

to the unemployed moms and dads who will to worry if they will be able to pay their mortgage and put food on the table. This is just wrong.

The bill today also block grants adult, dislocated worker, and employment service funding streams. In doing so, the bill would eliminate the funding focus for dislocated workers and terminates the existence of the employment service—the very service which connects individuals to jobs. By block granting the money, it also permits Governors to take funds from partner programs such as Adult Education, and Veterans Reemployment and job training programs for individuals with disabilities to fund other state workforce programs or other administrative costs. Governors would be allowed to take any amount of funding from any of these programs. Given the fact that 45 states have budget deficits, I believe the opportunity to use these funds for other purposes will be too tempting of a fruit for Governors not to pick.

To make matters worse, the bill removes a civil-rights protection that bans employment discrimination based on religious affiliation. This bill allows organizations receiving funds—taxpayers dollars—through WIA to discriminate in hiring based on religion. I believe this provision only serves to politicize the debate surrounding this bill and takes away from the debate we should be having, which is that we should be doing everything we can to help any unemployed worker find a job, not making it easier to discriminate against someone because of what they believe.

The WIA has played a critical role in coordinating state efforts to find people jobs and provide essential services to some of our most vulnerable citizens. At a time when our President's economic plan continues to fail in creating jobs and putting our economy back on the right track, now is not the time to weaken the WIA. I urge my colleagues to vote "NO" on H.R. 1261 and to bring a better bill—one that reflects Congress' commitment to putting Americans back to work—to the floor.

**WORKFORCE REINVESTMENT AND  
ADULT EDUCATION ACT OF 2003**

SPEECH OF

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 8, 2003*

The House in Committee of the  
Whole House on the State of the Union

had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1261) to enhance the workforce investment system of the Nation by strengthening one-stop career centers, providing for more effective governance arrangements, promoting access to a more comprehensive array of employment, training, and related services, establishing a targeted approach to serving youth, and improving performance accountability, and for other purposes:

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 1261, especially in regard to the provisions in Section 123, which allows discrimination when a faith-based group runs job-training programs.

This provision sets a bad precedent for our Nation and I believe it does not belong in this bill. We should honor the separation between church and state set-forth by the Constitution. One of the most important rights we treasure in this country is the right to religious freedom. That's why I believe religion should continue to be a matter of personal choice and not something that is supported or dictated by the Federal Government.

Mr. Chairman, I am concerned that this provision inappropriately blurs the separation between church and state by subsidizing faith-based groups without requiring them to comply with federal non-discrimination laws. This means they could allow refuse to hire people who disagree with the organizations religious views. Employers could use religion to make promotional decisions or as a litmus test for hiring and firing. We would be allowing federal dollars to fund discrimination and that is wrong!

While proponents of this provision argue that they would be expanding opportunities for faith-based organizations, they would really be destroying a basic civil right protection that has existed in federal job training for 21 years. Religiously affiliated organizations currently participate in Federal job training programs with the non-discrimination clause in place. Yet, lifting the discrimination prohibitions will do nothing more than encourage discriminatory practices within these organizations.

Mr. Chairman, I am strongly against these Section 123 provisions and I encourage my colleagues to join me in opposing this flawed legislation.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE WALCK  
FAMILY**

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 9, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate the inspirational cattle-ranching Walck family of Plateau Valley, Colorado. The Walcks have labored morning to night for generations in this difficult but important occupation. Their efforts truly embody the American Spirit and our shared Western heritage. The Walcks serve as an example of the hard work and dedication that has made our nation great. It is an honor to pay tribute to their success before this body of Congress and this nation. Through their labors together, they serve also as an inspiration to families everywhere.

Until they retired in the mid 1990's, Dean, Roylee, Scott and Betty raised over three hundred cattle, with dedication and professionalism. They have been actively involved in numerous organizations dedicated to the improvement of the American cattle industry, including the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, the Colorado Hereford Association, the Simmental Association, the Mesa County Stockgrowers and the Plateau County Stockgrowers. Roylee also served with distinction as the state president of the Colorado Cowbells, and with Betty, has long been an active member of the Plateau Valley Cattlewomen. For their service and dedication, the Plateau Valley Cattlewomen will honor them soon at their Stockgrower's Banquet and Ball.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege for me to recognize Dean, Roylee, Scott and Betty Walck before this body of Congress and this nation. Their contributions to Plateau Valley and the heritage of the West is appreciated, and I am happy to bring them to the attention of my colleagues here today. They are a strong family who care much for Colorado and our Country. I wish them all the best.