

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency, I was unable to vote July 15, 2003 through July 18, 2003. If I was in attendance on July 15, 2003, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 360; "yea" on rollcall No. 361; "nay" on rollcall No. 362; "nay" on rollcall No. 363; "nay" on rollcall No. 364; "nay" on rollcall No. 365; "yea" on rollcall No. 366; and "nay" on rollcall No. 367.

If I was in attendance on July 16, 2003, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 368; "yea" on rollcall No. 369; "yea" on rollcall No. 370; "nay" on rollcall No. 371; "nay" on rollcall No. 372; "yea" on rollcall No. 373; "yea" on rollcall No. 374; and "yea" on rollcall No. 375.

If I was in attendance on July 17, 2003, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 376; "yea" on rollcall No. 377; "nay" on rollcall No. 378; "nay" on rollcall No. 379; "yea" on rollcall No. 380; "nay" on rollcall No. 381; "yea" on rollcall No. 382; "yea" on rollcall No. 383; "yea" on rollcall No. 384; "yea" on rollcall No. 385; "yea" on rollcall No. 386; "yea" on rollcall No. 387; "nay" on rollcall No. 388; "nay" on rollcall No. 389; and "yea" on rollcall No. 390.

If I was in attendance on July 18, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 391; "yea" on rollcall No. 392; "nay" on rollcall No. 393; "yea" on rollcall No. 394; "nay" on rollcall No. 395; "yea" on rollcall No. 396; and "nay" on rollcall No. 397.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2004 AND 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1950) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for the fiscal years 2004 and 2005, to authorize appropriations under the Arms Export Control Act and the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for security assistance for fiscal years 2004 and 2005, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Chairman, I rise in opposition to the Hostettler/Gallegly amendment. The purpose of this amendment is to require the Secretary of the Department of State to regulate the issuance of consular identification cards by foreign missions in the United States. It directs the Secretary to issue regulations requiring foreign missions to issue consular identification cards only to bona fide nationals of the issuing country, to maintain accurate records of all such cards issued, to require recipients of such cards to notify the missions of address changes, to notify the Secretary of each such card issued in the United States, and to make records of such cards available for audit and review by the State Department at the Secretary's request.

In other words, this amendment would require the State Department to decide what the

consulates of other countries can and cannot do with respect to consular identification documents, above and beyond existing law. On the face of it, this is not a good idea. Do we want other countries to do the same to us? Do we want other countries to tell our consulates how they can relate to our own citizens abroad?

In fact, although this amendment would apply to all consulate offices in the United States, it is apparent that the objective of the amendment is to regulate the issuance of a particular consular document, the Matricula Consular issued by the Mexican consulates. The Mexican consulates issue these cards to create an official record of its citizens in other countries. The Matricula is legal proof of such registration. This registration facilitates access to protection and consular services because the certificate is evidence of Mexican nationality. It does not provide immigrant status of any kind, and it cannot be used for travel, employment, or driving in the United States or in Mexico. The Matricula only attests that a Mexican consulate has verified the individual's identity.

This amendment would interfere with the rights of Mexico and other sovereign nations to issue whatever identification cards they want to issue to their citizens abroad, provided that they meet the requirements of the Vienna Convention. Under that convention, consular function is established as "performing any other functions entrusted to a consular post which are not prohibited by the laws and regulations of the receiving State." There is no United States Federal law that forbids the issuance of consular identification cards. In fact, the Treasury Department has issued regulations under Section 326 of the PATRIOT ACT that would allow financial institutions to accept consular identification cards as valid forms of identification for the purpose of opening accounts.

The responsibility for carrying out the mandates of this amendment would fall on the State Department, but the State Department has an Interagency Working Group that is already working to address the issue of consular identification cards. The Mexican consulates have been issuing Matriculas for more than 130 years. We can wait a while longer to give the State Department an opportunity to formulate new policies on the basis of the report from that Interagency Working Group.

I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

TRIBUTE TO CHELSEA HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL TEAM, CHELSEA, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Chelsea High School softball team who last month won their second consecutive Division II state championship. The Bulldogs compiled an impressive record of 36-4 and swept through the 2003 state playoffs outscoring their opponents 44 to 1 in the seven playoff games.

The Chelsea girls softball program has, over the past two seasons, compiled an outstanding overall record of 72-7-1 in winning

back-to-back state championships. I salute the hard work and dedication of the players: Julia Arnold, Brynna Darwin, Cynthia Johnson, Katie Herman, Becky Sprague, Carly Daniels, Nicole Collins, Ali Mann, Missy Morcom, Alise Augustine, Katrina Moffett, Jenna Connelly, Danielle McClelland, Anna Arend, Mary Kate Setta and Christyna Toon.

We in Congress also pay tribute to the coaches whose personal interest, strong support and active participation played no small part in the team's success: Bob Moffett, Mark Musolf, Chris DeFant, Jenni Driskill, Kathy Sprawka, and head coach Kim Reichard. Under their guidance, the players have refined not only their athletic talents but learned the value of sportsmanship, the joy of camaraderie, the importance of teamwork, how to become a leader and motivate others, the rewards of hard work, how to deal with success and failure. These valuable lessons combined with a good education will serve them long after their days on the diamond have passed.

KEY JUDGMENTS

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, in light of the incessant barrage of attacks of inaccurate and baseless charges being made against President Bush by his political opponents and their allies in the media, I thought it important to include in the RECORD the declassified portions of the National Intelligence Estimate released by the White House this past Friday. This NIE clearly states the consensus view of our intelligence agencies that Saddam Hussein was attempting to reconstitute his nuclear capacity. The first half of these documents are being submitted today and the second half tomorrow. I commend these documents to all willing to approach this vital issue with an open mind.

[From October 2002 NIE]

IRAQ'S CONTINUING PROGRAMS FOR WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

We judge that Iraq has continued its weapons of mass destruction (WMD) programs in defiance of UN resolutions and restrictions. Baghdad has chemical and biological weapons as well as missiles with ranges in excess of UN restrictions; if left unchecked, it probably will have a nuclear weapon during this decade. (See INR alternative view at the end of these Key Judgments.)

We judge that we are seeing only a portion of Iraq's WMD efforts, owing to Baghdad's vigorous denial and deception efforts. Revelations after the Gulf war starkly demonstrate the extensive efforts undertaken by Iraq to deny information. We lack specific information on many key aspects of Iraq's WJMD programs.

Since inspections ended in 1998, Iraq has maintained its chemical weapons effort, energized its missile program, and invested more heavily in biological weapons; in the view of most agencies, Baghdad is reconstituting its nuclear weapons program.

Iraq's growing ability to sell oil illicitly increases Baghdad's capabilities to finance WMD programs; annual earnings in cash and goods have more than quadrupled, from \$580 million in 1998 to about \$3 billion this year.

Iraq has largely rebuilt missile and biological weapons facilities damaged during