

key to strengthening the stability of the region. Therefore, I urge the two parties to take the long steps needed to demilitarize and launch a much needed initiative to promote a speedy resolution on the basis of international law and democratic principles. We must have lasting peace and stability on Cyprus.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2002

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2506) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Smith-Morella-Slaughter-Lantos-Pitts amendment, to dedicate a total of \$30 million of the bill's funds to protect and assist victims of trafficking in persons and help countries meet minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking.

I was proud to be a lead cosponsor of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000, Rep. SMITH's bill to monitor and eliminate human trafficking here in the U.S. and abroad. After an arduous six year struggle to address the problem of sex trafficking with my own legislation, last October I was pleased to see this bill pass with strong bipartisan support.

In June 1994, I first introduced legislation addressing the growing problem of Burmese women and children being sold to work in the thriving sex industry in Thailand. This legislation responded to credible reports indicating that thousands of Burmese women and girls were being trafficked into Thailand with false promises of good paying jobs in restaurants or factories, and then forced to work in brothels under slavery-like conditions.

As I learned more and more about this issue it became abundantly clear that this issue was not limited to one particular region of the world. In addition, I found that human trafficking was not exclusively a crime of sexual exploitation. Taken independently, sex trafficking is an egregious practice in and of itself. It is also important, however, to be aware that people are being illegally smuggled across borders to work in sweatshops, domestic servitude, or other slaverylike conditions. I was pleased to see that the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act recognized the full magnitude of human trafficking and included provisions that effectively seek to address human trafficking.

The Act set forth policies not only to monitor, but to eliminate trafficking here in the U.S. and abroad. More importantly, it does so in a way that punishes the true perpetrators, the traffickers themselves, while at the same time taking the necessary steps to protect the victims of these heinous crimes. It uses our nation's considerable influence throughout the world to put pressure on other nations to

adopt policies that will hopefully lead to an end to this abhorrent practice.

In the wake of the passage of the Act, however, there is still a great deal of work to be done. According to the recently issued 2001 Trafficking in Persons Report by the State Department, 23 countries are listed in "Tier 3"—signifying that they do not satisfy the law's minimum standards to combat trafficking and are not making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance.

It is my hope that this report will serve as a catalyst for reinvigorated international efforts to end human trafficking. We must continue to work expeditiously to implement the provisions of the Act, that provide tough new penalties for persons convicted of trafficking in the United States.

Beginning in 2003, those countries that are listed in "Tier 3" may be denied non-humanitarian assistance from the United States, barring a Presidential waiver. As a result, the U.S. is now in a position to put pressure on other nations to adopt policies that will eradicate human trafficking practices inside and between their borders. We are also in a position to prosecute and punish the traffickers themselves and thereby put an end to coordinated kidnaping and exploitation of the most vulnerable members of society.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this amendment to ensure funding for efforts to assist victims of human trafficking, and aid countries in eliminating this egregious criminal activity.

THE DUMPING OF FOREIGN STEEL

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share a few remarks about the dumping of foreign steel into U.S. markets. Recently, the Korea Iron and Steel Association dispatched a steel trade mission to the United States to convey the Korean steel makers concern over the United States movement to restrict imports of steel products, as well as to learn the position of the United States government and steel industry. This mission visited the USTR, Department of Commerce, the ITC and the American Iron and Steel Institute to express the Korean industry's concerns over the United States' stance on the recent start of a section 201 antidumping investigation.

Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that the U.S. steel industry is in crisis. As one who represents thousands of people whose livelihood relies on the steel industry, I can assure you that the injury suffered by the U.S. industry and the people it supports is very real.

The steel crisis has produced casualties at every level in America's steel communities. As a result of the most recent wave of dumped steel imports, over 23,000 good steel jobs have been lost and 18 steel companies have filed for bankruptcy since the beginning of 1998. Anyone who thinks that these problems are a thing of the past that were cured by the last round of steel orders should know that ten of those 18 bankruptcies have occurred in the last 8 months.

Several thousand workers, beyond those laid off, were forced to accept reduced work

weeks, assignments to lower paying jobs, and early retirement. For those workers affected, alternative employment opportunities in the surrounding area are hard to come by, and those who do find other manufacturing jobs are often paid significantly less than what they previously made. The effects of these losses are felt right down the line—by workers' families and by other community businesses that simply cannot survive if their customers can no longer earn a paycheck.

Mr. Speaker, dumping has become such a problem because foreign producers are able to sell well below market in the United States because their own home markets are closed to competition, allowing them to maintain high at-home prices to subsidize losses abroad. In addition, subsidization of foreign producers by their governments is a primary reason why massive overcapacity in the world steel industry has been created and sustained. The structural problems in the world steel market have been created largely by the illegal practices of foreign producers, and the U.S. industry should not be forced to suffer as a result.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SAVE
MONEY FOR PRESCRIPTION
DRUG RESEARCH ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Save Money for Prescription Drug Research Act of 2001. The pharmaceutical industry is crying wolf, claiming that forced to reduce prescription drug costs for seniors, they will be unable to continue lifesaving drug research and development. This bill allows them to stop wasting money on physician incentives and redirect those funds to R&D. It would do so by denying tax deductions to drug companies for certain gifts and benefits, excepting product samples, provided to physicians and encourage use of such funds on R&D.

Presently, these companies are spending billions of dollars on promotions to entice doctors to prescribe their products, and these dollars are tax deductible. According to a New York Times November 2000 article pharmaceutical companies spent \$12 billion in 1999 courting physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants hoping to influence their prescribing habits. Experts estimate that drug companies spend an average of between \$8,000 and \$13,000 on individual physicians every year. Gifts come in the form of watches, jewelry, trips and expensive meals. The New York Times article lists one example where SmithKline Beecham offered physicians a \$250 'consulting fee' and choice of entrée at an expensive restaurant, merely for agreeing to attend an update on use of a cholesterol-reducing drug. These campaigns contribute to preference and rapid prescribing of new drugs, and decreased prescribing of generics. In other words, tax deductible dollars contribute to the rising prices of prescription drugs.

For years the pharmaceutical industry has claimed that the high price of prescription drugs is due to investment in research and development. A recent Families USA report, however, indicated that this might not be the case. The report showed that at eight major