

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF AMERICAN
HEART MONTH

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2002

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today is Valentine's Day—a day when we celebrate matters of the heart. It is, therefore, quite appropriate that we recognize February as American Heart Month.

Over 61 million Americans—1 in 5 adults—have one or more types of cardiovascular disease (CVD). CVD is a leading cause of long-term disability. Since 1990, CVD has been the number one killer in the United States every year but one. Every 33 seconds an American dies of cardiovascular disease. Forty percent of all deaths in the United States and in my home state of Illinois are due to CVD. Although we used to think of CVD as a man's disease, it is now the leading cause of death for American women—and in 1999, more women than men died of CVD—over one half million deaths. This is a terrible health crisis that demands immediate attention.

According to American Heart Association President Dr. David Faxon, "For each minute that passes without defibrillation and CPR, the chance of survival for a cardiac arrest victim decreases by 7 to 10 percent. In order to battle this disease, more Americans have to arm themselves with the knowledge that is crucial to saving lives."

Let's mount a public awareness campaign so that Americans can reduce their individual CVD risk factors, and recognize and respond promptly to cardiac emergencies. If we can do this, we can really have a Happy Valentine's Day.

STEEL 201 REMEDY

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2002

Ms. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today is Valentine's Day. But for thousands of American steelworkers whose jobs have been lost, this is a day filled with bitterness. I stand here today in protest of the low-priced steel imports that have ravaged the American Steel industry and the 3,800 LTV steelworkers in my district whose lives have been devastated as a result of these imports.

Today I urge the administration to take decisive action against the cheap imports that are destroying the U.S. steel industry. This is an industry that has been a cornerstone of our economy and national security over the last 100 years.

The administration, as part of its steel plan, has taken the important step of initiating a section 201 investigation to examine the devastating impact that steel imports have had on

the American steel industry. The International Trade Commission found, unanimously, that American steel companies and thousands of American workers and their communities have been seriously injured by these imports. I say, and know firsthand, that they have been devastating. The ball is now in the President's hands. He must decide what measures his administration will take to correct the wrong that has been caused by low-priced imports. I urge the administration, in the strongest possible terms, to impose strong and effective tariff-based relief. The President must impose a tariff of at least 40 percent against all foreign low-priced steel imports.

I urge the President to impose this tariff for at least 4 years, as the law allows. Most importantly, I urge the President not to waiver from his commitment to the American steel industry and its workers because strong tariff-based relief is the only remedy that can realistically assist the industry.

It is no secret that low-priced imports are due to excessive global steel production. The Department of Commerce has released a study showing that global steel overcapacity results from subsidization and anticompetitive practices around the world. We must not allow steel imports that originate from such distorted markets to destroy a vital component of our economy. We must not allow those foreign producers to destroy thousands of good American jobs and the financial security that those jobs represent. Families depend on these jobs. Cities and communities depend on these jobs. Workers in my district depend on these jobs.

Thousands of American steelworkers are anxiously awaiting a trade remedy decision in the current 201 investigation. Their future depends on strong and effective trade relief and an administration that will be unrelenting in reducing global excess steel capacity. I urge the President to impose a strong tariff-based remedy against all foreign steel imports over the next 4 years.

DOMESTIC STEEL INDUSTRY

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2002

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to comment on the status of the domestic steel industry.

Our domestic steel industry is currently in a crisis situation. The fundamental cause of this crisis is massive foreign overcapacity, which has caused the United States to become the dumping ground for world excess steel products. As a result of this, since 1997, 31 steel companies have filed for bankruptcy, affecting over 62,000 American steel workers.

In my home State of Illinois, four steel companies have filed for bankruptcy, including Laclede Steel, which is in the congressional district I represent. Approximately 5,000 steel workers have lost their jobs in Illinois alone.

Last year, I joined my colleagues on the Congressional Steel Caucus in urging the President to implement a section 201 investigation by the International Trade Commission to determine if our domestic markets had been harmed by illegal dumping. In the fall, I testified before the ITC to express my concerns regarding the steel crisis. The ITC ruled unanimously that the steel industry had indeed been harmed.

While the ITC's decision was welcome, it didn't guarantee relief for the domestic steel industry. The ITC recommended the highest tariff rate of up to 40 percent for 4 years on all subject steel categories; however, it is up to the President to determine what type of remedy should be afforded to the industry. It is imperative that the President imposes the highest possible tariffs, rather than quotas, which will not be as helpful to the industry.

Without strong, decisive and quick action from the President, thousands more steel workers are at a very real risk of losing their jobs, at an economic time when our nation can least afford it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in asking the President to help our domestic steel industry by implementing tariffs on foreign steel. Anything less would be a disservice to the hardworking men and women who are counting on the President to stand up for them.

RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY AS
AMERICAN HEART MONTH

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2002

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in recognizing February as American Heart Month.

Heart disease is the nation's leading cause of death. It is estimated about 1 in 5 American adults suffer from some form of cardiovascular disease, or CVD. Before I even finish this statement, two Americans will die of cardiovascular disease. By the end of the hour, we will have lost 120 friends, family members, neighbors and coworkers. By the end of the day, more than 2,600 Americans will die from CVD.

While heart disease is a problem for all racial, ethnic, and socio-economic groups, certain groups are disproportionately affected. For example, while heart disease affects only thirty percent of white males, forty percent of African American males will suffer. Minority women also have higher risk of cardiovascular disease.

Mr. Speaker, as troubling as these statistics are, there is great hope that we can win the battle against heart disease. Some of the major causes of heart disease—tobacco use, physical inactivity, obesity, high cholesterol and high blood pressure—can all be treated or prevented. According to the World Health Organization, one year after quitting smoking,

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