

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 15, 2015

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, tonight we've heard from Representatives from all over the country—from my home state of Washington, to Oklahoma, to Florida—about the economic importance of the Export-Import Bank to our nation. Before we conclude for the evening, there were three other topics I wanted to discuss—wine, music stands, and mint oil. As unrelated as these three things sound, they have a couple of important commonalities. First, these are small businesses in Washington State that create all three of these products. L'Ecole Winery in Walla Walla makes a fantastic, award-winning Bordeaux blend, and sells their wines in over 20 countries. I had the chance to recently tour the Manhasset Specialty Company, located in Yakima, Washington, which manufactures and sells the gold-standard of music stands the world over. Norwest Ingredients, a company located in Royal City, Washington, grows and refines mint extract, and sells it around the globe to food and pharmaceutical producers for flavoring.

The other thing these three businesses have in common, besides making some of the best products in the world, is that they all use Export-Import Bank financing to share their products with the world. They are great examples of small businesses utilizing the Bank—and for the record, they are definitely small businesses, employing a total of 43 full-time employees between the three of them, and that number is growing. In fact, to clear up a common misconception about the Ex-Im Bank, in fiscal year 2014, an astounding 89% of the Export-Import Bank's loans were to small businesses. When these small businesses are seeking to export their product—that is, to grow their businesses and create jobs—they often need financing to do that. However, selling your product in Sidney or Seoul is not the same thing as selling it in St. Louis or San Francisco. When selling overseas, under a different set of laws, sometimes there's little recourse if you have issues with getting paid for your goods. Or say there's a natural disaster or labor dispute—how then can you access your product or the money you're owed? When your product spends six weeks on a barge, and your money is locked in that product in a crate, sometimes you need capital that's just not accessible. In some countries, just to access their markets and sell your products you have to have an insurance guarantee from your home country. And that's where the Export-Import Bank comes in.

The Export-Import Bank supplements private financiers, providing direct loans, working capital, loan guarantees, and other forms of financial insurance, allowing these businesses to reach markets and sell goods they would be unable to otherwise.

Critics on one side argue this simply means these ventures are too risky, and shouldn't be entered into if private financing can't handle the job. On the other side, they argue the reason private financiers can't handle it is because Ex-Im crowds them out of the market, offering rates private finance can't compete with. But, if we look at the evidence, we can see both of these claims are just not true. If the Export-Import Bank backed inherently risky ventures, then how do we account for the 0.175% default rate on Ex-Im loans? This rate is far below the standard market rate, meaning that the Bank's loans are careful, and judicious with taxpayer dollars. As for the Export-Import Bank crowding private lenders out of the market, right now Ex-Im requires in its charter that the Bank only, and I quote only, "supplement and encourage, and not compete with private capital." It also requires that the Export-Import Bank provide an annual report to Congress with a breakdown of all of their loans, demonstrating that private lenders were either unable or unwilling to offer these loans.

However, I would agree with critics that this isn't enough, and we should go further. That's one of the reasons I'm a cosponsor of Mr. Fincher's Export-Import Reform legislation, H.R. 597, the Reform Exports and Expand the American Economy Act. Mr. Fincher's bill reiterates that the Export-Import Bank is the "lender of last resort" to companies, and that companies seeking credit must demonstrate they've tried to procure private financing before they can even be considered for Ex-Im financing.

Mr. Fincher's Export-Import reform bill would make other positive changes to the Bank as well. It would require the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to regularly audit Ex-Im's fraud control measures, as well as their loan, insurance, and guarantee programs. This legislation would require that the Bank's Board of Directors publish an annual list of countries that loan participants should not be doing business with, whether it's because they violate human rights, aid our nation's enemies, or for other foreign policy reason. These are good, ethical reforms that should be made. The reform legislation would also impose capital reserve requirements on Ex-Im so that, while unlikely, should a financial crisis affect the Bank, it will have strong capital reserves to protect taxpayer dollars.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I aren't asking for a straight reauthorization of Ex-Im—we think there are improvements that can and should be made to the Bank. And we would love to work with those who are critical of the Export-Import Bank to join us in reforming the Bank so that it's more accountable, it's more supportive of the free market, and is a better steward of taxpayer dollars.

Speaking of taxpayer dollars, there's another common myth about the Export-Import Bank that I would like to clear up. Critics of the Bank claim that it's a huge consumer of taxpayer dollars, and that it constantly risks those funds. However, this couldn't be further from the truth. When a business takes out a

loan, just like everyone else, they have to repay that balance with interest—and that's where the Export-Import Bank, like any other lender, makes its revenue.

To quote from a June 17, 2015 Congressional Research Service report, "Ex-Im Bank's activities in FY2013 were estimated to reduce the budget deficit by \$1 billion in FY2013, and are estimated to reduce the budget deficit by \$570 million in FY2014."

Let me repeat that to let it sink in—two years ago, Ex-Im reduced our federal deficit by a billion dollars, and last year it reduced it by \$570 million. Some of the most ardent critics of the Bank are fellow conservative friends of mine, who are just as concerned with federal spending as I am. That's why I have a hard time understanding how they can advocate for ending a program that is helping to curb our deficits by half a billion to a billion dollars annually.

Another misconception I'd like to address is that allowing Export-Import Bank to permanently expire won't cost our country jobs—it certainly will. It's estimated that every year, Ex-Im helps our nation's businesses support about 167,000 jobs. To put this into perspective, that's more than half the population of St. Louis, Missouri. Those are jobs we will be forfeiting if we allow Ex-Im to permanently expire.

Moreover, allowing expiration of the Export-Import Bank will put our nation at a permanent trade disadvantage. Currently, every other nation in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has their own Export-Import Bank to support their country's producers—Britain, Korea, Mexico, Italy, Estonia—you name it. And some of them are enormous. Germany's bank backs \$22.6 billion in exports annually—significantly more than the U.S.'s average of \$14.5 billion. And China's is off the charts—backing \$45.5 billion in exports annually. For those of you keeping track, that's over three times the size of our Bank.

In fact, the Chairman of India's Export-Import Bank in a recent interview with Business Insider was asked for his thoughts on the U.S. Bank expiring. His response? "With the U.S. Ex-Im Bank closing down, we would now have more market, because Indian products were competed by U.S. products." Right now, these other nations are looking for every advantage they can get for their businesses to grow their economies, and they see the U.S. willingly retreating from the global stage and conceding market share. If we would like to maintain U.S. strength abroad, allowing expiration of the Export-Import Bank is a poor strategic decision.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, now is the time to reform and reauthorize the Export-Import Bank, and I encourage House leadership to allow us to vote on its reauthorization as soon as possible. The Export-Import Bank helps our nation's small businesses grow and create jobs. It reduces our nation's federal deficit, and makes us more competitive on the global stage. Could it use reforms? Certainly—there isn't an institution out there that couldn't, and

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

I'd love to work with my friends who are critical of the Bank to see these reforms put in place. But we can't willingly remove tools from our arsenal if we want to keep our great nation strong and competitive for decades to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT EUGENE BARTELS

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI
OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2015

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Robert Eugene Bartels, who passed away at the age of 78, in South Bend, Indiana on July 17, 2015.

Bob was born in 1937 in Zanesville, Ohio to the late Martin H. and Verna K. Bartels. In 1959, he graduated from Purdue University earning a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering. He joined General Electric and worked in various East Coast cities. In 1962, while visiting a fraternity brother in South Bend, he met Nancy Tarnow on a blind date. They later married and settled in Providence, Rhode Island.

In 1964, Martin and Jane Tarnow offered Bob an opportunity to join Martin's Super Markets as a right-hand executive with the company. With Nancy as a partner and trusted confidante, Bob led Martin's Super Markets through many changes during his tenure.

He developed a single 'mom and pop' Martin's Super Market into an innovative, respected store chain covering much of Indiana. Today, these stores are more than just a supermarket; they are the glue that holds our Hoosier communities together.

At 51, he became an employee of the supermarket and served as president and CEO beginning in 1973, and as chairman beginning in 2005.

Under Bob's leadership, Martin's Super Markets grew into a fully functioning corporation by adding 19 additional stores, relocating six and completing countless updates and remodeling projects under his watch.

In addition, he oversaw the introduction of many of the company's most popular features, such as Side Door Deli Cafes, Starbucks Coffee kiosks, catering, and more. Bob was instrumental in expanding Martin's Super Market's commitment to its communities, with fundraisers such as Heat for Homes, Roofsit, Advantages of Education and student scholarship programs, both public and private.

Bob served his community and industry in many roles, including as former trustee of the Stanley Clark School in South Bend, Indiana; former director of St. Joseph County Chamber of Commerce; former director of his local YMCA; and former trustee of Project Future in South Bend, Indiana.

Make no mistake, Bob was a man gifted with a powerful intellect and the ability to understand great complexities, reduce them into simple concepts, and put them to work. He was a good steward and defined his responsibilities expansively.

His commitment to personal excellence, education, demanding workloads, and his ability to turn opportunity into accomplishment were inspiring. His commitment to high personal standards of conduct and seemingly tire-

less effort and engagement were his way of showing his love for his family, colleagues and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire U.S. House of Representatives to join me in expressing our deepest sympathy to Bob Bartels and the entire Bartels family.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2015

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring recognition to the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This legislation, signed into law by President George H.W. Bush on July 26, 1990, serves as a sterling example of the great things Congress can accomplish for the American people when we work together with amity in a spirit of cooperation.

The ADA codified important rights for those of our fellow Americans with disabilities. It made us a stronger, more diverse and more inclusive society. By lifting restrictions it elevated hopes and by removing barriers it opened up opportunities.

Good Shepherd, a nationally recognized rehabilitation center, located in my hometown of Allentown, will be holding a year-long series of art and cultural events in conjunction with the Lehigh Valley Arts Council highlighting accessibility and inclusion for persons with disabilities in the arts.

I ask the House to join me in commending both Good Shepherd and the Lehigh Valley Arts council for the outstanding services they provide to the people of my community.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I ask that we all take a moment to reflect on the achievement of the Americans with Disabilities Act itself. The creation and passage of such well-thought-out, beneficial and bipartisan legislation like the ADA Act should always be the goal of the House.

HONORING CHARLES S. CROMPTON

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my friend and colleague, Congressman JOHN CARNEY, to recognize the Honorable Charles Crompton, who took his Oath as Judge of the Superior Court of California for the City and County of San Francisco on June 17, 2015. Since becoming a member of the California Bar, Mr. Crompton has enjoyed a distinguished legal career as a litigation partner with Latham & Watkins LLP and as the Director of the Drop in Legal Clinic at GLIDE in San Francisco.

During his time with Latham & Watkins, Charles Crompton was a member of the firm's Intellectual Property Practice, Technology Transactions Practice and Antitrust & Competition Practice. He successfully handled numerous jury trials, bench trials, arbitrations,

and appeals for high profile clients in the technology, biotechnology, mining, energy, and construction industries. Charles Crompton also arbitrated a number of technology disputes before the American Arbitration Association and the International Chamber of Commerce.

In addition, Mr. Crompton has written several articles for publications that include: The Daily Journal, Antitrust Magazine, and The Computer Lawyer. He has lectured on intellectual property law for the Practicing Law Institute, Stanford Law School, and UC Berkeley's Boalt Hall, among others.

In 2014, Charles Crompton withdrew from private practice to dedicate himself full-time to the free Drop-In Legal Clinic that he founded at GLIDE, an organization that has served poor and disenfranchised residents of San Francisco's Tenderloin neighborhood for fifty years. Inspired by GLIDE's comprehensive approach to meeting the diverse needs of its community members, the Drop-In Legal Clinic strives to address any legal issue, turning nobody away because their specific problem does not meet pre-set criteria.

As he begins a new chapter in his legal career, it is fitting that we recognize the Honorable Charles Crompton today for his many accomplishments and for his public services. California's Governor Edmund Brown Jr. made a wise decision when he appointed Charles Crompton to his current judgeship, and we can be sure that Mr. Crompton's extensive legal experience and longstanding commitment to serving others will be a tremendous asset to the San Francisco County Superior Court.

10TH ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT IN THE CITY OF BULVERDE, TEXAS ON OCTOBER 6, 2015

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie in order to make our neighborhoods safer. National Night Out provides a unique opportunity for Bulverde, Texas, which is located in the 21st Congressional District in Texas, to join with thousands of other communities across the country in promoting cooperative, police-community crime prevention efforts. Police-community partnerships, as well as neighborhood safety awareness and cooperation, are important themes of National Night Out.

Congratulations to the City of Bulverde as it marks its 10th consecutive year participating in this important event with the Bulverde Police Department to promote joint crime, drug, and violence prevention efforts. These efforts keep our communities, and our citizens, more safe and secure.

Credit goes to the citizens of Bulverde, Texas, as they join the Bulverde Police Department and the National Association of Town Watch in supporting the Annual National Night Out on October 6, 2015.