

The Commission may find that its very first case involves Japan and the auto sector. If Japan carries through on its threat to appeal to the WTO rather than open its markets, and if the WTO panel were to rule against us—an occurrence I do not foresee in view of the clearly exclusionary and discriminatory practices presently undertaken or tolerated by the Government of Japan—this would raise a serious question about whether the new WTO dispute settlement process is really in our national interest. I would expect a very careful review of that decision by the Review Commission, with appropriate recommendations to the Congress.

But it is my sincere hope that the mere existence of the Commission will encourage appropriate use of the WTO and will discourage WTO panels from acting beyond their authority when such cases are brought.

Finally, let me also speak to the final section of the bill, which provides that private parties may participate with the USTR in WTO dispute settlement proceedings. Under our legislation, if a U.S. private party with a direct economic interest in a WTO proceeding supports the U.S. Government's position, then the USTR must permit the party to participate in the WTO panel process. This private party participation is critical to protecting American jobs. Because the dispute settlement decisions will be binding, it is imperative that the interests of American companies and their workers be fully represented. This is not meant as a criticism of USTR in any way. But given the reality of USTR's many obligations in negotiating with countries around the world, they need the help of the private sector.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important piece of bipartisan legislation, and I hope we can move quickly to see it enacted into law.

**RESIST IMPULSE TO BE PENNY  
WISE AND POUND FOOLISH**

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 6, 1995*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to add my voice to the growing concern expressed by many of my colleagues over the dangerous and devastating effects of many of the actions taken by this body in recent weeks, and actions that will be taken in the coming weeks.

I am gravely concerned that the frontal attack on low- and middle-income Americans that some are waging will have far-reaching effects that we cannot begin to fathom today.

Some Members of this body seem to be engaged in a race to cut, with little regard to what we are cutting, and what the effects of these cuts will be to Americans who are truly in need of assistance. While there is most certainly wasteful spending occurring which must be addressed by this body, we seem to be engaged in an exercise which is driven by a complete disregard to the content of what we do, with regard only to how much we do.

At the same time, we are transferring spending authority to our States, many of which are engaged in the same exercise.

We must remember that the cuts we make here are being echoed in our cities and our States. Even the most cost-effective programs

are being cut at the city and State level—including a small and highly effective program in New York State called NORC, designed to assist moderate-income elderly remain in their homes, rather than cost taxpayers millions by financing nursing home care. This program receives only \$1 million of State funding, and cutting it would likely end up costing much more.

We must resist the impulse to be penny wise and pound foolish. We must also be aware that, in our current climate, the cuts we make in Washington will be duplicated at the city and State level. We must equally resist the impulse shared by some in this House to punish those most in need of assistance—the poor, the elderly, the disabled, children, workers, legal immigrants—and to place the blame for our Nation's deficit on those who truly need assistance.

**DO NOT FORGET MILITARY  
RETIREEES**

**HON. JOHN M. McHUGH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 6, 1995*

Mr. McHUGH. Mr. Speaker, today the United States stands as the world's only remaining superpower. Having won the cold war we set out to downsize our military and cut defense expenditures. As we continue this process, we must not forget those military retirees who, through their many years of service and dedication, helped secure our Nation's future.

I fear that those who served during the World War II, Korea, and Vietnam eras, and who have since retired from the military, are being asked to bear unfairly the brunt of this downsizing process. The closing of bases throughout the country will leave many retirees without immediate access to DOD medical facilities. For example, the 1993 BRAC Commission's ill-advised closure of Plattsburgh Air Force Base will leave thousands of military retirees in upstate New York and in nearby Vermont without the services of the base hospital. Retirees over the age of 65 will be forced to rely on other, more costly, means to secure health care. Many people joined the military with the understanding that DOD would provide them with health care for life.

If we renege on our commitment to these military retirees, it will only serve to harm future efforts to attract high-quality personnel. We cannot expect service members to make a long-term career out of the military if we continue to demonstrate that a promise made yesterday no longer counts today.

Mr. Speaker, we have come to be a nation of strength by holding steadfast to our commitments and not by shirking our responsibilities. We did not do it in the past and we should not start now, especially when it comes to those men and women who were willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for their country. I believe that we must do whatever is in our means to ensure that these military retirees are not left to fend for themselves.

**NATIONAL BEVERAGE CONTAINER  
REUSE AND RECYCLING ACT OF  
1995**

**HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 6, 1995*

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the National Beverage Container Reuse and Recycling Act of 1995. This important piece of legislation is especially relevant today as we approach the 25th anniversary of Earth Day. I have introduced this legislation in the past with my colleague, the late Paul Henry (R-MI), who was a true and dedicated champion for this important initiative, and hope that my colleagues will this year embrace this bill that combats the problems we have of shrinking landfill space, skyrocketing waste disposal costs, misspent energy and natural resources, and litter strewn roadsides by setting in place a national beverage container recycling program. If passed, this bill would save millions of dollars in energy costs, divert a significant portion of the solid waste stream, foster the growth of a recycling infrastructure, and help reverse the throwaway ethic our Nation has embraced.

Most importantly, this will be done at no cost to the taxpayer. This bill, which requires a deposit paid on beverage containers, will act as a positive economic incentive to individuals to clean up the environment and will result in a high level of reuse and recycling of such containers, and help reduce the costs associated with solid waste management. Such a system will result in significant pollution prevention, energy conservation and recycling.

We can conquer the problem of one-way, throwaway beverage containers as 10 States have already done. Under these deposit programs, which are in effect in California, Connecticut, Delaware, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, Oregon, and Vermont, consumers pay a deposit on each container purchased, and this is refunded when the container is returned. Consumers in these States have proven the effectiveness of such legislation by reaching recycling rates as high as 95 percent.

This bill will encourage the development and maintenance of a recycling infrastructure. The plastics industry, which already has a recycling infrastructure, would particularly benefit from this bill since it has been plagued by supply shortages.

Consumers have demonstrated the popularity of deposit laws. A General Accounting Office [GAO] study found that 70 percent of Americans support national deposit legislation. Perhaps more importantly, in States that have deposit laws, this level is even greater.

This bill allows States to recycle in any manner they wish, as long as they achieve a 70-percent recycling goal for beverage containers. Only States that fail to meet this challenge would be required to implement the deposit program outlined in this bill.

To further encourage recycling efforts, the unclaimed deposits collected under this bill, which could total as much as \$1 to \$1.7 billion annually, would be used to support other recycling programs. For example, deposit laws can help subsidize the costs of curbside recycling. Together, deposit laws and curbside recycling