

To help educate our children and our communities I participated in an educational video with Edward James Olmos and Liz Torres. This video, which comes in English and Spanish, helps educate Hispanics and all Americans about the disease. Additionally, with the help of Congressman PUTNAM and CARDOZA, we recently introduced legislation that would allow schools across the country to serve fresh fruits and vegetables in school lunch programs. This will help children afford to eat healthy and stay healthy.

I have been active in leading the charge to restore food stamp benefits to hard working immigrants, so that their children may have access to the healthier foods that help prevent diabetes.

But it is not enough to just educate people. We also must make sure that preventative screening and medical services are affordable and available to all Americans.

One of the biggest problems in early prevention is financial. People do not have the resources to seek medical help so the problems escalate. In California, the cost of diabetes per person per year is approximately \$13,243. If they have additional problems, like dialysis, syringes, medications, or other items, the cost goes up an additional \$8,500. Now the cost is over \$22,000.

The healthcare costs of a person with diabetes are about 2½ times higher than the average person's healthcare costs. How can an uninsured person in this country afford \$22,000 when some don't even make that much in a year?

To help those that can't afford to take care of their diabetes, I have co-sponsored the Diabetes Prevention, Access and Care Act and the Access to Diabetes Screening Services Act. These bills will increase access to diabetes screening, treatment and prevention in minority communities and all communities that are affected by Diabetes.

In the spirit of American Diabetes Month, we must not only look to legislation to help those that suffer from diabetes but we must educate our communities. We must take a personal interest. We must become involved on a personal level.

American Diabetes Month is a great opportunity to educate all Americans on how to help prevent diabetes.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6,
ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6, the Energy Policy Act of 2003 Conference Report. Completion of this energy bill is yet another step forward in our struggle for energy security and independence. A reliable and affordable energy supply is crucial to America's economic vitality, security, and quality of life.

While this final conference report is not perfect, we continue to make progress towards promoting energy conservation and efficiency; increasing the use of all domestic energy resources, including coal; improving energy infrastructure; and promoting the development of advanced energy technologies.

The combustion of fossil fuels is essential to our energy policy and must continue to be a part of a balanced energy plan for this country. Coal is absolutely critical to our nation's economic health and global competitiveness. Coal accounts for more than 50 percent of U.S. electricity generation, far ahead of nuclear power, natural gas, hydroelectric power, petroleum and other sources. There is no present alternative to coal to meet our energy needs. New and improved technologies hold the promise of far greater emissions reductions and increased efficiency.

Clean coal provisions are included in the final conference report that would assist in burning coal more efficiently and cleanly. These clean coal technology initiatives encourage development of new technologies for cleaner, higher efficiency coal combustion in new and established plants with the hope of achieving a healthier environment while maintaining jobs. America's substantial investment in clean coal technology creates 62,000 jobs and ensures Americans new electricity that is abundant, reliable, affordable and cleaner than ever before.

The bill includes a \$1.8 billion authorization for the Secretary of Energy to carry out the Clean Coal Power Initiative, which will provide funding to those projects that can demonstrate advanced coal-based power generating technologies that achieve significant reductions in emissions. Further, the bill authorizes \$1.422 billion for coal research and development. I fought hard for increases to coal within the fossil energy research and development budget and I was glad to see they were included in the final version.

Finally, the legislation includes a provision, which I authored, called the Clean Coal Centers of Excellence. Under this provision, the Secretary of Energy will award competitive, merit-based grants to universities that show the greatest potential for advancing new clean coal technologies. Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC), which I represent, continues to be a leader in clean coal technology research, doing extensive work at its Coal Research Center. With funding and collaborative support from industry and government, SIUC has conducted long-term projects relating to surface mine reclamation, mine subsidence, coal desulfurization, coal characterization and combustion, coal residue management and utilization, coal market modeling, and environmental policy. Faculty, staff, and students in fields as diverse as engineering, science, business, education, law, and agriculture have contributed to the University's international reputation in coal research. It is well-positioned to be a potential recipient of the Clean Coal Centers of Excellence.

In addition to the clean coal provision, the bill contains provisions instrumental in helping increase conservation and lowering consumption. Included in this are ethanol provisions that are used as a replacement and additive for gasoline consumption. Under this legislation, ethanol use would increase, nearly tripling the current requirement. This is expected to increase the average price of corn paid to farmers 6.6 percent, or 16 cents per bushel and increase average net cash income to farmers by \$3.3 billion over the next decade, or more than six percent.

This increased use of ethanol will save 1.3 billion barrels of oil by 2016, improve the trade deficit by \$28.5 billion over 15 years, add

\$135 billion to the American economy by 2016 through increased agricultural demand and new capital spending, and generate \$32 billion in income for American consumers over 15 years.

Mr. Speaker, this energy bill will shape energy policy for the next decade and beyond. I am glad coal and ethanol remain an integral part of our energy future and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6,
ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, electron scrubbing is the only air control process that allows older power plants to meet the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (CAAA) and the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) while burning the least cost, highest energy fuel—high sulfur coal. The electron scrubbing process removes almost all the pollutants emitted from power plants burning high sulfur coal. In a single step, the electrons convert the pollutants into a high grade, agriculture byproduct.

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Chicago Operations Office (COO) has been briefed on the electron scrubbing project at Eagle Valley and has agreed to manage the program. However, DOE must first transfer \$5 million in earmarked funds to the COO so the Director can immediately implement the program.

A letter of intent, dated April 16, 2002, from Greg Daeger, program manager for the electron scrubbing project at Eagle Valley, attests to the commitment and due diligence of Eagle Valley to implement the project pursuant to Congress' direction and intent.

Electron scrubbing uses high-energy accelerators for air pollution cleanup. DOE's COO has the technical management capability in accelerator-related programs and air pollution programs used in other DOE applications. This location is an ideal venue for the effective and successful oversight of the electron scrubbing program. The transfer of funds would allow COO to continue and expand its management of high technology air pollution programs in the area of high-energy electrons.

The energy bill directs DOE to "use \$5,000,000 from amounts appropriated to initiate, through the Chicago Operations Office, a project to demonstrate the viability of high-energy electron scrubbing technology on a commercial-scale electrical generation using high sulfur coal." Because it has both the authority and capability to oversee this demonstration project, \$5 million must immediately be transferred from DOE to COO.

RESOLUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF H.R.
2656

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am submitting for the RECORD resolutions in support of H.R. 2656 from cities in the California

Bay Area. The resolutions are regarding the planned casino in my congressional district. The communities surrounding the proposed site are doing all they can to ensure that their voices are heard on this controversial issue and it is extremely important that all sides of the issue are given a platform to do so. I hope that H.R. 2656 is brought before the House for a vote in the near future.

RESOLUTION No. 2003-220 N.C.S.

Whereas, the Petaluma City Council respects the rights of Native Americans to establish and have recognized tribal sovereignty, and to secure lands under their jurisdiction; and,

Whereas, under the existing federal legislative requirements, there is no provision for coordination of gaming proposals or associated major tribal enterprises with established and approved off-reservation local or regional planning law and General Plans in any timely and meaningful way; and,

Whereas, developments of great magnitude are being proposed which are dependent upon local and regional public infrastructure, including highways, streets, transit systems, water, wastewater and energy systems and resources, affordable housing, and emergency services, both built and yet to be built; and,

Whereas, without appropriate mitigation, the developments proposed are very likely to have substantial negative impacts and place substantial burdens on the public infrastructure with a substantial burden falling upon existing and future taxpayers, residents, visitors and businesses; and,

Whereas, with the rapid construction of tribal gaming facilities, local governments are experiencing serious, adverse impacts related to off-reservation economic, environmental, health and safety issues; and,

Whereas, the current conditions placed on Indian gaming to achieve and preserve the environmental, public safety, and public health objectives of both state and local government have been insufficient to prevent such adverse impacts; and,

Whereas, when California voters approved Proposition 1A (Indian Gaming) in March of 2004 as a means of supporting the laudable goal of Indian economic development and self-sufficiency, they were not aware that such approval would allow Nevada developers to seize prized off-reservation environmental resources for intense development without regard to locally approved general plans or any meaningful environmental review or protection; and,

Whereas, under the provisions of Proposition 1A and the Tribal-State Compact, local communities have not been granted effective input into the development of proposed tribal casinos that threaten their rights and the State appears to have no effective redress for significant environmental impacts these gambling casinos impose on local communities; and,

Whereas, on February 6, 2003, the California State Association of Counties has adopted a policy document that includes seven principles of critical concern to counties, including a principle that tribes and local governments enter into binding and enforceable local agreements for the mitigation of off-reservation impacts that arise from a local gaming project; and,

Whereas, approximately 360 acres of prime agricultural lands west of Rohnert Park are presently in imminent danger of being withdrawn from County land use control and placed into trust for the purposes of casino development—including an extensive gaming complex, with a 300 room hotel, spas, restaurants, a 2000 seat entertainment venue, parking and other support services, by Sta-

tion Casinos, a Las Vegas-based developer and the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria (Graton Tribe); and,

Whereas, Station Casino and the Graton Tribe's gaming proposal will have substantial negative impacts upon the federal highway system (US Highway 101), upon which it is dependent for bringing its customers into and out of the region; on local and regional roads; to the Santa Rosa Plain groundwater aquifer, to water quality, along with unknown local and regional fiscal impacts; and,

Whereas, the proposed Graton Tribe casino site is proposed on property whose zoning is inconsistent with the Sonoma County General Plan (on prime agricultural land, in the community separators and outside Rohnert Park's Urban Growth Boundary), within the Laguna de Santa Rosa's flood plain and within critical wetland habitat for several federally endangered species; and,

Whereas, the proposed Graton Tribe casino proposal is not subject to a thorough CEQA-like process that identifies fiscal and environmental impacts then to be mitigated by the Graton Tribe, nor is administrative consideration by the Department of the Interior required to determine if the use of this land, sought for gaming, will have significant detrimental impacts on the neighboring communities which outweigh the benefits to the tribe; and,

Whereas, the Graton Tribe was restored in 2000 based, in part, on its promise not to engage its Indian casino gaming; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Petaluma City Council strongly supports the revisions in federal legislation [HR 2656/S1342] introduced by Representative Woolsey and Senator Feinstein. The Petaluma City Council also urges all members of the Senate and House of Representatives to support these important statutory changes and immediately move for their passage; and be it further

Resolved, That the Petaluma City Council supports the California State Association of Counties policy document regarding compact negotiations for Indian Gaming; and requests that the Graton Tribe follow the principles contained therein; and be it further

Resolved, That the Petaluma City Council, based on the information currently available, strongly opposes the creation of a gambling casino resort on any site that is inconsistent with the local land use planning and zoning policies; and be it further

Resolved, That the Petaluma City Council calls on the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, in all negotiations with the Tribe concerning creation of a gambling casino resort, to safeguard the vital and legitimate interests of all Sonoma County citizens by requiring that the following minimum standards be included in a binding, legally-enforceable Memorandum of Understanding with the Tribe:

1. The proposed casino/resort project must be subject, at a minimum, to the same level of environmental review as would be required by the pending Federal legislation; and

2. The proposed casino/resort project must be subject to the principles of the California State Association of Counties policy document regarding compact negotiations for Indian Gaming; and

3. Even though the pending federal legislation does not require environmental mitigation, in order to ensure that the citizens of Sonoma County do not bear the costs associated with the impacts of the casino/resort, the Tribe must agree to mitigate, and must in fact mitigate, all environmental impacts caused by its project; and

4. In order to prevent Sonoma County citizens from having land within their jurisdiction exempted from local land use control by

reason of future acquisition by the Graton Tribe, the Tribe must agree that it will take NO OTHER LAND anywhere in Sonoma County or in any adjacent county into tribal trust NOW OR IN THE FUTURE.

5. The proposed casino/resort project must be subject, at a minimum, to the same level of public safety review and enforcement as would a private developer.

HELP PARENTS GET REAL JOBS,
REAL WAGES, AND REAL SUCCESS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill, the Business Links Act of 2003, that would provide needed resources to parents facing serious barriers to employment. The bill would provide grants for transitional jobs programs in order to support State efforts to help TANF recipients find work. Transitional jobs can provide the right combination of support, work, and vocational training and have the potential to turn many job seekers into permanent wage earners.

I would like to thank my colleagues who have joined me as original cosponsors on this bill. I would also like to commend Senator JEFF BINGAMAN who has already introduced companion legislation, S. 786, in the Senate.

This legislation would replace the TANF bonus grants currently provided to States and instead provide \$200 million for each of fiscal years 2005 through 2009 for grants to be awarded to nonprofit organizations, local workforce investment boards, States, localities, and Indian tribes. The grant funds could be used either to promote business links by improving employee wages and job skills in partnership with employers or to provide fully subsidized wage-paying jobs to individuals who have been unemployed because of limited skills or other barriers. The legislation also includes worker protection provisions that, among other things, prohibit transitional job participants from displacing or replacing existing workers or positions and provide participants the same worker protections that all other workers receive. Parents who are currently receiving or have recently received Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), parents who are at risk of needing TANF, individuals with disabilities, and unemployed, noncustodial parents who are having difficulty meeting their child support obligations would be eligible to participate in transitional jobs programs.

Transitional jobs programs would provide intensive case management and access to needed support services such as vocational skills training, basic education, job placement services, and child care to all participants. Transitional jobs programs, which are aimed at helping those who have limited English proficiency and other barriers to employment, can be particularly effective for the hardest to serve welfare recipients. Program participants must work 30 to 40 hours a week, unless they have a child under the age of six, and participation is time limited to between six and 24 months. The goal of transitional jobs programs is to prepare and help participants find unsubsidized, permanent jobs. Because of the individual attention given to each transitional job holder, various programs across the country