLIAMENT

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I want to call the attention of my colleagues to the invaluable service and support we receive every day from the knowledge, experience, and hard work of the Congressional Research Service—CRS. This dedicated team of policy analysts, administrators, and support staff provides us with information services and policy analysis that is accurate, timely, and impeccably balanced and nonpartisan.

The Congress, and this people's House, are not the only beneficiaries of CRS's expertise. At times over the years, we have authorized CRS to provide temporary support for the parliaments of several nations as they worked to join the ranks of the world's democracies. In the 1960s and 70s, Congress authorized exchange programs between CRS and the Japanese and German national legislatures that helped them establish professional parliamentary research departments that are the envy of their neighbors. More recently, in the early 1990s, as the dawn of freedom broke over the nations of Eastern Europe, the Speaker's Task Force on Parliamentary Reform in Eastern Europe provided invaluable expertise and perspective to the newly emerging free parliaments of these nations.

Mr. Speaker, the seed was sown, and today we see the inspiring results, as Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia, and other countries have joined the family of democratic nations. CRS provided vital assistance in this effort, and today, I am pleased to note that one of our own, CRS Specialist Paul S. Rundquist, has been honored by the Republic of Poland for his work with the Sejm ("SAYM"), the Polish Parliament: he has been awarded the Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland.

Mr. Speaker, when I was first appointed to the position of Ranking Minority Member of the House Administration Committee by Democratic Leader Pelosi, I called CRS for information about internal House operations and organization. Dr. Rundquist was the first person to respond, and he demonstrated why CRS is held in such high regard—he was prompt, thorough, and professional. Later, when I needed information on congressional continuity, Dr. Rundquist was again there with the needed research and information. I'm certainly glad Dr. Rundquist has remained a Congressional asset all these years, and I hope he stays on for many years to come.

Dr. Rundquist is a son of Illinois; born in Chicago, he holds a Bachelor's degree from Loyola University, and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. Appointed to the staff of CRS in 1974, he is a nationally renowned expert on legislative procedure, the structure, organization, and functions of the United States Congress, and congressional history. One of several CRS analysts assigned to assist the Speaker's Task Force from 1990 to 1994, Dr. Rundquist has continued to provide invaluable assistance to the members and staff of the Polish Parliament, while maintaining the full schedule of his duties at CRS.