

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMENDING DWAIN LUCE, OF MOBILE, ALABAMA, FOR HIS SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR II

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to recognize Mr. Dwain Luce of Mobile, AL, for his courageous service during World War II. His heroic story, along with other Mobilians, is told in the Ken Burns' documentary series "The War."

After graduating from Auburn University with a reserve commission in 1938, Mr. Luce went to Mississippi to work for his family's cannery business. Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, he was recalled to active duty and reported to duty on January 15, 1942.

As a lieutenant in the 82nd Airborne Division's 320th Glider Field Artillery Battalion, he participated in the invasions of Sicily and later Italy. He was promoted to captain, and he and his unit were sent to England to train for the invasion of France. He landed his glider at Normandy on June 6, 1944, and survived 33 days of fighting there.

Several months later, his unit saw action again when they were dropped behind enemy lines into Holland as part of Operation Market Garden. They remained in Holland for 6 weeks battling both the Germans and the cold weather.

He and his unit also participated in the Battle of the Bulge where they anchored the northern flank of the American lines. On May 1, 1945, the 82nd Airborne took 144,000 German prisoners as they surrendered to Americans.

His story, along with other Mobilians, is told in the Ken Burns' documentary series "The War." Madam Speaker, the recognition of Dwain Luce in "The War" documentary is an appropriate time for us to pause and thank him—and all of the soldiers who fought in World War II. They personify the very best America has to offer. I urge my colleagues to take a moment to pay tribute to Mr. Luce and his selfless devotion to our country and the freedom we enjoy.

IN HONOR OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREATER SPOKANE SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCIL

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Greater Spokane Substance Abuse Council, GSSAC, as they celebrate 25 years of service to the Spokane community. In 1982, local policymakers and citizens joined together to take a

stand against the devastation of drugs and violence. Through their efforts, GSSAC now runs programs and collaborative efforts that are empowering our youth, focusing on prevention of substance abuse and violence and solving the problem of meth abuse in our community.

At the core of the GSSAC Prevention Center mission is a desire to equip those in need with the knowledge and skills to make positive choices in their life. They work to unite and support the community through fostering positive attitudes and behaviors. Most of all, they encourage, facilitate, initiate and assist all people, groups and organizations in finding solutions to alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse.

Over the 25 years that GSSAC has served the greater Spokane community, they have accomplished many milestones. The staff and volunteers of GSSAC give their time and resources through a variety of programs like the Spokane County Meth Action Team, Washington Drug-Free Youth and Prevention in Practice. They also help to disseminate information about drug abuse and prevention through their Information Clearing House.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the staff and volunteers of Greater Spokane Substance Abuse Council on 25 years of influential service to our community. I invite my colleagues to join me in commending them for continuing on with their vision to make Spokane a safer place to live, and raising awareness on how we can prevent substance abuse in our communities.

LEGALIZING INTERNET GAMBLING WOULD HARM U.S. TRADE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, as I stated here a couple of months ago, I believe very strongly that whatever our policy is on other types of gambling, we need to maintain a firm line against any form of sports gambling. Gambling on sports events undermines the integrity of American athletics. It can create corruption or the appearance of corruption, and it taints the image of sports as wholesome, family-friendly entertainment.

I also stated that I opposed legalization of online sports gambling in H.R. 2046. It is not enough to allow sports associations to say "not on my game" if Congress is sending the message to the public that sports gambling is fine. If we are going to consider any loosening of laws against online gambling, we need to say "not on sports, period."

But yesterday I received a letter from Stuart Eizenstat, a very well-respected trade expert who was formerly U.S. Ambassador to the European Union and Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade, writing on behalf of the National Football League. Ambas-

sador Eizenstat's letter informs me that, under the present circumstances, even "not on sports, period" could leave the NFL and other great American athletic institutions vulnerable to assault by the offshore gambling interests who want to make money off the popularity of these games.

According to Ambassador Eizenstat's letter, a law that legalizes most online gambling but includes limited exceptions, such as a sports gambling exception, will be vulnerable to attack in the World Trade Organization. If the WTO rules against the U.S. law, the U.S. would have to choose between eliminating the exception—feeding our treasured sports to the gambling wolves—or paying billions in compensation to our trading partners. I, for one, think we should avoid having to decide which of these is the lesser of two evils if we can.

It appears that the U.S. does have a way out, by withdrawing any commitments to free trade in gambling. The U.S. Trade Representative is currently in the middle of negotiating this withdrawal. But this requires compensation too, for taking away market access from our trading partners. How much compensation? Not much at all, given that almost all Internet gambling is illegal. But if we make it legal, even if sports gambling is excluded, then there is a big legal market for which we will owe compensation.

As Ambassador Eizenstat says, "withdrawal negotiations should be brought to a conclusion before Congress passes any new gambling legislation." In the interest of protecting American athletics, I plan to take this advice to heart.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to enter Ambassador Eizenstat's letter into the RECORD.

COVINGTON & BURLING, LLP,

Washington, DC, September 24th, 2007.

Hon. EDOLPHUS TOWNS,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE TOWNS: I am writing on behalf of the National Football League, NFL, to urge you to oppose H.R. 2046, the "Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act," which would legalize Internet gambling. Along with all other major U.S. professional and amateur sports associations, the NFL is very concerned about protecting the integrity of American athletics from the adverse effects of sports gambling. As the recent National Basketball Association referee scandal shows, this is a very real concern. From a trade perspective, H.R. 2046 is fundamentally flawed. This bill, and any other legislation legalizing Internet gambling, also may have the unintended consequence of giving foreign service suppliers greater access to the U.S. market in a range of services sectors.

H.R. 2046 reverses 50 years of U.S. public policy by endorsing and legalizing sports betting, and it vastly expands access to all forms of gambling. Although the bill allows sports leagues and states to opt out of this gambling legalization scheme, these exceptions may be successfully challenged in the World Trade Organization, WTO, under existing trade rules. While the WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services permits a

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

complete gambling prohibition that is “necessary to protect public morals,” a patchwork approach that legalizes most gambling and includes limited opt outs may be difficult to defend. Indeed, Antigua’s WTO counsel, emboldened by Antigua’s successful challenge to current U.S. laws that prohibit gambling, already has stated his belief that the opt out provisions in H.R. 2046 are inconsistent with the United States’ WTO commitments. Given Antigua’s past success in challenging U.S. anti-gambling statutes in the WTO and Antigua’s current demands for \$3.4 billion in compensation, the stakes are high. Passage of H.R. 2046 could well lead to further WTO litigation.

After losing the gambling dispute with Antigua, the United States Trade Representative (USTR) took the important step last May of notifying the WTO of its intent to modify its WTO commitments to explicitly exclude gambling and betting services. The USTR is now in the process of negotiating with eight WTO countries who claim that they are adversely affected by this withdrawal. These withdrawal negotiations should be brought to a conclusion before Congress passes any new gambling legislation. This is especially so since passage of H.R. 2046 would, for the first time, create a legal American market for Internet gambling, significantly complicating ongoing negotiations and making it much more costly to withdraw the U.S. commitment on gambling services.

Specifically, as part of the withdrawal negotiations, the United States has to make “compensatory adjustments,” i.e., further open the U.S. services market to foreign suppliers to compensate for the withdrawal of the gambling services commitment. Currently, given that remote gambling services are largely illegal in the United States, the access that foreigners will get to the U.S. market as a result of the gambling commitment withdrawal is minimal. Passage of H.R. 2046 will create a large, legal gambling market in the United States. Foreigners will then be able to demand far greater access to the U.S. market in the ongoing withdrawal negotiations. Greater market access demands could conceivably impact the U.S. financial services sector, the telecommunications sector, and others.

The negative impact of H.R. 2046 on U.S. industries and U.S. trade negotiations could be significant. This bill—and, in fact, any bill that authorizes Internet gambling of any kind—will greatly complicate the USTR’s efforts to withdraw the United States’ gambling commitment by providing foreign countries with leverage to demand greater access to the U.S. services market. Furthermore, under the current WTO rules, the bill’s opt out provisions for sports leagues and states could very likely be challenged in the WTO, potentially leading to a situation where foreign gambling companies could provide gambling services to Americans over the objections of the NFL, other sports leagues, and state governments. For all of these reasons, I urge you to oppose H.R. 2046 and any other proposals to legalize Internet gambling in the United States.

Sincerely,

STUART E. EIZENSTAT.

CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE
PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION
ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support the State Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization bill. At a time when there are over 46 million uninsured individuals in this country, and over 5 million uninsured people in Texas alone, it is time that Congress stepped up and improved access to healthcare for children—our most vulnerable population. This legislation will go a long way in providing care to children of low-income families, some of our most disadvantaged individuals.

Without this important legislation, SCHIP will expire at the end of the month. Since its inception ten years ago, SCHIP has been a highly successful program. There are currently 6.6 million children enrolled in SCHIP, but millions more are eligible for the program and continue to lack health insurance. Approximately two-thirds of uninsured children are eligible for SCHIP or Medicaid and it is our responsibility to ensure that these children receive health benefits. Without healthcare coverage under SCHIP many children of the working poor are forced to replace regular visits to primary care physicians with costly trips to the emergency room.

Today’s expansion will provide states with the resources to start covering more of these eligible children. This legislation will expand the Children’s Health Insurance Program by \$35 billion over the next 5 years, allowing states to cover an estimated 3.8 million more children. In Texas alone, an additional 440,000 children will receive coverage. Texas has the unpleasant distinction of being the state with the most uninsured residents. With 5 million uninsured Texans, providing healthcare coverage for another half million children is a critical first step for the state of Texas.

I am proud to support this important SCHIP expansion that will improve healthcare access for children in Texas and across the Nation.

COMMENDING WILLIE RUSHTON,
OF MOBILE, ALABAMA, FOR HIS
SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR II

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to recognize Mr. Willie Rushton of Mobile, Alabama, for his courageous service during World War II. His heroic story, along with other Mobilians, is told in the Ken Burns’ documentary series “The War.”

Born in Nadawah, Alabama, Mr. Rushton grew up on a saw mill farm in Atmore. After graduating from high school, he moved to Mobile to work at the Coca-Cola Bottling Plant. He was drafted in the spring of 1943, just a year after getting married.

He signed on with the Marines and was shipped to the Pacific in July 1943. His son

was born just 1 month later, a son he would not see for more than 2 years. Assigned to the 11th Depot Company, he served in the South Pacific from July 1943 until October 1944. He and his unit—a unit that sustained the highest casualty rate of any black Marine unit—took part in the invasion of Peleliu along with the 1st Marine Division.

Mr. Rushton himself was wounded in the leg by shrapnel from a mortar round while on the island. When he returned to Mobile following his discharge in November 1945, he was unable to return to his job at Coca-Cola. He worked at Sears, Brookley Field, and the United States Postal Service, where he stayed for 43 years.

Madam Speaker, the recognition of Mr. Willie Rushton in “The War” documentary is an appropriate time for us to pause and thank him—and all of the soldiers who fought in World War II. They personify the very best America has to offer. I urge my colleagues to take a moment to pay tribute to Mr. Rushton and his selfless devotion to our country and the freedom we enjoy.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
BURT SALTZMAN, CEO OF
DAVE’S SUPERMARKETS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Burt Saltzman, CEO of Dave’s Supermarkets, whose entire career has focused on serving the community. His kind and charitable demeanor has made him a well-known and widely embraced individual amongst the citizens of Cleveland, the supermarket employees, vendors, and community organizations alike.

Dave’s Supermarket is named after Mr. Saltzman’s father and employs over 1,500 associates. This year, the store celebrates 75 years of providing the people of the neighborhood with quality groceries at affordable prices, as well as an unmatched kind of customer service. Mr. Saltzman is one of few CEOs who will work alongside employees and help customers one-on-one.

Not only does he take time to show he cares for Dave’s associates, Mr. Saltzman is also very active in the community. He supplies food to soup kitchens, hunger centers, shelters, a day care, and supports the Cleveland Food Bank as well as Mental Health Services, Inc. Mr. Saltzman’s charitable efforts have not gone unrecognized; he is in the Grocer’s Hall of Fame and has received an “Others” award from the Salvation Army. The “Others” award is given in recognition of those who benefit the Salvation Army and/or the community as a whole.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in thanking and honoring Mr. Burt Saltzman for his enduring commitment to Northeast Ohio. His devotion and care are the epitome of civic engagement and community pride.