

April 2007 found that 67% of customers “are concerned that much of the FDA’s funding comes from the drug industry.” This bill actually increases the amount the drug companies pay to the FDA. To ensure independence, the drug approval process should be funded by Congress.

Second, the bill passed on a rare opportunity to address ways in which the pharmaceutical industry makes profits at the expense of health. An early version of the bill gave the FDA authority to ban Direct to Consumer advertising for three years, a practice which has repeatedly proven to influence drug use based on reason other than the merits of the drug. This bill contained only authority to assess penalties which pale in comparison to the profit it is made from running the ads.

Another opportunity lost was to address the failure of the industry to put out new drugs that are substantially different from drugs that are already on the market, but which are less profitable because their patent monopolies are running out. Requiring clinical trials to compare new drugs not only to placebos but to existing drugs would, for the first time, give a clear indication of how useful the proposed drug is. It would also therefore provide a powerful incentive for the industry to focus its resources on truly innovative drugs instead of spending copiously on marketing to sell more profitable but less beneficial drugs. This bill gives lip service to these head-to-head trials when it should require them.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE SOUTHWEST MUSEUM

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure and privilege that I rise today to pay tribute to the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Southwest Museum in Los Angeles, California. On October 21, 2007, community members and leaders throughout Los Angeles will gather at the Southwest Museum to celebrate the institution’s 100 years of service, historical significance, and role as an educational pillar in the worldwide community.

The Southwest Museum is the second oldest museum west of the Mississippi River, and the first museum in Los Angeles. Initially located in the Hamburger Building at Eighth Street and Broadway in downtown Los Angeles, the Southwest Museum moved into its historic home above the Arroyo Seco in 1914, opening its doors to the public in August of that year. The beautiful Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival style building, designed by Sumner Hunt and Silas Bums, has stood as a cultural and educational landmark and destination in northeast Los Angeles since that time.

The Southwest Museum was established in 1907 by Charles Lummis and the Southwest Society, who originally conceived it as a museum of science, history, and art. By the 1920s, the mission of the Southwest Museum had narrowed to study the history and culture of America’s indigenous peoples. Over the course of time, the Southwest Museum has assembled one of the world’s largest and most important collections of Native American mate-

rial, representing indigenous peoples, spanning the breadth of North America. Its 250,000 ethnographic, archaeological, and historic artifacts comprise one of the largest nongovernmental collections of this type.

On May 27, 2003, the Southwest Museum merged with the Autry Museum of Western Heritage to create the Autry National Center. Through conservation of the collections, work on rehabilitation of the historic building, and plans for exhibitions, as well as cultural and educational programming, the Autry National Center is working to secure a vibrant life for the Southwest Museum’s next 100 years. I am pleased to serve as a charter member of The Southwest Society, a newly established group committed to restoring and revitalizing the Southwest Museum in the vision of its founder, Charles Lummis.

Through the years I have been fortunate to hold a number of community town hall meetings and art competition ceremonies at the Southwest Museum. Each time I visit this site, I am awestruck by the combination of the buildings’ architecture, the natural oak tree-covered hillside, and the display of amazing artifacts—it really takes me back in time. When I go to the Southwest Museum, I find myself slowing down, and taking time to pause and wonder about eras and peoples past. We desperately need such historic treasures preserved in our communities and as part of The Southwest Society, I am committed to helping transform these preeminent historic resources into premiere cultural and educational destinations for even more Angelenos and visitors alike.

Madam Speaker, while I opened by highlighting the Southwest Museum’s century-long service to the world wide community, I want to close by recognizing the nearby Northeast Los Angeles community neighbors’ dedication and passion for the Southwest Museum. Many share an intense loyalty and kinship with this historic institution in their neighborhood. They’ve come to the museum as school children and then shared the displays with their own children. As these neighbors go about their daily errands, they gaze up to see the Southwest Museum’s Caracol Tower understanding that this institution is part of their fabric of life. I know that many of these neighbors will be joining in this Sunday’s celebration of the Southwest Museum’s 100-year anniversary, and I also wish to salute them for their steadfast loyalty in seeking to preserve their wonderful neighbor.

IN HONOR OF THE LIPPMAN FAMILY’S PUBLIC SERVICE TO NORTH JERSEY’S SENIOR CITIZENS

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join the Jewish community of North Jersey in honoring an extraordinary family that has made giving back a multi-generational legacy.

This Sunday, October 21st, the Jewish Home Foundation of North Jersey will honor the Lippman Family of New Jersey for their intergenerational support for programs and

services aiding thousands of Jewish seniors. Bill and Doris Lippman instilled strong values of community, compassion, and service in their children, who in turn have passed those very values onto their children. As a result, three generations of Lippman lineage have spent countless hours supporting their synagogues, local charitable organizations, and senior care programs. Though the family mourns the passing of their tremendous matriarch Doris, they carry on her legacy with respect and love for her memory.

In Hebrew, the word commonly referred to as the equivalent of the English charity is tzedakah. But, as scholars often point out, tzedakah goes far beyond the simple concept of benevolence and generosity; it implies an act of justice and righteousness. The Lippman Family has taken this concept even further, making the love of giving back to one’s community a gift that is passed down from generation to generation.

As the Jewish Home Foundation celebrates the opening of its newest assisted living facility in River Vale, New Jersey and continues its notable tradition of caring at the facility in Rockleigh, I join them in saluting the tremendous public service of the Lippman Family whose generosity and support has made the Foundation’s work possible.

TRIBUTE TO LOUIS FINE

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who, throughout his life, exhibited leadership and dedication in serving the working men and women of the Upper Peninsula and our Nation. On Saturday, the men and women of Michigan’s Upper Peninsula will honor Louis Fine by inducting him into the Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame.

The organized labor movement enjoys a rich and storied history in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula (U.P.). From the Copper Country mining strikes of 1913, which were immortalized in Woody Guthrie’s 1913 Massacre, to the modern day, working men and women across the U.P. have a proud heritage of trade unionism. Likewise, throughout his life, Louis Fine exemplified that rich tradition, generously donating his personal time and effort to his local Union and to the Labor movement.

A member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners Local 598, Louis developed a reputation as someone always willing to go the extra mile and take on additional duties in support of his local union. Throughout his lifetime of union involvement, he served his union in many different capacities. He served as an Apprentice Instructor for carpenters and millwrights during the early 1990’s. He was a delegate for his local Union to the Marquette County Labor Council, AFL-CIO. He also served as Treasurer and distinguished President of Local 958 for many years.

Louis was well respected and greatly loved, not only in the U.P. Labor movement, but in the greater Marquette community and, indeed, throughout much of the U.P. Beyond his work in the labor movement he was a dedicated community volunteer. Those who knew him

best describe how he was always willing to give of himself to help others, never asking or expecting recognition for his selfless acts. Not only did he regularly volunteer for Labor causes and programs, but he often made time to help programs for the disadvantaged and other charitable causes.

Perhaps one of Louis' greatest accomplishments for the Labor movement was the revival of the Upper Peninsula Labor Day picnic, parade and program in the early 1990s. Louis is widely recognized as the driving force that helped to reinvigorate this annual celebration, which means so much to the working men and women of the U.P.

After a lifetime of hard work, Louis Fine passed away in 2003. He is survived by his loving wife of many years, Betty.

Madam Speaker, one of the titans of the American Labor movement, the head of the American Federation of Labor Samuel Gompers once called Labor Day, “[T]he day for which the toilers in past centuries looked forward when their rights and their wrongs would be discussed . . . that the workers of our day may not only lay down their tools of labor for a holiday, but upon which they may touch shoulders in marching phalanx and feel the stronger for it.

Every year, as the working men and women of the U.P. march shoulder to shoulder, we remember and honor the sacrifices of our predecessors in the Labor movement. Henceforth, every Labor Day, as we remember our ancestors of the Labor movement, the working men and women of the U.P. will remember Mr. Louis Fine for bringing back the hallowed tradition of the annual U.P. Labor Day picnic and parade.

Madam Speaker, since 1993, outstanding labor leaders in northern Michigan have been honored with induction into the Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame is housed in the Superior Dome on the campus of Northern Michigan University in Marquette. Louis Fine is a deserving addition to this august group and, I salute his memory. I would ask, Madam Speaker, that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in recognizing his many contributions to the Upper Peninsula Labor movement, his dedication to all working men and women, and his commitment to the Marquette and Upper Peninsula community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PARENTS' EMPOWERMENT ACT

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, today I am reintroducing a bill that is of extreme importance to our nation's parents and the future protection of their children: the Parents' Empowerment Act. As we all know, millions of children access the Internet and other interactive entertainment products each and every day. As this number increases, more and more of our nation's children are unexpectedly and tragically exposed to pornography and other indecent material. According to a study by Grunwald and Associates, 25 percent of American children have had at least one unwanted experience with on-line pornography.

The Department of Justice, until the past few years, has not been prosecuting obscenity and child pornography cases.

The Parents' Empowerment Act is very simple. It allows the parent or legal guardian of a minor to sue, in a district court, any person who knowingly sells or distributes a product that contains material that is harmful to minors that:

1. A reasonable person would expect a substantial number of minors be exposed to the material and;

2. As a result of exposure to such material, the minor in question suffers personal injury, or injury to their mental or moral welfare.

If the minor is the prevailing party, they will be awarded a minimum of \$10,000 for each instance of damaging material. In addition, the court can order the minor's attorney fees to be covered and punitive damages to be awarded.

This bill establishes a new and appropriate test for what is obscene for a minor. Currently, the United States Supreme Court utilizes the "Miller Test" to determine if material can be labeled obscene and not protected by the First Amendment. The Parents' Empowerment Act builds upon the same test, but, in the case of minors, modifies the "third prong" of the test by requiring any material to "lack serious literary, artistic, political and scientific value for minors sufficient to overcome the pernicious effect of that material." In other words, what is obscene for an adult is entirely different than what should be considered obscene for a minor and, as a result, should be treated as such.

Madam Speaker, this legislation is a step in the right direction in providing parents with the resources they need for what is their number one priority, protecting their kids. I am proud to once again introduce the Parents' Empowerment Act and request my colleagues give this important legislation their utmost consideration.

MEXICAN TRUCKS ON AMERICAN ROADS

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I want to thank Congressman TIM RYAN and others for organizing a special order to discuss the dangers of allowing Mexican trucks on American roads.

I rise today because I am concerned that allowing Mexican trucks open access to American roads will threaten American wages and the safety on our highways.

There is no question that foreign competition from lower paid Mexican drivers will compromise the hard and dedicated fight by American workers.

American workers deserve fair wages for their hard work and Mexican workers should not be exploited either.

There are concerns about safety including whether Mexican trucks are safe and what allowing them on U.S. highways would do.

There is no question that road safety and vehicle standards in Mexico are not the same as what we require in the United States of America.

I believe that both the United States and Mexico should have a strong and healthy

workforce but the U.S. worker should not be the compromise.

Let us protect the American worker and not compromise the safety and well-being of our children and families.

HONORING THE TOP DOG ALUMNI

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate all of the Top Dog Award recipients from California State University, Fresno.

The Top Dog Awards is a great tradition for CSU Fresno. It allows the University to honor alumni that continue to give back to the University. There are three award categories; Distinguished Alumnus Award, Outstanding Alumnus Awards and the Arthur Safstrom Service Award.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is the highest honor given to an alumna of the University. The award is based on scholarship, leadership and service to CSU Fresno, the San Joaquin Valley and the State of California. It has been established to provide special recognition to an individual who has distinguished themselves through outstanding achievement during their post-collegiate career. The University President and the Alumni Association present the award.

For 2007 the Distinguished Alumnus Award is being awarded to Larry Dickenson, class of 1965. Mr. Dickenson is Boeing Company's Commercial Airplanes Group Senior Vice President of Sales. He was raised in Bakersfield, California and graduated from CSU Fresno with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. From there he has worked with McDonnell Douglas Corporation, Texas Air Corporation and began his career with Boeing in 1986 as the Vice President of Asia/Pacific for the Commercial Airplanes Group. Mr. Dickenson has won major contracts that have helped to assure the launch of Boeing's 787 Dreamliner passenger aircraft. He also helped Boeing consolidate sales of cargo jets in the Pacific Rim market and interest airlines in the company's more efficient new 747-8 jumbo jetliners. Mr. Dickenson was named as one of "World Trade's 25 Most Influential U.S. Global Visionaries" in the June 1997 issue of World Trade magazine, and was featured in Investor's Business Daily in the "Leaders and Success" column. With all of this success, Mr. Dickenson still finds the time to be active in service to CSU Fresno by serving on several boards, including the National Board of Visitors.

The Outstanding Alumni Awards recognizes a CSU Fresno alumna for outstanding accomplishments in their field and to present such alumni to current CSU Fresno students as examples of exceptional achievement. The Alumni Association works in conjunction with the deans of CSU Fresno's eight schools/colleges, as well as the dean of student affairs and the athletic director to identify and select candidates for the awards.

This year there are fourteen Outstanding Alumni Awards from the various schools, colleges and divisions. The honorees are:

Rod Kraft (class of 1977) from the Athletics Department, football. Mr. Kraft is a family and