

or hog bellies from Canada, they were raised and grown in Canada and exported to the U.S.

These drugs that we are talking about shipping into the U.S. were probably made in the U.S. under the FDA, they were shipped to Canada, and this is kind of a reverse NAFTA. We are shipping this stuff out, and they are selling it at these phenomenal discounts in Canada. Then the American consumer would like to buy American product back, and they are saying that it is too dangerous, illegal, and plus you will promote abortion.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, common sense would dictate, is it not far more difficult to regulate the vegetables or the beef or pork that are raised on farms and ranches, what pesticides are they using, who knows, it is very difficult to regulate, but it is okay to import that product into the United States. But when you have prescription drugs manufactured in the United States and approved by the FDA, sent to Canada, approved by their regulatory system, all of a sudden we cannot regulate it. On the surface it is absurd and laughable, and anyone who makes that case should be laughed out of this institution.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Not only on the surface is it ridiculous, but as we peel the onion, it gets even more absurd. They say that these are Canadian drugs, who knows where they manufactured. No, they were not manufactured in Toronto. These things were manufactured, produced in our own factories.

Mr. SANDERS. The gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) and I did a study. We requested of the CRS to take a look at the Canadian prescription drug regulatory system. We are not dealing with some Third World in Canada. What the CRS told us is that the Canadian prescription drug regulatory system almost always is equivalent to the FDA in the United States, which makes the argument that the drugs coming in would be unsafe totally ridiculous.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, coming back to the abortion piece, if anybody knows what the rules are on the drug RU-486, it is the drug companies that make it. We talk about Canada and Mexico, we do not even mention Mexico in our legislation because we only talk about industrialized countries. We mention only the G-8 countries, countries that we know have very sophisticated methods of regulating the drugs. But let us come back to RU-486. That is what they are going after with some of the pro-lifers with that mailer. Here is what they know.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. It is the pharmaceutical companies.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Exactly. It is all funded by the pharmaceutical companies. We know that, and we will be able to prove that within the next 72 hours.

But let me come back to this point. They know the rules. You cannot get the abortion drug RU-486 with a prescription in the United States. You can only get it administered by a doctor in

a hospital or in the doctor's office. In other words, he or she cannot write you a prescription and you get it filled at the pharmacy.

The pharmaceutical industry knows that, and that is why this is such a bald-faced lie. In fact, they do not even go so far as to say you cannot even get it legally in Canada or Mexico. It is outlawed completely in those countries. Only the FDA has allowed the abortion drug.

I do not think they should, but whichever side of the story you are on, stick to the facts. And if anybody knows the facts, it is the companies that produce it. It is not laughable. It is sad. I used to think of them as an ethical industry. No more. It is unethical. What they are doing is dishonest, and they deserve all of the spite that the consumers are beginning to heap upon their shoulders.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pro-choice. I am proud of it. I have always been, and I will always be. But for the pharmaceutical industry to lie about the pro-life people just shows the desperateness as to where they are. What they are nervous about and what this Special Order is about is people from different political parties coming together on behalf of the American people and saying, enough is enough, pharmaceutical industry, you cannot rip the American people off. I think we have them on the run, and if we keep our fiber and keep working together, we will win this effort.

I want to thank the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) for his leadership efforts on this issue.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I think what my colleagues have both alluded to is the dishonesty or questioning the motives of the pharmaceutical companies.

My mom and my in-laws are mid-80s, and they take prescription drugs. They are paying four times what somebody in Canada or Europe will pay. How in the world can a drug company justify those numbers and say just the very simple fact of a border means if you need a life-saving prescription in Canada, it is going to cost you \$17 and in the United States it will cost you \$80?

It is absolutely outrageous that that is what these folks are doing each and every day. For whatever reason, they are pricing people and seniors out of the market here in America. They go to bed at night feeling perfectly comfortable doing that and then throwing this garbage out there to justify it.

We may differ on life, but you are absolutely right, the folks that developed RU-486 are the ones that are paying for the ads that say, how terrible, they are going to promote abortion. It is like, excuse me, you are the ones that came up with this drug.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate my colleague for leading the fight and being a staunch supporter on this and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) coming to join us tonight. I cannot wait until we have a vote on this. I

think we are going to win in overwhelming fashion, and we are going to demonstrate that different parts of this Congress can come together and stand up for the consumers.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS).

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA).

There is no question that there are people in this country who are literally dying or suffering because they cannot afford the high prices that they are forced to pay in this country. It is not acceptable that an industry which is so wealthy and so profitable can continue to force Americans to suffer in that way.

It excites me that we are coming together regardless of philosophy or party to say enough is enough. I look forward to that vote. I think we have them on the run, and I think the literature that the gentleman showed is just an indication of how desperate and panicky they must be. I would say to the American people it is a sad state of affairs when an industry has to stoop to that level. I think Congress has caught up to them, and I think we are finally going to represent effectively the American people on this issue.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, we have had a very lively discussion. This is an important debate. Ultimately, it is about hundreds of billions of dollars that Americans pay and will be forced to pay if we do not do something about it. There is nothing in it for any of us except the satisfaction of doing what we believe is honestly right.

I will close with the words of the American philosopher and country western singer Tom Petty, "We won't back down."

□ 2310

OPPOSITION TO ALLOWING AMERICAN TOURIST TRAVEL TO CUBA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GINGREY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to address the issue of American tourists visiting the island of Cuba this evening. Mr. Speaker, in my opinion now is not the time to open American tourism to Cuba. American tourists should not be allowed to soak in the sun of Cuba's beaches while so many of Cuba's democracy leaders and independent thinkers suffer under inhumane conditions in Cuba's jails.

Behind Cuba's tropical weather and vacation resorts lies a repressive regime. This is the same regime that earlier this year arrested over 80 non-violent human rights advocates, pro-democracy leaders, and independent journalists in a campaign by Castro and his forces to silence all voices of opposition on the island.

Mr. Speaker, I have said in the past that doing business with Cuba means doing business with Castro. So long as Castro maintains his stranglehold on every aspect of Cuban life, allowing Americans to travel to Cuba would mean subsidizing Castro. Most Cuban tourist operations are run by the Cuban military and internal security services. These so-called "companies" funnel money directly into the regime, earning them the hard currency necessary to perpetuate their repressive policies. Contrary to popular belief, increased tourist travel to the island would not increase purposeful contact with the Cuban people. Canadians and Europeans have been traveling to Cuba for years, and yet there has been no measurable impact on or change in Castro's control over his people.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, 98 percent of Cuban citizens are forbidden even entry into the tourist areas, which is Fidel Castro's way of denying foreigners the ability to gain a glimpse into the reality of Cuban life. Those Cubans who do work at the resorts are forbidden to engage in certain types of conversations with foreigners, including any mention of Cuba's political situation, the U.S. embargo, and other such issues.

Citizens who work at the resorts are employed by a State employment agency run by the Castro regime. The foreign resorts pay the worker's wages to the state agency in dollars, but the worker receives only pesos. Therefore, between 95 percent and 97 percent of a worker's wages are kept by Castro.

Mr. Speaker, by lifting travel sanctions with nothing in exchange from the Cuban Government, we are betraying the very people these policies were designed to help. By allowing American citizens to sip drinks on Cuba's coastline, we are turning our backs on the journalists and pro-democracy advocates that are wasting away in Cuba's jails. I urge my colleagues to join with me and oppose any attempts to lift travel restrictions and to remain committed to their support for the Cuban people.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for July 14 through 16 on account of personal reasons.

Mr. JANKLOW (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

Mr. HAYWORTH (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of medical reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HINCHEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HINCHEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SOLIS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WYNN, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CARSON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DOGGETT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WAXMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BURGESS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. NORWOOD, for 5 minutes, July 16.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, for 5 minutes, July 16.

Mr. BURGESS, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HINOJOSA, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. Linda T. Sanchez of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GRIJALVA, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1233. An act to authorize assistance for the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and Justice Learning Center; to the Committee on Resources and the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 1280. An act to amend the PROTECT Act to clarify certain volunteer liability; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 709—An act to award a congressional gold medal to Prime Minister Tony Blair.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 16, 2003, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3180. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Navy, Case Number 01-08, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

3181. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Navy, Case Number 99-09C, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

3182. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Payment Bonds on Cost-Reimbursement Contracts [DFARS Case 2002-D030] received June 30, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3183. A letter from the Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — TRICARE; Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS); Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children Overseas (RIN: 0720-AA75) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3184. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Food Labeling: Trans Fatty Acids in Nutrition Labeling, Nutrient Content Claims, and Health Claims [Docket No. 94P-0036] (RIN: 0910-AB66) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3185. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Antidiarrheal Drug Products for Over-the-Counter Human Use; Final Monograph; Correction [Docket No. 78N-036D] (RIN: 0910-AA01) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3186. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Tires [Docket No. NHTSA-03-15400] (RIN: 2127-A154) received June 30, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3187. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Child Restraint Systems, Child Restraint Anchorage Systems [Docket No. NHTSA-03-15438] (RIN: 2127-AH99) received June 30, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3188. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Virginia: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision [FRL-7516-4] received July 7, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3189. A letter from the Legal Advisor, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review — Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules and Other Rules Adopted