

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

AMERICAN LONGSHOREMAN JOBS

HON. LINDA SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mrs. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I take the well of the House today to talk about American longshoreman jobs that are being needlessly lost. The Secretary of State is charged with compiling a list of countries who reciprocate with the United States in allowing their longshoremen work while in a host port. That list is fatally flawed.

The Government Accounting Office [GAO] has been very critical of the Secretary of State for the manner in which the State Department compiled its reciprocity list. A better analysis of the situation and the rendering of a new list, as required by law, would keep potentially large numbers of American longshoremen jobs from being lost. Currently, the work product of the Secretary of State has led to opportunities for crew members aboard foreign commercial vessels to perform longshore work in American waters. The potentially high job losses caused by the Department of State's misinterpretation of Congress' intent to protect American longshore jobs could be disastrous for our workers.

According to my esteemed colleague, the senior Senator from Washington State, SLADE GORTON, the Department of State's misinterpretation of the reciprocity law "may open the door to allowing more foreign crewmen to perform longshore work in the U.S." I agree with Senator GORTON. Now is not the time to allow more American jobs to flow overseas, certainly not at the hand of our own State Department and certainly not contrary to the intent of Congress.

Now is the time for the Secretary of State to revisit the reciprocity issue and consider the GAO's recommendation to evaluate industry practices and collective bargaining agreements which reserve longshore work exclusively for foreign crews. Starting in the 1980's, foreign ship owners began to tie up their ships and load logs using their own crews. Before the 1980's, this work had always been reserved for American longshoremen. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit upheld the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union position that this practice violated several Immigration and Naturalization Service [INS] regulations. Still, this practice goes unchecked by our State Department despite the intent of Congress to rectify this situation.

Mr. Speaker, we don't need another legislative answer to this problem. Congress has already addressed this issue by passing bipartisan amendments to the Immigration and Naturalization Act which affirmed the rights of American waterfront workers. What we need today is action by the Secretary of State in reviewing the list of countries who grant reciprocity to American longshoremen and publish a new list which is fair to the American worker.

I ask all my colleagues who value the sanctity and preservation of American jobs to urge the Secretary of State to review the reciprocity list and preserve the intent of Congress to keep American jobs from needlessly being lost to foreign crew members.

FAIR TAX TREATMENT FOR HARD APPLE CIDER

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, today Congressmen ENGLISH, HOUGHTON, and I are introducing legislation that will provide fair tax treatment for hard apple cider. The purpose of this legislation is to clarify the tax treatment of draft cider.

Under current law, draft apple cider is taxed at a much higher rate than beer despite the fact the two beverages have a similar alcohol level. Hard apple cider is taxed as wine and is subject to a tax of \$1.07 per wine gallon. Whereas, beer is subject to a tax of 22.6 cents per gallon.

Hard apple cider has an alcohol level below 7 percent and this is much lower than the alcohol level of beer. Also, beer and hard apple cider are packaged and marketed in a similar fashion. Hard apple cider is becoming a popular alternative to beer.

This legislation will tax apple cider at the same rate as beer. The Joint Committee on Taxation has estimated this legislation would cost \$5 million over 5 years. This small tax change would allow hard apple cider producers to compete fairly with beer. The current tax prohibits many apple growers from producing cider. Apple growers and producers in our districts would prosper because hard apple cider is made from culled apples, the least marketable apples.

Senator LEAHY is introducing companion legislation. I urge you to cosponsor this legislation which will provide equity to the draft cider industry.

SHRINERS HOSPITALS HONORED WITH PRESTIGIOUS NOVA AWARD

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children have always been recognized for the quality medical care they deliver in their 22 orthopaedic and burn hospitals located throughout North America. Recently, I was pleased to learn that the Shriners Hospitals have been honored for their latest initiative as the 1995 recipient of the prestigious NOVA Award sponsored by the American Hospital Association.

Since being founded almost 75 years ago, the Shriners Hospitals have been providing completely free care to their young patients without any Government payments, any insurance payments or payments from any third party. All expenses are covered through the generosity of the American people.

The Shriners Hospitals have received the 1995 NOVA Award for their innovative CHOICES program. CHOICES is the acronym for Children's Health Care Options Improved through Collaborative Efforts and Services, and it represents a new era of public-private partnership in the delivery of health care services.

Launched in 1988 at the Shriners Hospital in Lexington, KY, in collaboration with the Kentucky Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs, the CHOICES program coordinates the care of special needs children to avoid duplication of services for some and lack of care for others.

CHOICES helps to fill this gap in services through facilitated referrals and coordinated care between the Shriners Hospitals and community-based government providers. At the conclusion of CHOICES' Phase I, 4 Shriners Hospitals and 10 State programs were participating in the partnership. Phase II will involve six more Shriners Hospitals and the States that they serve.

The CHOICES program stands as an example of the type of creative, comprehensive response we need to meet the challenges of health care delivery for the 21st century. I am proud to congratulate the Shriners Hospitals for their forward looking approach and for their seven decades of commitment to the special children they serve.

TRIBUTE TO EDWIN L. ZEHNDER

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 1995

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor a man who has devoted much of his life to helping and brightening the lives of others. On July 25, Mr. Edwin Zehnder will celebrate his 75th birthday. On this historic day, citizens of Frankenmuth will also celebrate the vast contributions which Edwin has made to his community.

Since 1965, Edwin and his wife, Marion, have been the proprietors of Zehnder's of Frankenmuth restaurant, one of the most famous and top 10 independent restaurants in total sales in the United States. Throughout the century, the Zehnder family has maintained its commitment to friendly service and the best oven-roasted chicken in Michigan.

In the three decades that Edwin has run Zehnder's, he has taken the Michigan landmark created by his father, William, and expanded it into the largest tourist location in Michigan's historic Frankenmuth. The 84,000-square-foot restaurant now accompanies a retail gift store, a retail food store, and a bakery.

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