

with its inherent human health and environmental advantages, green chemistry can offer many economic advantages. This is because the costs of separating waste from products, complying with regulations, disposing of hazardous wastes and liability protection can be large. Preventing pollution and waste in the first place is often cheaper than mitigating and cleaning it up later.

In my State, Georgia, Shaw Industries, Inc. is showing tremendous returns on their investment in green chemistry. Shaw Industries, Inc. produces carpet tile from their EcoWorx™ compound, which is made from non-toxic starting materials. The carpet tiles are fully recyclable, and Shaw has started to receive the first generation of carpet tiles, introduced in 1999, back in the factory for recycling. Shaw has found that the cost of collection, transportation, and recycling is less than making new carpet tiles from virgin raw materials. Even before Shaw recycled a single carpet tile, they benefited from their investment in green manufacturing. By switching from traditional carpet tile backing to EcoWorx™, Shaw cut the energy needed to produce carpet tiles in half.

Green chemistry offers other advantages in the areas of worker safety, public safety, and national security. For example, many chemical processes are conducted at extreme temperature and/or pressure, two conditions that present a risk for workers. Also, many chemical processes involve toxic substances. Green chemistry aims to design processes that can be conducted at or near room temperature and pressure, and that use benign materials. Both of these steps improve working conditions for employees. Chemical factories also pose a potential threat to public safety because of the possibility of an accidental release of toxic materials into the surrounding communities. Green chemistry seeks to replace these toxic substances with safe ones, which would not pose a threat to the public if accidentally released. Reducing the number of toxic chemical plants and the transport of toxic chemicals also improves national security by reducing the number of potential terrorist targets.

Yet despite all of the promise of green chemistry, the Federal government invests very little in this area. The most notable effort is a small grant program run jointly by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). Green chemistry research in this program is funded at about \$4 million dollar per year. The Department of Energy (DOE) and National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) also do a small amount of green chemistry research, however the Federal investment in green chemistry is minimal as compared to the overall investment in chemistry. In addition, each of these agencies has an important role to play in developing green chemistry technologies and facilitating their adoption; however, right now, there is little coordination among agencies.

The Green Chemistry Research and Development Act establishes an interagency research and development (R&D) program to promote and coordinate Federal green chemistry research, development, demonstration, education and technology transfer activities. The Program would support R&D grants, including grants for university-industry partnerships, support green chemistry research at Federal labs, promote education at the under-

graduate and graduate levels, and collect and disseminate information about green chemistry. NSF and EPA would lead an Interagency Working Group to coordinate these activities. The Working Group would also include DOE and NIST, as well as any other agency the President designates. The program is authorized at \$26 million in Fiscal Year 2005 rising to \$30 million in Fiscal Year 2007 from sums otherwise authorized to be appropriated. This bill does not authorize the expenditure of new money.

I think that this bill provides modest and prudent funding in an area that deserves greater Federal attention. I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Science Committee, the Administration, and all other interested stakeholders to enact this important legislation.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 3717, BROADCAST DE-  
CENCY ENFORCEMENT ACT OF  
2004

SPEECH OF

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 11, 2004*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3717) to increase the penalties for violations by television and radio broadcasters of the prohibitions against transmission of obscene, indecent, and profane language:

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, like many of my colleagues, I've been long concerned about the increasing coarseness of language and content on radio and TV.

Had I not been required to travel to Oregon for official representational purposes, I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 3717, the Broadcast Decency Enforcement Act of 2004.

We have an obligation to balance first amendment rights with our duty to ensure that programming that's accessible to children, particularly those shows that are available on network TV, is free of language and material that's inappropriate for children. A recent study by the Parents Television Council found that foul language during the so-called family hour increased by 94.8 percent between 1998 and 2002. With the average American watching nearly 4 hours of TV per day, inappropriate programming affects us all. At the same time we need to be mindful not to scare broadcasters from pulling programming that is challenging and provocative. It's also likely that the dearth in quality programming is a result of increasing corporate concentration of mass media, which is leading to a loss of accountability to local values. Congress needs to address this before community standards are driven into the ground.

H.R. 3717 would increase the fines on broadcasting obscene, indecent, or profane language to \$500,000 per violation. Nonmonetary penalties could include forfeiture of broadcast licenses and producing public service announcements that serve the educational and informational needs of children and would have an audience up to five times larger than the offending broadcast.

With his inability to defend the public interest against increasingly inappropriate broad-

casts, Michael Powell, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission has forced Congress to take action. While this legislation could have been improved with new restrictions on gratuitous TV violence, this bill is a good first step towards bringing some civility back to the public airwaves. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

CELEBRATING ADULT EDUCATION

**HON. JERRY LEWIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 16, 2004*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the contributions of California's 400-plus adult schools and to commemorate Adult Education Week, which is celebrated from March 15, 2004 through March 19, 2004.

Adult education institutions provide many services. Adult schools provide for the unique needs of individuals from a diverse population. New parents can enroll in prebirth classes through a wide spectrum of parent education courses. Senior citizens and the disabled can participate in programs designed toward their special needs. Adults can complete their high school studies in their own time and at their own pace. Those seeking career changes or enhancements can enroll in the many vocational skills and job training programs. Additionally, adult schools are a primary community resource for the teaching and instruction of adult literacy.

Adult schools provide a wide range of English as a second language and citizenship services for new arrivals to the United States. Many persons eligible for citizenship often turn to paid consultants for assistance with the process of becoming a U.S. citizen. It is unfortunate that many who seek U.S. citizenship are unaware that most of California's adult schools offer free citizenship classes and citizenship consultation.

The 41st District of California is home to a number of fine adult schools each offering programs designed to suit the diverse needs of southern California. Redlands Adult Schools utilizes the latest technology and offers over 600 online courses ranging from money management to job readiness. Alpine Adult School in Lake Arrowhead has helped many obtain their GED through their weekly prep classes. San Bernardino's Adult Schools have helped students research their heritage through genealogy classes and nurtured creativity through their many applied arts classes. Adult schools are an important and essential part of our communities. Their positive impact and contributions cannot be overstated.

THE CONTINUATION OF U.S.  
SUPPORT FOR TAIWAN

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 16, 2004*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of freedom, liberty and the power of charting one's own future. I rise in support of all peoples around the world who continue to struggle for self-determination and rejoice in democratic choice.