

out of college, out of high school, out of career training right now if we are importing workers to take the jobs that are being created in this Nation?

Now, there is a flaw, of course, in this rationale. Even the GAO in a report that they released yesterday said that the Department of Commerce, in agreeing with the industry, and the industry in releasing their information, used flawed data. There is not, apparently, according to many of us, the severe shortage that cannot be filled by retraining Americans and by training Americans to take those jobs.

First of all, let me tell my colleagues, there is no universally accepted definition of what is an information technology worker. There also is no universal definition as to what training is required for those jobs. And, so, the industry in standing up and crying "wolf" and crying, like Chicken Little, that "the sky has fallen," that they have got these millions of jobs that they cannot fill, defined very broadly what is an information technology worker and very narrowly what kind of training would be required to fill those jobs. They seem to require right now that if you do not have a Bachelor's degree in computer science or information science you cannot fill those jobs.

Well, that is crazy. Because in 1993, only 25 percent of the workers across this Nation who were working in information technology actually had a BA in computer or in information science. Many of the other workers had degrees, but they had degrees in business, in social science, in math, engineering, psychology, economics, education. They were smart people. They had training and could be retrained to take these jobs in what is a burgeoning industry.

We project between 1996 and the year 2006 we will need 1.3 million workers in information technology; 1.1 million of those workers will be needed because of the growth alone. The wages for information technology workers are increasing, but they are increasing only because the market calls for an increase, and they are increasing no more than the wages for the general public.

Now the ITAA, this Information Technology Association of America that wants to use this little-known program now to import workers to this country to take these new jobs in a growth industry, sent out a sampling to 2,000 industries. Only 14 percent of those industries responded, and on that 14-percent response, they are basing their request to import workers into this country to take those jobs.

Mr. Speaker, it would take a 75-percent response to make a credible extrapolation on a nationwide basis, a nationwide generalization as to how many workers we need and where they have to come from.

Let me tell my colleagues about this program, the origination of the H-1B program. This was established in 1990 to alleviate an anticipated shortage of scientists and engineers, particularly

at a Ph.D. level. But by the time this program was in place, the Berlin Wall had fallen, there was an economic downturn, we had gone into a recession, downsizing was rampant in defense and other industries, and we really never needed the program. The people that were proponents of this program were primarily the National Science Foundation and some industry groups.

But the information technology companies have gotten smart. They said, here is a program, we can import workers; and in fact they become indentured servants. We own them. If they complain about the work hours, if they complain about the salary, if they complain about the benefits, we will send them back to the country they came from. And what has happened is, we have seen tremendous numbers of layoffs of American workers while these foreign workers have been brought into this country. This needs to be looked at.

And I would ask, Mr. Speaker, that other Members of this House would look at this program and we can stand up for American workers and get training and retraining for our workers for these jobs.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I think my colleague has pointed out a problem, and I think there is at least one other.

There are 346,000 unfilled information technology jobs nationwide. And one of the problems is that the results of the Third International Mathematics and Science Study, called the TIMSS, shows that American high school seniors rank near the bottom in math and science education when compared to their international counterparts.

I am attempting to find a solution, so I have introduced House Resolution 3496 that was heard in committee today, the Information Technology Partnership Act, which creates an additional grant program through the National Science Foundation and the Urban Systemic Initiative Program. The Urban Systemic Initiative Program focuses primarily on math and science by using mentor teachers to help educators introduce an innovative and engaging math and science curriculum to K through 12 students in the inner city.

The IT Partnership, that is, the information technology partnership grant is aimed at improving scientific and mathematical literacy of all students in urban communities while fostering a student's career in the information technology field. This partnership consists of local education agencies and local businesses investing in the educational development of the

youth in their districts. Specialized curricula and scholarships would assist students in filling future information technology jobs.

My district is driven by technology; and so we see firsthand not having enough people trained in this country. And, yes, people are being brought in and information is being developed outside this country, but not because of trade and not because of avoiding any other type of barrier. It is simply because we do not have them available right now.

So specifically, the IT Partnership Grant focuses on math and science curricula for students in grades 10 through 12 and offers internships and scholarship opportunity for students majoring in fields relating to information technology. Under this program, eligibility for the IT Partnership Grant is limited to the cities with the largest number of school age children, ages 5 to 17, living in economic poverty as determined by the 1990 census.

The following cities are eligible for this grant: Atlanta; Baltimore; Bayamo; Boston; Chicago; Cincinnati; Cleveland; Columbus, Ohio; Dallas, Texas; Detroit; El Paso; Fresno; Houston; Indianapolis; Jacksonville; Los Angeles; Memphis; Miami; Milwaukee; New Orleans; New York City; Phoenix; Philadelphia; Ponce; San Antonio; San Diego; San Juan; and St. Louis.

The grant awards five local education agencies \$300,000 to develop math, science, and technology curricula for grades 10 through 12 and to train teachers in technology. That is a problem we have throughout this Nation.

In order for the local education agencies to win this grant, they must enter into a partnership with businesses in their community. These businesses would commit to provide to the local education agencies a minimum of at least internships, scholarships, and mentoring programs and computer products. Local businesses would promise the local education agencies scholarship money, which would be awarded to high school seniors. You see, because these businesses have a stake, their future depends on having qualified people to do the job, and seniors who would be majoring in these fields associated with information technology, that is, math, computer science, and engineering at 2- and 4-year colleges. The partnership between the local education agencies and local business sponsors would determine the amount and the number of scholarships given.

It is important to note that the local education agencies will have direct responsibility for overseeing the program, and the National Science Foundation's role is limited to determining which 5 cities meet the criteria for eligibility. We would like to award them all, but are trying to think about staying in the budget even though we are not doing what we should for education if we are going to have a cutting-edge Nation in the future.

The National Science Foundation director will award the IT Partnership Grants to 5 cities with the best package of business sponsorship and curricular development. In addition, priority will be given to those local education agencies that grant scholarships to students who are first generation college students.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that we can get up support for this legislation. Because there are companies, and I have many in my district, that are screaming out for these people to be qualified so they can give them jobs.

JIMMY HERMAN—WARRIOR FOR JUSTICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, sadly I rise to call to the attention of my colleagues the passing of a good friend of working people in America, Jimmy Herman.

Jimmy Herman is one of the most respected and beloved labor leaders in San Francisco history, and he died on Friday. He was the president emeritus of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

Jimmy was known for his enormous compassion, commitment to workers' rights and social justice. His life was truly about justice. He was also an extraordinary orator who inspired thousands to take up the cause of workers' rights, justice for farm workers, peace in Vietnam, to name a few. His death marks the end of an historic era in the labor history of the San Francisco Bay area and our Nation.

Jimmy devoted his life to building a strong, democratic and multiracial trade union. Since the big strike of 1934, the ILWU has provided democratic and strong representation that gives voice, and that is "democratic" with a small "d", Mr. Speaker, to the aspirations of working people up and down the West Coast.

The ILWU broke down barriers denied members of minority groups by providing access to a decent standard of living. It also provided a powerful means for working men and women to make a contribution to the political and social fabrics of their communities.

Under the leadership of Harry Bridges, followed by Jim Herman, the ILWU faced head-on the great political challenges of our Nation, refusing in the 1930s to load scrap metal on ships bound for Japan or to unload cargo in ships bearing the Nazi swastika.

Jim Herman led his union in its efforts to oppose the apartheid regime in South Africa, leading his members in refusing to unload cargo sent from South Africa. Jim Herman had a social conscience that did not allow for rest or moral fatigue. His moral leadership played an important role in bringing about a negotiated end to the war in El Salvador.

In November 1989, Neighbor to Neighbor, a national grass-roots human rights organization based in San Francisco, launched a boycott of Salvadoran coffee to apply economic pressure on the Salvadoran Government and the coffee growers, many of whom had founded and funded the notorious death squads. The boycott was triggered by the murder of 6 Jesuit priests and the bombing of a Salvadoran trade union federation.

My chief of staff in San Francisco, Fred Ross, was the head of Neighbor to Neighbor at that time. So I was well aware of Jimmy's leadership and involvement. Under Jimmy's leadership, the ILWU strongly endorsed the coffee boycott. The members honored picket lines on the docks of San Francisco, Vancouver, B.C., Seattle, and gave the *Ciudad de Buenaventura* ship loaded with 43 tons of Salvadoran coffee a final rejection in Long Beach, forcing it to sail back to El Salvador with its coffee in its hold.

□ 1845

The ILWU effectively sealed off the West Coast from shipments of Salvadoran coffee over the next 2 years.

Another cause that Jim Herman championed was that of the farm workers led by Cesar Chavez. He was one of the first labor leaders to go to Delano to join the farm workers on the picket line. Later in his life he was a mentor to people at Delancey Street Foundation in San Francisco.

I will submit for the RECORD some of the particulars of his background which is an extraordinary one.

On this Earth, God's work for the poor, the disenfranchised for peace and social justice was done with love and compassion by Jim Herman throughout his lifetime. He was truly a warrior for justice.

My heartfelt sympathies go out to his two brothers, Rodman Herman and Milton Herman. On a very personal note, I along with the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ESHOO), the gentleman from California (Mr. MILLER) and many other members of the California delegation have lost a friend, a person who loved life, loved politics and all of the art of the impossibilities. Jim Herman's passion for life was matched only by his rage for justice.

He is now our shining star, the one with the twinkle of merriment for all to see as night draws near, the twinkle that we will miss in his eye forever. We will miss you, our dear Jimmy, our sweet friend.

Born in Newark, NJ on August 21, 1924, son of a school janitor, Jim Herman went to sea in the early months of World War II. Sailing was a tough, lonely business, ". . . But it provided the opportunity to read everything in reach, and to talk with people who had seen it all," Jimmy once remarked.

As a 16-year-old in 1942 he served on a freighter backing up the invasion of North Africa. After the war he was a steward on the *Lurline* during its majestic cruises between San Francisco and Honolulu. In 1949 he led a

walkout that forced the *Lurline* empty and silent for 6 months in solidarity with an ILWU strike in the massive sugar cane fields of Hawaii.

In 1953, he joined Warehouse Local 6 in San Francisco. In 1956 he moved to Ship Clerk's Local 34, where he was elected vice president in 1960 and president 1 year later. He was re-elected every 2 years thereafter, until his election to the presidency of the ILWU in 1977.

His leadership was characterized by the continuation of the rank and file style of the leadership which had characterized the ILWU during Bridges' years. Under Jim Herman's leadership, through five sets of negotiations, the daily wage of longshoremen more than doubled, and the maximum monthly pension benefit tripled.

In 1988, he steered the ILWU toward affiliation with the AFL-CIO, ending a long chapter of exclusion which had benefited neither the ILWU nor the Nation's labor movement. Throughout his presidency he was the ILWU's ambassador, building and strengthening the union's relationships with maritime and other unions, and within the larger community. Most of all, he kept the ILWU—with its broad and complex jurisdiction in the maritime industry, tourism, warehouse and distribution, manufacturing and processing—strong and viable in extraordinarily difficult times.

The labor movement was his family. "The labor movement offered me a chance to be part of history, not just a passive observer," he has said. "I'll never be able to repay that debt." It's not for lack of effort. Take Jim Herman's mentorship with the young men and women putting their lives back together at Delancey Street. "He makes me cry," says Mimi Silbert, president of the drug and alcohol rehabilitation program. "Two of three times a week he drops by to have coffee with the residents, talking, getting them interested in the world outside themselves, strengthening their faith in themselves."

CONGRESSIONAL TRIP TO KOSOVO

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, just yesterday I returned from the Balkans along with the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. KELLY). We had hoped to go into a region called Kosovo to monitor elections that were being held this past Sunday by the Albanians in the region of Kosovo who make up 90 percent, 2 million people, 90 percent of Kosovo, but have no political, economic or human rights whatsoever.

I have been to Kosovo a number of times, and I can tell my colleagues the people, they are truly a people under oppression. We have witnessed during the past few weeks, Mr. Speaker, the wanton killings of men, women and children by the Serbian police forces going into villages and slaughtering people. It reminds us of what happened in Bosnia early on. If the West, particularly the United States, does not