

So we went into suborbit with two flights before, then 10 months after, Gagarin. We finally launched John Glenn—a former Member of this body—into orbit aboard an Atlas rocket, and the space race was on. That was when there was that very significant leadership decision made by President Kennedy who said: We are going to the Moon and back in the decade; and America put its efforts behind its will to succeed, and we developed the technology which led us to get there and back safely before the Soviets did.

Finally, the Soviets abandoned their efforts to go to the Moon with a human because they did not have the sophistication we had in our computer technology, sophistication that could help direct a spacecraft on reentry so that its trajectory could be such that human life would not be completely eliminated because of the G forces on a spacecraft on reentry.

I give that as one illustration of America's creativity and inventiveness when we set our minds to it. Thus, in the globalization of our markets on trade, whatever the products may be, America has had an advantage. We use our educationally developed workforce, we develop technology, and that is what we are very good at: exporting around the world. Thus, there is every reason for America to want to be engaged in international trade as long as it is free and fair trade. I am a free trader. That is how I usually will vote. That is how I usually voted as a Member of the House of Representatives over a 12-year period of public service.

We are confronting an aspect of trade that concerns me because it is not free and fair. It is going to affect one of the major economic interests in my State of Florida. Many States have automobile license tags indicating something of particular interest to each State. So it is with the Florida automobile license tag. We have an image of an orange emblazoned on our license tag, which is reflective of the considerable pride we have as well as the economic dominance of our Florida citrus industry.

That industry is threatened. Its very existence is threatened. Frozen concentrated Orange Juice production in Florida, is facing a life or death situation. I hope that as I continue to make speeches about the threat to this industry, that the White House is listening to a State that is very important to this White House. It was Florida, as we all know, that won the Presidency. There is a lot at stake in our State. It has to do with this trade bill.

Free and fair trade could quickly turn into a monopoly of trade for Brazil on frozen orange juice concentrate. It could turn into a monopoly because Brazil produces approximately 50 percent of the world production of frozen orange juice concentrate. Florida produces 40 percent of the world production. That 40 percent supplies the domestic market for orange juice. Indeed, it has been the Florida Citrus

Commission advertising over the last half century that now causes orange juice to be a staple on breakfast tables in America.

We find growers in Brazil forming, in essence, a cartel, which can start dumping extra product on the market, undercutting the price for Florida, and running Florida out of the business if there isn't a tariff protecting our domestic market from the invasion of Brazilian frozen orange juice.

That brings me to the trade bill. The trade bill puts that protective tariff at risk, unless we can attach an amendment to the bill offered by Senator GRAHAM and myself, an amendment that would not apply just to orange juice but to other commodities, as well. The amendment says if there is an order in place by either the International Trade Commission or the Department of Commerce, an order in place indicating that there is anti-competitive behavior, then you cannot reduce the tariff until after that order is taken off.

That is common sense. If there is anticompetitive behavior, in the form of dumping, and therefore trying to run down the price by dumping, that is not free and fair trade. Or if there is another type of order from the Department of Commerce in place, a countervailing duty order that says a foreign government is subsidizing that product of that foreign country in order to give them a competitive advantage, that, in essence, is anticompetitive market behavior. If that kind of order is in place, you cannot reduce the tariff until those two respective organizations—the International Trade Commission and the Department of Commerce—have removed their orders.

It does not have to be orange juice. It could be steel. It could be honey in a State like Montana. It could be salmon production from the Pacific Northwest. It could be any of these products on which there are orders against foreign competitors that have been participating in anticompetitive activities. That is why we have the protection of these orders from either the International Trade Commission or the Department of Commerce. Until those orders are lifted because the anti-competitive behavior of the foreign companies disappears, we cannot reduce the tariff.

It is my hope the good common sense of this type of approach will be recognized by the administration. They think they have the votes to pass the trade promotion authority bill in this body—they may—but I am going to keep raising this issue. Somebody needs to keep raising it. Then, again, maybe they don't have the votes. Or maybe they don't have the votes within the timeframe they think they have.

It is a matter of ultimate fairness of free and fair competition in the global marketplace that we are trying to achieve at the end of the day, which is free and fair trade. Thus, I wanted to bring to the attention of the Senate

and the White House my renewed plea on behalf of Senator GRAHAM and myself, with regard to the interests of the Florida citrus industry, that the administration should be willing to work with Congress to accept this amendment for the protection of free and fair and truly competitive international trade.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. JOHNSON). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. EDWARDS. I ask unanimous consent I be allowed to speak for up to 3 minutes as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE MEDICAL CONDITION OF SENATOR HELMS

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. President, I want to report to my colleagues. As probably all are aware, our friend and colleague, Senator JESSE HELMS, had heart surgery recently. We have all been monitoring his progress very carefully and closely. I have been speaking with those in his office and his staff who are working so hard and so diligently to keep up Senator HELMS' operation here in the Senate and back in North Carolina while he is recovering from his heart surgery.

The most recent report as of today is that Senator HELMS is progressing. He is progressing in the manner in which his physicians would have expected.

Senator FRIST, along with others, has been watching and monitoring his care and recovery very carefully. I am told by members of Senator HELMS' staff that his progress is exactly as anticipated. They are feeling optimistic. The doctors are feeling optimistic. Hopefully, before too long, we will have Senator HELMS back with us.

We also want Senator HELMS, his wife Dot, whom we all love and adore, and the members of his family, plus the members of his staff who are so devoted to him, to know that all of us, all his friends, all his colleagues, are thinking about him constantly. He is in our prayers daily. We will continue to pray for his rapid recovery.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. STABENOW). Without objection, it is so ordered.