

license for a 1-year period and fining him the maximum amount, the sum of \$3 million on July 8.

Other States, however, are not required to honor Nevada's action. Under our legislation passed by the 104th Congress, States are required to recognize another State's decision to suspend a boxer only if the reasons for the suspension relate to a boxer's medical condition, poor boxing skills, failure of a drug test, or falsification of information. Thus, today, any other State may host a boxing match featuring Mr. Tyson prior to the expiration of his suspension if the State notifies and consults with Nevada Athletic Commission prior to granting approval. Mr. Tyson could conceivably fight in a boxing match somewhere else in the U.S. some time before his suspension in Nevada expires.

The legislation which I introduce today would unequivocally foreclose this possibility. I am proposing that in addition to the existing requirements of the Professional Boxing Safety Act, States must ensure that no boxer is permitted to box while under suspension by any other State due to the boxer's commission of a malicious foul or infraction. A malicious foul or infraction is defined to include intentionally biting any part of an opponent's body or extremities. It also encompasses some of the more common dirty tricks used by boxers, such as intentionally headbutting or hitting below the belt.

Most Americans would be appalled if they knew that Mike Tyson could conceivably fight somewhere outside Nevada within the next year. Many of us cannot imagine this possibility, but the fight game and its promoters are known for unacceptable and brazen actions. The legislation that I propose today ensures that no boxer will be allowed to fight in the ring after any State has imposed a disciplinary suspension on the boxer to punish the boxer's misconduct during a fight. It does so by building upon the comprehensive framework that Congress, with overwhelming bipartisan support, has already wisely enacted.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SONNY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. BONO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 29th, I registered my vote on rollcall vote 338, final passage of the Defense Appropriations Act, H.R. 2266. Unfortunately, I did not check the final result of the electronic registration of my vote, and it ultimately was registered improperly. It was my intent to vote "aye" in support of passage of H.R. 2226 and in appreciation of Chairman YOUNG and the Appropriation Subcommittee's hard work.

A SALUTE TO VINCE LOMBARDI

HON. JAY W. JOHNSON

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute a man who meant so much to the city of Green Bay, to the State of

Wisconsin, and to football fans across the Nation. I rise to honor Vince Lombardi, who coached the Green Bay Packers for nine glorious seasons. He is the Hall-of-Famer who put the "Title" in "Tittletown," by winning five NFL championships and the first two Super Bowls.

He defined success and dedication and pride because he put a premium on putting forth the effort to win. He once said, "If you'll not settle for anything less than your best, you will be amazed at what you can accomplish in your lives." That lesson still rings true today.

We are remembering Vince Lombardi today, because on August 5, our U.S. Postal Service will issue a new commemorative 32-cent stamp in his honor. I know we are certainly going to have a lot of newly interested stamp collectors in northeast Wisconsin next week.

I know I join all Packer fans in thanking the Postal Service for honoring Vince Lombardi.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND THE U.S. IMPORT DUTY ON FERROBORON

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 1997

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer legislation that would temporarily suspend, through the year 2000, the rate of duty applicable to imports into the United States of ferroboron. Ferroboron is the key raw material in amorphous metal electrical power distribution transformer cores. Transformers using these cores reduce energy losses and greenhouse gas emissions associated with these losses by 60 to 80 percent when compared to the other transformer core technologies. This is positive both in terms of increasing energy conservation and decreasing environmental degradation in the developing nations that present the most promising market opportunities.

While such benefits are tangible and significant, they and the extensive research and development that has yielded them come at a cost. An amorphous metal transformer has an initial cost 20 to 30-percent higher than the energy-wasting and environmentally unfriendly transformers it seeks to replace. Fortunately, because of its many benefits, the total owning cost of an amorphous metal transformer—over its 20 to 30 year life—is far lower than the initially cheaper competition. Reducing the cost of the end product's most important and costly raw material, by suspending the import duty paid on it, would further help ensure the cost-competitiveness of the end product in the export markets so vital to the product and the American workers behind it.

Furthermore, because there is no substitute domestic product currently benefiting from the present 5 percent duty rate on ferroboron, no adverse impact on the domestic ferroalloy industry is anticipated. I therefore urge my colleagues to support expeditious passage of this bill.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2015, BALANCED BUDGET ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 1997

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, I am committed to ensuring that the VA health care system has adequate funds to meet the health care needs of our veterans. Adequate funding for VA has long been an issue. As chairman and earlier, as ranking member, I have long advocated legislation to give VA new mechanisms to supplement the funding provided through the appropriations process.

My goals in this regard have included legislation to allow VA to retain money collected from third-party payers and legislation to allow VA to be reimbursed by Medicare when it provides care to certain Medicare-covered veterans. We have achieved success on the former, but more work needs to be done to give VA the opportunity to demonstrate that it can save dollars for the Medicare Program.

Current law permits VA to retain only the cost of its medical care collections. The remainder, constituting several hundred million dollars annually, must be deposited in the Treasury, in accordance with existing law. That policy fails to compensate VA facilities for the cost of care, and necessarily provides little incentive for achieving full recoveries or efficient collection efforts.

Our budget reconciliation bill effects a historic change in law by permitting the VA to retain money it collects from third parties. This important new provision differs markedly from the collections-retention proposal sent to Congress by the administration earlier this year. First, it specifically establishes a policy that all moneys collected will stay at the network level. With this provision, we create a powerful incentive for individual facilities to collect as much as possible with the knowledge that the funds will be used locally.

Notwithstanding the incentive associated with this new authority, however, many have expressed well-founded concerns that, for reasons beyond VA's control, collections could fall short of target levels. Such a shortfall could materially diminish VA's ability to meet veterans' health care needs. Mr. Speaker, these concerns prompted our committee to develop a contingency funding mechanism, which would be in effect for fiscal year 1998. In essence, the measure establishes a mechanism that would trigger what would amount to an automatic supplemental appropriation if VA collections fall short of Congressional Budget Office projections by more than \$25 million. These and other changes to the original administration proposal provide greater assurance that the new policy will foster veterans' interests, rather than place them in jeopardy.

I continue to believe that VA's medical care cost recoveries should supplement, rather than substitute for, appropriated funds. All in all, however, I believe that the third-party retention language passed by the House will help the VA to more effectively care for our veterans, and am extremely pleased that this measure is well on its way to becoming law.

I wish the same could be said for the straightforward legislation our committee developed earlier this session to demonstrate