

Waipio Little League baseball team for winning the 2008 Little League World Championship. These young men from Hawaii won the World Series on August 24, after defeating Team Mexico with an impressive score of 12–3.

As a member of the Hawaii Congressional Delegation and as an island resident I am delighted to distinguish these young men.

Waipio became only the second team in Little League World Series Championship game history to score in every inning. It was the second time in four years that a team from Oahu won the world title in what is arguably the biggest event in youth sports.

The Waipio Players have demonstrated skills in leadership, athleticism, and above all, team work. Through their example we can all recognize that with cooperation and hard work much can be achieved.

I join their family and friends in applauding them on this outstanding achievement. I would like to acknowledge all the coaches and players' families who make this program such a success. For the commitment, time, and expense it took to get the team from their home field in Waipio all the way to the World Series in Williamsport, PA.

As was evidenced by the hundreds of Hawaii residents that lined Kalakaua Avenue during the "Parade of Champions" earlier this month—Waipio Little League, you make Hawaii proud.

JOB CREATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7110, the Appropriations for Job Creation and Preservation, Infrastructure Investment, and Economic and Energy Assistance Act of 2008.

There is no denying that our country is in the midst of a financial crisis. While those in the media continue to focus on the crisis on Wall Street, they have forgotten that American families have been struggling for months. The unemployment rate has been steadily increasing, reaching 6.1 percent this month, the highest level since 1992. 84,000 Americans lost their jobs in August and 605,000 have lost their jobs this year. Employed Americans are continuing to struggle from increased energy and food costs, and decreasing wages. Many are at risk of losing their pensions due to bad decisions made by Wall Street. The legislation before us today would directly help those struggling on Main Street and I strongly encourage my colleagues to support it.

H.R. 7110 would provide immediate assistance to those who need it most. It would extend unemployment benefits by 7 weeks for workers who have exhausted regular unemployment compensation. It would help provide healthcare to the growing number low-income children and families by providing a temporary increase in the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) for Medicaid health costs. It would provide \$2.6 billion for food stamps to address the rising food costs for seniors, people with disabilities and very poor families with children. It would also increase access to job

training for youths and for workers who have lost their jobs to help them to find new employment.

This legislation would help to grow our economy by providing tens of thousands of jobs by making a significant investment in our nation's infrastructure. H.R. 7110 would provide \$12.8 billion to improving our nation's aging highways and bridges. It would contribute \$12.5 billion for investment in our nation's water resource infrastructure, \$3 billion for repairing crumbling schools, \$5.1 billion for expanding public transportation including Amtrak, and \$1 billion for improving public housing.

H.R. 7110 would also provide for our long term energy needs. This legislation would provide \$500 million to accelerate the development of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies. Additionally, it would invest \$1 billion in advanced batteries.

This legislation would provide some much needed relief to America's families as they struggle through these tough economic times. However there is much more that needs to be done to keep our economy strong in the long term. I look forward to working with my colleagues to find real solutions which will help to keep America's economy strong.

UNITED STATES-INDIA NUCLEAR COOPERATION APPROVAL AND NONPROLIFERATION ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this bill which will do unacceptable damage to the international nuclear nonproliferation regime.

I have worked for over three years in opposition to the U.S.-India nuclear cooperation agreement because of its disastrous implications for nonproliferation. I've been called the "Arch-Critic" of the deal; but really I see myself as the "Arch-Defender" of nuclear nonproliferation. Halting the spread of nuclear weapons is not something over which the United States can afford to compromise; this issue is central to both international stability and our own security here at home. I'm not "attacking" India, I am defending the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

My goal has been to get meaningful nonproliferation conditions included in the agreement at all levels, including at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Nuclear Suppliers' Group (NSG). But the Bush administration fought this at every turn.

The legislation I introduced in 2005, H. Con. Res. 318 outlined the serious nonproliferation problems of the proposed India nuclear cooperation agreement.

I testified before the House International Relations Committee on May 11, 2006 and explained the incredible dangers of the President's proposal. I told them that the deal was "ill-conceived, that it undermines U.S. national security interests, and that it sets a dangerous precedent that will be exploited by our adversaries and rivals." I continue to believe that this is the case.

In response to the issues I and others raised regarding the threat to Congressional prerogatives from the administration's draft bill, the bill that was actually introduced removed many of the worst "blank check" provisions of the Administration bill. For instance, the administration bill would not have allowed the Congress to even see India's IAEA Safeguards Agreement or the Nuclear Suppliers' Group rule change before we voted on whether or not to give final approval.

The Motion to Recommit which I offered during floor debate on July 26, 2006 focused on India's dangerous relationship with Iran. My motion would have required India to help us halt Iran's nuclear program. It received 192 votes—the strongest vote that opponents of the deal were able to muster. Sadly, however, it was not included in the final bill.

But after the Congress passed the Henry J. Hyde Act of 2006, to allow in principle nuclear trade with India, the Bush Administration ignored many of the most important and requirements which were contained in that legislation. President Bush has negotiated a deal with India which is universally recognized by nonproliferation experts as ripping an enormous hole in the nonproliferation regime by granting unprecedented concessions to India, a country that has never signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

I would like to take this opportunity to explain for the RECORD, the problems inherent with this bill, and more generally with President Bush's now three-year campaign to carve out a massive loophole to the nonproliferation rules on behalf of India.

ADMINISTRATION ARGUMENTS FAIL THE REALITY TEST

In selling its proposal for the nuclear cooperation agreement with India, the Bush Administration relied on arguments which simply fail the reality test. Among the most glaringly false arguments on which the administration continues to rely to this day are that the nuclear deal will unlock India for American commerce, and that India will be a natural strategic partner with the United States,

The U.S.-India trade relationship

The Bush Administration has argued that the nuclear cooperation agreement will exponentially boost commerce with India. They also argued repeatedly that if the nuclear deal were not immediately approved by the Congress, the U.S. would lose the benefit of this trade.

But in reality, we already have strong and growing trade ties with India, and there is no reason to believe that this will be substantially altered by the nuclear cooperation agreement. Furthermore, I believe that the Bush Administration has sought to use this false economic argument to rush Congressional approval.

The truth is that since 2000, Indian exports to the United States have doubled, and U.S. exports to India have almost tripled. In the last 30 years, total bilateral trade has grown almost 8-fold, an enormous increase. In 2006, our total bilateral trade topped \$31.9 billion, growing at a whopping 18.9% over the previous year. Even during the worst moments of the U.S.-India relationship, for instance after the 1974 and 1998 Indian nuclear tests, trade continued to grow at rapid rates.

The bottom line is that trade between the United States and India will continue to grow, regardless of the ultimate outcome of the nuclear cooperation agreement.