

2. Encourages research on alternative methods of administration to decrease the harmful effects related to smoking; and

3. Urges the Administration and Congress to move expeditiously to make cannabis available as a legal medicine where shown to be safe and effective and to immediately allow access to therapeutic cannabis through the Investigational New Drug Program.

WORLD HAS A CHOICE: FAMILY PLANNING OR CHAOS

HON. CHARLES WILSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 1995

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, as the ranking minority member of the Appropriations Committee on Foreign Operations I wanted to bring to everyone's attention once again an issue which we cannot ignore and which figured prominently in floor debate yesterday.

We cannot keep putting money toward economic assistance in developing countries without first addressing the population problem through family planning funding. Continuing to turn our backs on this issue and relying solely on development aid is like pouring water in a leaky bucket.

The Houston Chronicle recently ran an op-ed piece that address these concerns very well. I submit it now, for your consideration.

[From the Houston Chronicle, Dec. 11, 1995]

WORLD HAS A CHOICE: FAMILY PLANNING OR CHAOS

(By Werner Fornos)

As the year draws to a close, the consequences of rapid population growth in a world that already has more than 5.7 billion—79 percent of them living in the world's poorest countries and regions—are being brought into sharp focus.

Some 600,000 square miles of forest have been cut in the last 10 years, much of it attributable to the need for more living space and firewood, still the main source of cooking and heating fuel in the developing world.

Twenty-six billion tons of topsoil have been lost.

Regional fresh water supplies are dangerously low. Rivers are drying up and many lakes are at their lowest levels in history.

All 17 of the world's major fisheries are being exploited at or beyond their capacity.

Eighty-eight nations have been classified by the United Nations World Food Program as low-income, food-deficit countries, unable to grow or buy enough food to accommodate their inhabitants.

There are nearly 960 million illiterates in the world today, but 130 million children—including 90 million girls—are denied access to primary schooling.

About half a million women die every year of pregnancy-related causes.

All this in a world growing by nearly 100 million people a year.

Meanwhile, a myopic majority in the U.S. House of Representatives, overlooking these facts regarding the interrelationship between overpopulation, poverty, maternal and child mortality and environmental degradation, continues to confuse—either by design or denial—family planning with abortion.

The House has voted twice this year to deny funding to the United Nations Population Fund, the largest provider of multilat-

eral population assistance to poor countries, so long as it continues to support voluntary family planning programs in the People's Republic of China. The rationale behind these votes is rooted in allegations that the Chinese national population program relies on coercive abortion, though not a dime of U.N. assistance to China has ever been found to finance abortion, forced or voluntary, there or anywhere else.

Ironically, the net effect of withdrawing U.S. assistance to the fund (the 1996 contribution request for that agency is \$35 million) does little to penalize China. But it does needlessly punish women and children in the world's poorest countries that seek agency support and who are placed in harms way as potential victims of pregnancies that occur too soon, too frequently and too closely spaced.

In fact, there are an estimated 350 million couples in the world who do not have access to a full range of family planning services, and it has been conservatively estimated that 120 million of these couples would use these services if they were available.

But the irony does not stop there. The U.N. Population Fund's assistance to China and 140 other countries is primarily in the areas of establishing and strengthening the delivery of conventional modern family planning information, education and services. Under its mandate, the fund cannot be involved in the delivery of abortion services.

It should be remembered that China with 1.2 billion people, is the most populous country in the world. By the year 2030, the population of China is expected to consume an amount of grain equivalent to the entire world grain production of 1994.

The U.S. Senate, contending there is a sufficient safeguard in the existing prohibition against the U.N. agency using any funds in China that have been contributed by the United States, has rejected both efforts of the House of Representatives to cut off the contribution to the Population Fund.

The Senate apparently understands what the House cannot seem to grasp: Family planning is the first line of defense against abortion.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DEBATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THREE MEASURES RELATING TO U.S. TROOP DEPLOYMENTS IN BOSNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM BROWNBACK

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 1995

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. Speaker, I continue to oppose President Clinton's plan to deploy 20,000 United States troops to Bosnia. While I want to end the genocide that has plagued the Balkan Peninsula for the last 4 years, the administration's plan for achieving peace in Bosnia is severely flawed, and, I fear, destined to fail.

We would not be debating whether the United States should send troops to Bosnia if Presidents Bush and Clinton had not supported the misguided international arms embargo imposed upon Bosnia. If we had lifted the arms embargo several years ago and imposed a no-fly-zone over Bosnia, the out-numbered Bosnian Serb forces would never

have achieved military superiority over the Bosnian Government troops.

Instead, we prevented the Bosnian Government forces from defending themselves while Serbia armed the Bosnian Serbs. This policy led to more than 200,000 deaths and created more than 2 million refugees.

Having suffered the consequences of one bad policy decision, we now face another. However, this time, we are risking not only more Bosnian lives, but American lives as well.

The greatest flaw in the administration's current strategy is that peace has not yet been achieved. There will be no peace as long as there are 4,000 or more foreign Moslem fighters in Bosnia. There will be no peace as long as the Bosnia Croats refuse to fully cooperate with the International War Crimes Tribunal. In addition, there will be no peace as long as rank-and-file Bosnian Serbs continue to oppose the peace plan.

All sides in this conflict have a considerable amount of work to do before peace can be achieved. Until all of the parties demonstrate their commitment to ending the bloodshed, long-term peace will not be possible, regardless of the number of troops that are used to separate the warring parties.

As long as there is no meaningful peace, United States troops deployed in Bosnia will serve as convenient targets for rogue units frustrated by their inability to attack their real enemy. Even though, as Commander in Chief, the President has the constitutional authority to commit United State soldiers to Bosnia, I cannot support a plan that does not minimize the risks to, and maximize the security of, our troops, especially a deployment that is not vital to our national security interest.

I fully support every man and woman who has volunteered to serve in our armed services. I have the greatest admiration for these men and women, and they enjoy my unequivocal support, whether they are here or abroad. By deciding to deploy our troops in Bosnia under the current plan for a mission that is not vital to our national security interests, the President has not properly minimized the risks in military duty, and has jeopardized the credibility that our political leaders enjoy with our Armed Forces.

TRIBUTE TO MARCIN GORA

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a young and talented individual from my home State of Michigan, Marcin Gora of Shelby Township. Marcin recently traveled to Lyon, France, where he competed in the International Vocational Training Competitions [IVTC] as part of Team USA.

Team USA was fielded by the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America [VICA]—a national organization of students in public high schools

and college vocational-technical institutions. This year's team was composed of 14 of America's best future workers and they competed against 28 other countries in the Biennial IVTC. They achieved the highest overall team score in the history of the United States' participation—a world-class standing.

At a time when some are questioning America's ability to compete, our placement at this competition illustrates that American workers can and will compete with any nation. Without a doubt, Marcin Gora is indeed exceptional, but he epitomizes the abilities and skill level that all Americans can and should achieve. With the support of organizations like VICA and the efforts of people like Marcin Gora, we will continue to lead the world in the development of new technologies and the production of world-class products and services.

I congratulate Marcin Gora and all the members of Team USA for their outstanding performance at the International Vocational Training Competitions. I urge my colleagues to support them as they work to ensure that America remains the industrial leader of the world.

PENN HILLS HIGH SCHOOL 1995
AAAA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 1995

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Penn Hills High School Indians who won the 1995 Pennsylvania AAAA Varsity Football Championship. This past Saturday, December 9, at Altoona's Mansion Park Stadium, they defeated Lower Dauphin High School by a score of 35 to 14. The team was undefeated, 15 and 0, this season and this is the first time in history that this high school football team, which is located in the 18th Congressional District in western Pennsylvania, won the State championship.

Not to take sides between last year's champions, the McKeesport High School football team, also in my district, but what makes this championship especially important is that USA Today ranks the Penn Hills team as the No. 5 high school football team in the United States.

Congratulations to the players, the coaching staff, the supportive student body and families, and the Penn Hills community. I share your pride and claim the appropriate bragging rights on Capitol Hill. Keep up the team spirit and the motivation to succeed.

RADIO PIONEER BILL ZAK
RETIRES FROM KTRH

HON. JACK FIELDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 1995

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to salute Bill Zak, radio pioneer who will soon retire after 45 years as a newscaster and host of "Gardenline," a 6 day-a-week call-in gardening show on radio station KTRH Houston, TX.

Bill Zak joined the staff of KTRH in 1951—a year before I was born—after graduating

from Texas A&M University, which I now proudly represent. Early in his career, Bill was assigned to the KTRH news department, and for a time he anchored the "KTRH Morning News" show with another budding journalist: Dan Rather.

But it was gardening knowledge that Bill had, and it was gardening advice Houstonians needed. Few relationships have been so mutually beneficial.

As you may know, gardeners in the greater Houston area endure torrential rains that can last for days; flooding; hurricanes; harsh heat and high humidity; and, occasionally, freezing cold. This variety creates a great many potential gardeners, but prevents many more from ever turning a spade of soil.

For many, many years Bill Zak has rescued frustrated gardeners from botanical catastrophes, and has turned potential gardeners into actual gardeners. His expert advice and guidance have helped tens of thousands of Houstonians turn bare, sun-scorched lawns into oases of beauty.

But Bill has done far more during his four and a half decades of broadcasting. During Hurricane Alicia, which hit Houston hard in 1983, Bill served as one of KTRH's primary voices—providing hundreds of thousands of listeners with life-saving information that enabled our community, and its residents, to get through that disaster. It was just one more instance of journalistic excellence that has made KTRH the authoritative radio news station in the Texas Gulf coast region, and it was just one more example of Bill Zak's commitment to his station and his community.

I'm not sure how he managed to find the time, but Bill is also an author. His book, "Critters," is a popular pictorial encyclopedia of the native insects of Texas—and there are plenty of them. He also has authored a similar publication in Florida.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Zak's last day on the air at KTRH will be Friday, Dec. 22. I know that you join with me in wishing Bill and his wife of many years, Jean, well in the years ahead as they enjoy their retirement in the Houston area. I understand that following his retirement, Bill plans to spend his time reading, traveling, possibly writing another book and—not surprisingly—gardening. While he claims to be retiring, there are many Houstonians who know that old habits are hard to break and who suspect Bill's voice may yet be heard again on KTRH—providing news or gardening advice to his tens of thousands of loyal, long-time listeners.

SWEARING IN OF JESSE L.
JACKSON, JR.

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 1995

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, today is a great day for myself, the 2nd Congressional District of Chicago and all of America. Jesse L. Jackson, Jr. has the resounding qualities of humility, honesty, a willingness to work in behalf of those who cannot fight for themselves. He can walk proudly with kings and with the same ease walk humbly with the common man.

I am proud and appreciative of the Jackson family. Many years ago, his father Jesse L.

Jackson, Sr. stood beside me tirelessly during a time of my own personal tribulation. The son of a man who so gallantly stood by me can be nothing less than a warrior and a man of impeccable spirit.

Greatness is a by-product of working with the disenfranchised. One who has worked and fought so diligently for the less fortunate will naturally develop a sense of compassion, commitment, and integrity. Thus, I am certain that Jesse L. Jackson, Jr. will serve not only as a capable Representative but will also be a shining example of statesmanship.

Without equivocation or hesitation, I give my whole-hearted welcome and praise to Jesse L. Jackson, Jr., who I am certain will serve the people of the 2d Congressional District of Illinois with passion, zeal, and integrity.

Jesse, I look forward to working with you and beside you in representing the people of Illinois. May God continue to bless you.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 1995

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, due to the death of a close personal friend, I was absent during the following rollcall votes. Had I been present I would have voted as follows: On 847 "yea", 846 "nay", 845 "yea", 857 "nay", 856 "nay", 855 "yea", 854 "nay", 853 "yea", 852 "nay", 851 "nay", 850 "nay", and 849 "nay".

I would ask unanimous consent that these votes be placed in the appropriate place in the permanent RECORD.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 1995

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, December 13 on rollcall vote No. 850, H.R. 1868, the conference report making appropriations for Foreign operations for fiscal year 1996, I was inadvertently recorded as a "yes" vote.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GEORGE
AND MABEL SHREVES ON THEIR
75TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark a truly special occasion. George and Mabel Shreves, of Karnak, IL, will celebrate their 75th wedding anniversary on December 18. It is with great admiration that I offer them my best wishes.

A diamond anniversary is not a common event. Such an occasion is more than just a testament to the Shreves' commitment to each other. Their life together exemplifies the beauty that marriage is meant to symbolize, and gives real meaning to words such as dedication and devotion. Since their wedding day in