

IN HONOR OF SELF HELP
ENTERPRISES

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Self Help Enterprises on the organization's 40th Anniversary of dedicated service to rural communities of California's San Joaquin Valley.

Self Help Enterprises' (SHE) efforts are based upon the simple principle of providing the tools necessary for individuals to help themselves succeed. SHE assists rural residents, primarily farmworkers, in a variety of housing needs. Offering technical assistance, helping people to compete for scarce resources and empowering individuals has been the main focus of this community oriented non-profit.

The beginnings of Self Help Enterprises can be traced back to 1964 when President Johnson launched the "War on Poverty" with the passage of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. This legislation provided a much needed source of federal funding to help combat the devastating effects of continuous economic hardship. Self Help Enterprises originated in 1965 as the first rural self-help housing organization in the nation and shortly thereafter received its first of many grants from the United States Office of Economic Opportunity.

Since then SHE has been instrumental in the housing development needs throughout eight counties located in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley: Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus and Tulare.

Self Help Enterprises' volunteers, benefactors and organizers have touched the lives of numerous families who are so often overlooked by the rest of the community. The 40th Anniversary of the founding of Self Help Enterprises is a time for us to not only commemorate past efforts, but also look toward the future for innovative and novel means of helping underserved rural residents.

COMMENDING THE CONTINUING
IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES
AND THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the visit of the Prime Minister of India on the occasion of his visit to Washington. Prime Minister Singh's visit to the United States is the first by a national Indian leader since that of Prime Minister Vajpayee in November 2001. The Prime Minister's visit comes at a critical moment for relations between the United States and India. The 21st Century has brought our democracies together as partners with shared priorities.

The United States and India share the values of democracy and diversity and are building a vital economic and strategic partnership. As the world's most populous democracy, India is an important ally of the United States.

Like the United States, India draws much of its democratic strength from its diversity. Dr. Manmohan Singh's election as Prime Minister, the first time a Sikh has been elected to this office, demonstrates that diversity. The United States and India also share the priorities of promoting global stability and combating terrorism around the globe, promoting trade and democracy, developing new technology, and combating the spread of HIV and other global health pandemics.

Relations between the United States and India are particularly important to the residents of the 9th Congressional District of Illinois. We have a dynamic Indian American community in the 9th Congressional District that has shared Indian culture with our residents and made a strong contribution to our economy. While these Indian Americans are now residents and citizens of the U.S., many of them still have family in India. The close, friendly relationship developing between our countries is important to Indian Americans in my district, and beneficial to all Americans and Indians. As a member of the Congressional India Caucus, I've been pleased to see the relations between our countries improve.

I had the honor of accompanying President Clinton to India in March of 2000—the first time a U.S. President traveled to India since President Carter in 1978. That trip also served a greater purpose. President Clinton's trip to Asia represented a major initiative by that Administration and members of Congress to set U.S.-India relations on a new level of increased cooperation across a broad spectrum of issues. President Clinton and Prime Minister Vajpayee agreed in a vision statement to institutionalize dialogue between our two countries through regular bilateral "summits." In the years following that trip, many aspects of the vision statement have been realized and our countries have drawn closer together.

Since 1991, the United States and India have forged close economic relations. As India has liberalized its economy, it has become a more important trading partner for the United States. India has invested both in its businesses and its workers, fighting poverty while growing its economy at a steady, sustainable rate. Our economic relationship with India is sure to expand in the time to come.

India is an important strategic partner to the United States. After our country was attacked on September 11th, India quickly rushed to America's side to offer its full support to combat the terrorists and use of its bases for counterterrorism operations. India is a critical ally of geopolitical importance to the United States on the Asian continent. India is a partner in our efforts to work towards a more peaceful world, and has recently taken encouraging steps towards peace with Pakistan. The growing military partnership between the United States and India is a sign of our shared strategic priorities.

While India faces many challenges today, such as continued mass poverty and an HIV/AIDS epidemic, I will work closely with the Indian American community in my district, with my colleagues on the India Caucus and in the Congress as a whole to ensure that the United States continues to support India as it faces those challenges that threaten its development.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Prime Minister Singh for continuing to strengthen the relationship between the United States and India. A close

relationship between our countries will help promote security, peace, and economic prosperity around the globe.

USA PATRIOT AND TERRORISM
PREVENTION REAUTHORIZATION
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3199) to extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism, and for other purposes:

Mr. MACK. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my thoughts and concerns regarding the USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Reauthorization Act (H.R. 3199). This legislation—though controversial since it was originally signed into law in 2001—is an important and effective tool for combating and winning the war on terrorism. However, it is the duty of this body to err on the side of freedom and that is why I support commonsense legislative oversight of this law.

Four years ago, Congress came together to provide law enforcement and intelligence officials with sweeping powers to increase intelligence-gathering abilities and information sharing in the name of fighting terrorism. This was a wise and prudent choice. However, due to the legitimate concerns raised about the powers this law puts into the hands of government and the need to be mindful of the liberty we are sworn to uphold, sunset provisions were attached to the original law to ensure there would be a judicious review of the law and how it has been implemented. Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker: sunset provisions do not weaken the law, nor do they undermine its purpose or its execution.

Last night, during the debate on the USA PATRIOT and Terrorism Prevention Reauthorization Act (H.R. 3199), a Motion to Recommit was offered that included instructions to extend the current sunset provisions on the sixteen most controversial provisions from 2005 to 2009. Two hundred and nine of my colleagues voted "yea" on this Motion to Recommit. I intended to vote "yea," however, due to a technical malfunction, my vote was not recorded in the official CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Regrettably, because the Motion to Recommit failed (209 to 218), the legislation contained only two limited 10-year sunsets. Thus, in the spirit of freedom, liberty, and limited government, I voted against the final passage of the House-version of the PATRIOT Act reauthorization.

Detractors of sunset provisions state there has not been any evidence of widespread abuse of any of the PATRIOT Act's provisions. But, as leaders, we are supposed to have the gift of foresight. By making the law permanent at this time, we will handcuff the ability of Congress to carry out a constitutionally-mandated power legislative oversight. Why should we not review this Act in four year's time? Having an intelligent debate to weigh the accomplishments of the bill is a smart undertaking now, just as it will be in 2009.

History tells us that in times of war or conflict, government is all too willing to ask its citizens to trade a bit of their liberty for the hope

of greater security. We witnessed it during World War II with the immoral internment of Japanese Americans. Liberty has been trampled during every war we've fought. But we must ensure that it does not happen again through vigilant oversight of the provisions of the PATRIOT Act. Some have characterized the PATRIOT Act as an irresponsible reaction. I disagree because Congress was smart and just to include "sunsets" at the time. Most of the provisions in the PATRIOT Act were needed and should be reauthorized. But to contend as some of its supporters do that it is a perfect law and should not be looked at critically is absurd.

Mr. Chairman, I look forward to working with my colleagues in both the House and the Senate to ensure that proper legislative safeguards are achieved, in conference, through additional sunsets on the most controversial provisions. In the words of one of our Founding Fathers, Benjamin Franklin, "they that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety." Mr. Speaker, the war on terrorism will be won. But, America must continue to be a shining beacon of freedom, security, and prosperity for the world. It is the job of this esteemed legislative body to strike the proper balance between liberty and safety. We ascended to our current world position by being a cradle of freedom—now is not the time to turn our backs on that fundamental principle.

HONORING THE 2005 "TREE CITY
USA" CITIES OF FLORIDA

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 22, 2005

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 110 Florida communities that received the 2005 Tree City USA recognition from the National Arbor Day Foundation. This designation is in recognition of these communities' support of the USDA Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program. These Florida communities have dedicated substantial efforts to the improvement of the environment in their cities and towns.

For almost 30 years, the Tree City USA program has facilitated cooperation and partnership in the urban forestry community, and has proven a cost-effective way for state and federal governments to support the conservation efforts of local communities. The Tree City USA program has effectively coordinated and engaged public and private participants including municipal leaders, State and Federal governments, tree care professionals, and non-profit organizations, toward a common goal of bettering our environment.

Tree City USA municipalities allocate over \$765 million each year to forestry programs. These funds go towards enhancing the natural beauty of the environment in order to make our communities a more pleasant place to live.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the communities of Boca Raton, Boynton Beach, Coconut Creek, Cooper City, Coral Springs, Deerfield Beach, Juno Beach, Jupiter, Lighthouse Point, Oakland Park, Palm Beach Gardens, Plantation, Pompano Beach, and West Palm Beach on their efforts to promote environmental conservation and I encourage them to continue to improve the natural beauty of Florida.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2006 AND 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2601) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 2006 and 2007, and for other purposes:

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, let me thank my distinguished colleague from California, the Ranking Member of the International Relations Committee for his leadership and commitment to addressing the global HIV/AIDS pandemic. And I also want to thank the Chairman, HENRY HYDE for his dedication and willingness to work with me on this important issue over the last several years.

Mr. Speaker, this amendment is completely unnecessary. While I appreciate the efforts of the Chairman to improve it, the real problem is that it reinforces the prostitution pledge—an underlying policy that I believe is fatally flawed, and I want to tell you why.

In 2003 I traveled to Zambia as part of a Congressional Delegation examining food security and HIV/AIDS in Africa. We visited the Chirundu region, on the border with Zimbabwe, where delays in processing travel had forced many truckers to wait for months before they could cross the border.

The Chirundu region is incredibly poor. But because the truckers were still receiving their per diem and had time to waste, many poor and destitute women were drawn there to sell their bodies in exchange for money to buy food and provide clothing and shelter for their families.

Thankfully, the USAID Cross Border Initiative was reaching out to the truckers and these women, to ensure that they were educated about the dangers of sex work, about the risks of HIV/AIDS, and about the need to protect themselves.

These women trusted the USAID program to help them, because even as it encouraged them to find other sources of income, and tried to educate and protect them from HIV, it did not cast judgment on them for trying to feed their families.

By requiring organizations to formally oppose prostitution, we hinder their ability to reach out to sex-workers and teach them about the dangers of HIV.

Such a policy runs counter to good public health practices, and effectively denies vital HIV prevention services and education to women.

We need to fix this broken, misguided policy.

USA PATRIOT AND TERRORISM PREVENTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 3199) to extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism, and for other purposes:

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Chairman, as we consider reauthorizing The USA PATRIOT Act today, it is important to recognize that the 16 expiring provisions addressed by this legislation are controversial with good reason. That is why Congress wisely established sunset timelines for these particular sections when the original legislation was passed amidst extraordinary circumstances in 2001; this is one of the main reasons that I voted for its original passage. The sheer fact that Congress included a sunset provision in the bill shows that Members did have concerns with the bill, and recognized its troublesome aspects, even as they acted on the need for swift passage in the immediate wake of September 11th. While I believe it is critical that we update our law enforcement tools to respond to the deadly and unconventional threats we face from global terrorist organizations, it is vital that we do not at the same time endanger the basic civil liberties and freedoms that we hold so dear. I will vote against this legislation because I believe it fails to strike the critical balance between civil liberties and national security.

Reestablishing sunsets for all 16 controversial provisions, thereby recognizing the crucial role that Congress needs to continue to play in providing ongoing oversight in this most sensitive of legislative areas impacting our basic civil freedoms, would greatly improve this bill, but the rule does not allow us to vote on this. The rule also does not allow an amendment which would have defended important civil liberties, including the right to freedom of speech, by excluding booksellers and libraries from the scope of Section 215 FISA search orders. Before the PATRIOT Act, these requests at least had to be directed at "agents of a foreign power." Now they can be used against American citizens, even if they are not suspected of doing anything wrong, as long as there is a showing of "relevance" to a terror investigation. I strongly oppose such a provision which would allow government officials to collect personal data on ordinary Americans, including medical and library records, without any evidence linking them to terrorism or other crimes.

I also remain very concerned with Section 213 of the PATRIOT Act and the fact that it is not subject to a sunset. This permanent section of the law allows the delay of notification in executing warrants. I have serious misgivings about this provision, as it could indefinitely delay notice of a search or seizure. This notice provides a crucial check on the government's power by requiring authorities to operate in the open and by allowing the subjects of such searches to protect their Fourth Amendment rights. I also have concerns about the use of National Security Letters under Section 505 of the Act, which require no judicial review, and the use of roving "John Doe" wiretaps, which deserve increased oversight, such as requiring the FBI to identify with particularity the person targeted. Further, I am baffled that the majority voted twice to prevent the consideration of amendments which would have kept dangerous firearms out of the hands of terrorists. These amendments, which would have criminalized the selling of firearms to anyone on an FBI terrorist watchlist and prevented terrorists from obtaining .50-caliber