

Over the last few years, NIAAA has made great strides in incorporating women into their research, and I applaud them for their progress. In fiscal year 1995, NIAAA spent 23 percent of their budget on research on alcohol abuse and alcoholism among women. This represents a 69-percent increase over their fiscal year 1992 spending. However, the differences in the effects of alcohol and alcoholism on men and women necessitate further research on women and alcoholism.

The impact of alcoholism on women and men differs greatly. Women are more likely to use nontraditional health care systems for alcohol-related problems. Studies have shown that the development of consequences associated with heavy drinking may be accelerated in women. The death rate of female alcoholics is 50 to 100 percent higher than for male alcoholics. Heavy drinking contributes to menstrual disorders, fertility problems, and premature menopause, and alcohol use by pregnant women is the leading known cause of mental retardation in newborns. FAS strikes between 3,600 to 10,000 babies a year, and a Centers for Disease Control study indicates that the percentage of babies born with alcohol-related health problems increased sixfold between 1979 and 1993. It is critical that we bolster NIAAA's research on women and alcohol, and this legislation will help accomplish this.

This legislation recognizes the progress NIAAA has made. It instructs the NIAAA to maintain their current spending on women and alcoholism within their existing budget. It would also instruct House authorizers to add an additional \$25 million in spending for NIAAA on research on alcohol abuse and alcoholism among women. Thus, this additional money would not subtract money from NIAAA's overall budget for women and alcohol, but instead add new funds for this critical research.

Clearly, alcohol abuse among women is a very serious problem with grave consequences. This legislation will include women in NIAAA's research so that we may better understand the effects of alcoholism particular to women and develop solutions that will work for women.

---

#### IMMIGRATION IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 1996*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2202) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to improve deterrence of illegal immigration to the United States by increasing border patrol and investigative personnel, by increasing penalties for alien smuggling and for document fraud, by reforming exclusion and deportation law and procedures, by improving the verification system for eligibility for employment, and through other measures, to reform the legal immigration system and facilitate legal entries into the United States, and for other purposes:

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 2202, the Immigration in the National Interest Act of 1995. This is an ex-

traordinary important bill that improves our Nation's immigration policy.

Clearly, Congress has a responsibility to formulate sound and comprehensive policies governing immigration—legal and illegal. The need to re-examine our immigration policy has been long overdue. Over the past few days this bill has been considered on the floor, a vigorous national debate has ensued on this complex and controversial issue. Frankly, there are still provisions in this bill that concern me—some remaining, some added by floor amendments—but in balance, H.R. 2202 makes needed reforms which I will speak about in a moment.

Like nearly every American, I am concerned about the problems of illegal immigration. Over 1.8 million undocumented aliens enter the United States each year. We must stem this flow, both for economic and security reasons. Terrorism is a growing and legitimate law enforcement concern, and illegal entry is frequently the way they get into our country. Similarly, the economic cost of illegal immigrants is undeniable.

Limiting the flow of illegal aliens through improved enforcement is part of the solution. As a member of the Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary Appropriations Subcommittee, I have consistently supported giving the responsible Federal agencies sufficient resources to deal with the problem of illegal immigration. We still have work to do in this area, and I will continue to work with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, as well as with the members of the Appropriations Committee, to make sure that we have sufficient manpower along the border to deal with flow of undocumented aliens.

H.R. 2202 includes provisions to improve border crossing identification cards by making them less susceptible to counterfeiting. In addition, it includes provisions to deter document fraud and alien smuggling, and streamlines procedures for the inspection, apprehension, detention, adjudication, and removal of inadmissible and deportable aliens.

But there must also be a long-term solution that encourages democracy and economic growth in countries that send illegal immigrants to our borders—especially Central and South America. Job opportunities in those countries is the strongest incentive to keep potential immigrants there. Thus, in addition to strong enforcement of our immigration laws and imposing sanctions on those who hire illegal aliens, we must seek mutually beneficial trade relationships that can stimulate economies in Central and South America. This is one of the many reasons I support the North American Free-Trade Agreement [NAFTA]. It is in our own self-interest to help Mexico build an economy that can create the nearly one million new jobs required each year to keep ahead of population growth. Only in that way can we provide an incentive for Mexicans to stay at home—and a disincentive to come to the United States.

With respect to legal immigration reform, this bill addresses the abuse of claims for political asylum. These are currently 300,000 pending claims, and that number is growing by 12,000 each month. Of course, there can be legitimate claims of political asylum, but our current system allows for six opportunities of appeal when a claim is denied. This is excessive and unacceptable. H.R. 2202 makes much needed changes to this asylum process.

The asylum reform provision in the bill would require aliens to file an application for asylum within 180 days of entering the United States. Those filing after the deadline would not be eligible for asylum. This is a reasonable and important reform because it encourages aliens to apply for asylum without delay and makes their presence known to immigration authorities.

The bill provides that an alien who qualifies as a political refugee will be granted asylum unless the person is discovered to have a prior history of persecuting other persons, has been convicted of a felony or other serious crime prior to his arrival, is regarded as a danger to national security, or is inadmissible on terrorist grounds. It provides that asylum protection for an alien may be terminated if the person is no longer a refugee, can be moved to another country where he will be granted asylum or other temporary protection, voluntarily returns to his native country with the intent to stay, or has changed his or her nationality to a country which will grant asylum.

Although I favor maintaining numbers of legal immigrants admitted to the United States annually at current levels, I did not support the Chrysler/Brownback amendment to strip legal immigration reforms from the bill. There is a tie between legal and illegal immigration reform that cannot be disputed and should not be separated. Changes in illegal immigration policy will have an effect on legal immigration and vice versa. Although these provisions should have been kept together, I support final passage of H.R. 2202. It is imperative that we move forward, send this bill to conference with the Senate, and send President Clinton a comprehensive and responsible immigration reform bill.

---

#### IMMIGRATION IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 1996*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2202) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to improve deterrence of illegal immigration to the United States by increasing border patrol and investigative personnel, by increasing penalties for alien smuggling and for document fraud, by reforming exclusion and deportation law and procedures, by improving the verification system for eligibility for employment, and through other measures, to reform the legal immigration system and facilitate legal entries into the United States, and for other purposes:

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Chairman, I include for the RECORD the following correspondence from the NCLR:

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LA RAZA,  
*Washington, DC, March 15, 1996.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: I am writing on behalf of the National Council of La Raza (NCLR), the nation's largest constituency-based national Hispanic organization, to express profound concern about H.R. 2202, which will be considered by the House next week. NCLR supports effective measures to control our borders. We believe that effective immigration reform must include professionally conducted border enforcement, visa