There are also a number of cases that have languished unresolved for years. These include cases where the government of Nicaragua has been ordered by its own court system to make payments to Americans who had their property illegally confiscated. Another group of cases that have languished involve Public Sector National Corporation (CORNAP). The missing ingredient in resolving these cases is political will. In both instances, the rule of law can only be served if the government of Nicaragua lives up to its obligations.

This bill will bring real pressure to bear by restricting U.S. bilateral assistance and U.S. support for multilateral assistance to the government of Nicaragua. The bill contains important exemptions for humanitarian and disaster relief assistance to avoid penalizing the people of Nicaragua. The bill also would allow vital counter-narcotics assistance to continue to flow to protect our nation from illicit drugs.

The Property Protection Act of 2000, when enacted, will require the President to identify the 50 most urgent pending property claims by American citizens against the government of Nicaragua and to suspend assistance to the government of Nicaragua until these cases are resolved. This is not too much to ask. Our government has been very patient, but, regrettably, our patience seems to have been misinterpreted by the government of Nicaragua as a lack of interest.

This bill will insure that the government of Nicaragua, and other states around the world, will understand that our citizens cannot have their property stolen with impunity.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, I ask that the full text of H.R. 4602 be printed in the Congressional Record.

H.R. 4602

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Property Protection Act of 2000”.

SEC. 2. PROTECTION OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS AGAINST EXPROPRIATIONS OF PROPERTY BY NICARAGUA.

(a) BILATERAL ASSISTANCE.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 527(g) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995, assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or the Arms Export Control Act for fiscal year 2001 or 2002 may only be provided to the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua if the President first makes a certification under subsection (d) for fiscal year involved.

(ii) EXCEPTION.—For purposes of paragraph (I), the term “assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961” shall not include—

(A) assistance under chapter 1 or chapter 10 of part I of such Act for child survival, basic education, assistance to combat tropical and other diseases, and related activities;

(B) assistance under section 510 of such Act (relating to international narcotics control assistance); and

(C) assistance under chapter 9 of part I of such Act (relating to international disaster assistance).

(b) MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—The President shall instruct the United States Executive Director at each multilateral development bank and international financial institution to which the United States is a member to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to oppose any loan or other utilization of the funds of such bank or institution for the benefit of the Republic of Nicaragua for fiscal year 2001 or 2002 unless the President first makes a certification under subsection (d) for fiscal year involved.

(ii) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (I) shall not apply with respect to assistance that is directed specifically to programs which serve the basic human needs of the citizens of Nicaragua.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than September 1, 2000, or the date of the enactment of this Act (whichever occurs later), and not later than September 1, 2001, the President shall prepare and transmit to Congress a detailed report listing the 50 most urgent property claims by United States citizens against the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua which shall include, but not be limited to, all property claims in which Nicaraguan courts have ruled in favor of United States citizens, and property claims by United States citizens involving Public Sector National Corporations (CORNAP).

(d) CERTIFICATION.—A certification under this subsection is a certification to the Congress that the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua has returned the nationalized or expropriated property and property rights of each United States citizen who has a formally-documented claim against the Government of Nicaragua listed in the report under subsection (c), or has provided adequate and effective compensation equivalent to the full value of the nationalized or expropriated property of each United States citizen who has a formally-documented claim against the Government of Nicaragua listed in the report under subsection (c).

HONORING BALL STATE PRESIDENT JOHN E. WORTHEN—A GREAT EDUCATOR

HON. DAVID M. MCINTOSH
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the House of Representatives to honor a leader in education in Indiana and the nation. In the heart of my district in East Central Indiana lies Ball State University, one of the premier institutions of higher education in the Midwest. For the last sixteen years Ball State has been under the capable guidance of University President John E. Worthen. Sadly, he is leaving the university this year.

Mr. Speaker, greatness is setting bold goals and then having the will to accomplish them. John Worthen brought vision and greatness when he came to the university in 1984 and has spent the last sixteen years putting his vision into practice. Ball State, Indiana, and the nation are the better for his efforts. At the start of his administration, President Worthen focused on broad goals. He aimed for excellence in all things. The university has reached beyond its grasp to accomplish his vision. His plan was anchored in the premise that learning should be a lifelong pursuit. Under his leadership, Ball State’s central mission has been to arm students with the skills, knowledge, and enthusiasm to continue learning after they leave the university.

John Worthen always looked to the future of education, not its past. He viewed technology as a fundamental component of that mission, and he directed Ball State’s resources toward acquiring that technology. Ball State established courses and workshops to train faculty and staff to use the new technologies and started the Center for Teaching Technology to help faculty use this new tool to enhance their instruction. During the past ten years, Ball State spent millions of dollars on renovations that have added computer labs, put Internet access in every residence hall room, and wired every classroom to an interactive fiberoptic multimedia network. The university now has a student-to-computer ratio of thirteen-to-one, one of the lowest in the country.

This year Yahoo! Internet Life magazine ranked Ball State among the top twenty in its annual survey of “most wired” universities. These technological capabilities have also made Ball State a national leader in distance education.

President Worthen’s education and training gave him a solid background for the challenge of running a university. A Midwesterner, he earned a bachelor of science degree in psychology at Ball State in 1954 and received his master’s degree in student personnel administration from Columbia University in 1955. He served four years in the Navy as a carrier pilot and education and legal officer. He attained the rank of lieutenant. He earned an Ed. D. from Indiana University in 1964 in counseling psychology and administration in higher education. John Worthen began his career in education as the dean of men at American University in Washington, D.C., then moved to the University of Delaware where he taught education courses and accepted various administrative responsibilities. In 1979, he became president of Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Ball State University invited him to become its eleventh president in 1984.

Mr. Speaker, I know all of my colleagues join me in saluting a real educator, John E. Worthen. Under his leadership, Ball State has flourished. In almost the most important fields of education—social sciences, science, and technology—President Worthen has made Ball State a leader in Indiana and the nation and both are better off for his efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I have been honored to work alongside John Worthen. I will miss the benefit of his counsel and wisdom. I wish he and his wife Sandra much happiness as they move on to new challenges.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. WISE, JR.
OF WEST VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 7, 2000, I was unavoidably detained and unable to record a vote by electronic device on Roll Number 241. Had I been present I would have voted “aye” on Roll Number 241.

On Wednesday, June 7, 2000, I was unavoidably detained and unable to record a vote by electronic device on Roll Number 241. Had I been present I would have voted “aye” on Roll Number 241.