EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ANNOUNCING THE DAVIDSON MANAGEMENT HONORS PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 21, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to announce before the United States House of Representatives the formation of The Davidson Management Honors Program at The University of Texas at Dallas (UT Dallas).

The Davidson Management Honors Program is named for distinguished UT Dallas alumni and philanthropists Charles (Chuck) and Nancy Davidson. The Davidsons graduated from the School of Management in 1980 and have generously given back to UT Dallas ever since.

Mr. Davidson sits on the university's Development Board, and a gift from the couple helped to finance the construction of the current School of Management facility. The Davidsons are also responsible for establishing four endowed faculty research positions at UT Dallas.

Without a doubt, The Davidson Management Honors Program will draw first-rate students from across the globe to the Naveen Jindal School of Management.

Therefore, as a representative of UT Dallas in the United States Congress, it is my honor and privilege to publicly recognize Chuck and Nancy Davidson for their generous and vital contributions to the North Texas community, and specifically, the Naveen Jindal School of Management at the University of Texas at Dallas.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ASSYRIAN AMERICAN CIVIC CLUB OF TURLOCK

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 21, 2011

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Assyrian American Civic Club of Turlock, as they celebrate their 65th anniversary and commemorate the Centennial of Assyrians settling in Turlock.

Dr. Isaac Adams, an Assyrian medical missionary, established the Turlock Assyrian colony in 1910 with 45 people who were members of his own family and relatives from Canada, plus some settlers he had recruited from Chicago and points East. Beginning in 1920, refugees from the holocaust of World War 2 began to arrive in Turlock. Poor as they were, the Turlock Assyrians sent money to bring over family members who survived the war. By 1930, twenty percent of Turlock's population was Assyrian. Most Assyrians concentrated, for the most part, on living in peace and making an honest living.

The civic club today has over 1,200 family members and is involved in many Assyrian civic and national activities. They participate in the Assyrian Martyr Day, on August 7th, in commemoration of the Assyrians massacred during the 20th century, and the Assyrian New year at the start of the Spring season. The club also has a beautiful national choir and orchestra which promotes the Assyrian culture and heritage through concerts conducted throughout the United States. The Assyrian American Civic Club of Turlock has worked diligently to assist not only their own community but the surrounding area as well and is a tremendous source of pride to all of us.

For the past sixty-five years, the Assyrian American Civic Club of Turlock has been focused on serving the interests of the large and ever-increasing Assyrian population while also being actively involved in the valley communities. Their main objective is to promote unity, education, good citizenship and peace for all. The Assyrians are excellent members of the community and fine examples to our youth of individuals who display civic pride and dedication. I am proud to say that many members of the Assyrian American Civic Club of Turlock have become close personal friends of mine.

Please join me in congratulating the Assyrian American Civic Club of Turlock on their 65th Anniversary and commemorating the Centennial of Assyrians settling in Turlock.

RETIREMENT OF MAJOR GENERAL YVES J. FONTAINE

HON. ROBERT T. SCHILLING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 21, 2011

Mr. SCHILLING. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to speak on the floor of the House of Representatives about an incredible member of our Armed Forces.

Major General Yves J. Fontaine has served as Commanding General of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command (ASC), since September 2, 2009. As Commanding General of ASC, Major General Fontaine leads a global organization responsible for providing front-line logistics support to combat units. This important Command manages Army pre-positioned stocks located in strategic sites around the world; maintains weapons and equipment at bases in forward areas; and oversees the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP), which provides contractor support in theaters of operation. Major General Fontaine has diligently worked to bring together the Rock Island Arsenal community, both on and off the island. He has been a great asset to the Quad Cities community and his service as Commanding General of ASC will be greatly missed.

I would like to take this opportunity to share his incredible history with the American people. Major General Fontaine was born in La Louviere, Belgium and became a naturalized United States citizen in 1971. Major General Fontaine was commissioned as an Army officer in 1976 following his graduation from University of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he was named as Distinguished Military Graduate. Along with the Bachelor of Science degree in Management which he earned from LaSalle, Major General Fontaine also holds master's degrees in business administration from Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri, and advanced military studies from the Army's Command and General Staff College. He also completed the Training with Industry program at the Defense Contract Agency in Indianapolis, Indiana. His military education includes the Ordnance Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the School for Advanced Military Studies, and the U.S. Army War College.

Major General Fontaine has diligently and admirably served the Army and his country through previous assignments. Major General Fontaine came to ASC from Kaiserslautern, Germany, where he served as Commanding General of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command (TSC). Prior to that assignment, he served as the G4 (Logistics) for U.S. Army-Europe, 7th U.S. Army, in Heidelberg, Germany. Major General Fontaine also served as the G4 for the 82nd Airborne Division and the G4 and Chief of Staff for the U.S. Special Operations Command, both at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. During Operation Desert Shield, Major General Fontaine deployed to Southwest Asia with the 24th Infantry Division. When Operation Desert Storm began, Major General Fontaine acted as liaison officer with France's 6th Light Armored Division. He then became Support Operations Officer for the 24th Infantry Division's 24th Support Battalion at Fort Stewart, Georgia. After assuming command of the 1st Corps Support Command, Major General Fontaine deployed from Fort Bragg to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Other key assignments held by Major General Fontaine during his career include commander of the 82nd Forward Support Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division; maintenance officer for the Bradley Fighting Vehicle System Materiel Fielding Team, and materiel operations officer for the 19th Maintenance Battalion, 3rd Corps Support Command, in Vilseck, Germany; company commander and battalion maintenance officer with the 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized) at Fort Carson, Colorado; and platoon leader, shop officer and battalion maintenance officer with the 8th Infantry Division in Germany. His entire service record is a credit to his training in the Army, his focus on education and the support of his wife and four daughters.

Major General Fontaine's awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal; the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters; the Bronze Star Medal; the Defense Superior Service Medal; the Meritorious Combat Action Badge; and the Master Parachutist Badge.

I appreciate the great service he has provided to Rock Island Arsenal and our nation

as a whole. I also appreciate the sacrifices that he and his family have gone through during his time in the military. We are very lucky to have folks like Major General Fontaine serving our country and I wish him and his family the best as they move on into this new adventure. On behalf of a grateful nation, thank you for your dedication and your service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 21, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce a resolution to establish a House of Representatives Summer Internship Program, which would allow youth, from college-bound to senior-level college students, to work in the House of Representatives for seven weeks in the summer. The students, from every state, territory, and the District of Columbia, would assist Members of Congress and congressional and Cloakroom staff with legislative duties, filling a void left after House leadership terminated the House of Representatives Page Program.

The participants would still need to meet most of the qualifications under the former House Page Program, except students would need to be at least 18 years of age, be entering or enrolled in college, and have earned a 3.0 or better grade point average over the prior two academic years. The House Speaker and Minority Leader would select and appoint the interns, and the Office of the Clerk of the House would administer the program. My bill would also establish an oversight board, and require the Clerk to propose regulations to implement the program.

In announcing the termination of the House Page Program, the House Speaker and Minority Leader cited the program's high operating costs and advances in technology that eliminated the need for Pages. My bill does not contain the major financial obligations of the Page Program, such as the costs of providing housing, residential staff, teachers and tutors, and a stipend for students. Under my bill, the House interns would be required to arrange and pay for their own housing and would serve without being paid. The interns would attend a one-hour class per week on the executive, judicial, or legislative process, which are already offered to all interns and congressional staff throughout the year by the Legislative Resource Center.

Since the termination of the Page Program, congressional staff, fellows, interns and legislative branch employees have come to understand the unique and proactive value of the program. For example, congressional staff now have to make frequent deliveries to the U.S. Capitol, cutting into their daily work duties. But, perhaps the most valuable and lasting aspect of the Page Program was the invaluable experience it provided to young people.

I urge my colleagues to support my bill, and I call for its immediate passage to continue youth participation in the legislative process.

HONORING W. DOUGLAS CALL

HON. KATHLEEN C. HOCHUL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 21, 2011

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker,

Whereas: W. Douglas Call is a resident of Genesee County and has been married for 48 years to Donna Hunt; and

Whereas: W. Douglas Call and Donna are the proud parents of three children and 10 grandchildren; and

Whereas: W. Douglas Call served as a United States Air Force Judge Advocate from 1966 to 1973, a former seminarian, and an attorney; and

Whereas: W. Douglas Call was the Genesee County Assistant County Attorney from 1976 to 1980, Genesee County Sheriff from 1981 to 1988, Monroe County Director of Public Safety from 1988 to 1990 and Stafford Town Justice from 1999 to the present; and

Whereas: W. Douglas Call was instrumental in developing a unique program along with more than 120 community groups which required community service for non-violent offenders; and

Whereas: W. Douglas Call continued in his efforts to protect residents of Genesee County and New York State by initiating the Stop DWI and roadblock program; and

Whereas: W. Douglas Call has dedicated his life to serving the residents of Genesee County. Be it further

Resolved; That we pause in our deliberations to honor W. Douglas Call for his outstanding commitment and service to the residents of Genesee County.

UNITED STATES-KOREA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert into the RECORD the following additional letters of opposition to the Free Trade Agreements with Korea, Panama, and Colombia: A letter from the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America; and a letter from the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA,

Washington, DC, July 11, 2011.

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS: On behalf of the over half a million members of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, I am writing to urge you to vote against the proposed Free Trade Agreements with South Korea, Colombia and Panama. Approval of these three proposals is a vote to undercut American living standards

The evidence is clear. Over the last twenty years our government has agreed to similar trade deals with Mexico, Central America, China and other nations. Each time their promoters promised the Congress that the agreements would make America more competitive and create more jobs. Each time, the result was a widening trade deficit financed by borrowing from foreigners and a net loss of U.S. jobs. Our massive indebtedness to China, for example, is a direct result of the trade deficit that followed the 2000 China trade agreement.

We now know that these deals were not designed to help U.S. workers or businesses that produce here. Rather they were designed to allow multinational corporations to off-shore production in countries where costs are cheap because workers are suppressed, the environment is abused and finance is unregulated.

As in prior trade deals, the new agreements lack enforceable labor and environmental protections. They allow foreign companies to challenge U.S. laws on the grounds that they inhibit foreign competition. And despite the claims of ''free trade,'' they give away access to the U.S. markets without reciprocal rights for U.S. producers.

Thus, to give one example, under the agreement with Panama, any company registered in that country—including the thousands of Chinese and other foreign companies registered there—will have the right to bid on virtually any significant U.S. government procurement or construction project. But American firms are denied access to bid on the only large scale project of any size in Panama—the widening of the Panama Canal.

In effect, we would give away American jobs in order that U.S. multinationals have even greater opportunity to use Panama's notorious lax and corrupt financial system to escape U.S. taxes and rules against money laundering.

The negative impact of the deal with South Korea will be larger. The Economic Policy Institute—which has accurately forecast the economic impact of prior trade deals—estimates that the Korean FTA will directly cost Americans at least 160,000 jobs to start. The long term damage will be even greater. The agreement allows South Korea to export goods duty-free to the U.S. even if only 35% of the content is actually produced there. This will open the door for the transshipment of goods primarily manufactured in places like China, Vietnam and the totalitarian regime in North Korea.

Moreover, the Korea agreement has no effective provision for dismantling the labyrinth of non-tariff barriers that already results in the U.S. selling only 6,000 autos there a year, while Korea sells us 500,000. Neither does it prohibit Korea from manipulating its currency to gain competitive advantage in the same way that China now does.

The proposed deal with Colombia is morally offensive as well as economically unsound. Colombia has by far the most brutal record of repression of independent trade unionists in the world. On nothing but the flimsy promise that they will do better in the future, our government will be rewarding a corrupt oligarchy that suppresses workers' efforts to improve wages and working conditions with beatings, torture and assassination. Despite claims that the political system there has ''reformed,'' a record 52 Colombia trade unionists were murdered last year. Of the 2,800 assassinations of union leaders over two and a half decades, only five percent of the cases have been prosecuted.

The primary purpose of the treaty with Colombia is the same as that of the 2007 treaty with Peru—outsourcing American jobs. As the Peruvian president told the U.S. Chamber of Commerce the night the Peru FTA was signed, ''Come and open your factories in my country so we can sell your own products back to the U.S.''

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters supports balanced reciprocal trade agreements that provide the benefits of economic growth to workers in both the U.S. and its trading partners. Under any circumstances, these

current proposals would not meet this commonsense test. Today, at a time of high joblessness, deteriorating wages and shrinking work opportunities, our members and their families have little tolerance for trade policies that will make their lives worse and their country weaker.

The only responsible vote is no.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS J. MCCARRON,
General President.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS AND AEROSPACE WORKERS,
Upper Marlboro, MD, June 30, 2011.

Re Jobs and Trade.

DEAR SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE, As one of the nation's largest manufacturing unions, and the largest union in the aerospace industry, one of the few industrial sectors in which the U.S. has a positive balance of trade with the world, IAM members know the potential benefits of international trade. We have, however, also witnessed the systematic destruction of our manufacturing base and the loss of six million manufacturing jobs in the last decade from failed trade policies and the devastation that this has wrought on American workers, their families, and their communities.

A critical test for any trade agreement is whether it will create American jobs, raise living standards, and improve international labor, consumer, and environmental standards. A careful review of the three pending free trade agreements with South Korea, Columbia, and Panama reveals that these Bush-era, NAFTA style agreements all fail this essential test. Consequently, the IAM strongly opposes the deeply flawed free trade agreements with South Korea, Columbia, and Panama.

THE JOBS CRISIS

Passage of these trade agreements will add to the misery of our nation's workforce and could hamper efforts to restore the structural and sustainable health of our economy. For ordinary Americans the current economic crisis has meant persistent and deep unemployment. This month's employment report showed a stagnate job market with a high unemployment rate of 9.1 percent. Hundreds of thousands of Americans have given up looking for nonexistent jobs and have dropped out of the workforce. Through May, labor force participation remained at 64.2 percent for the fifth consecutive month, the lowest rate since the start of the Great Recession. The Economic Policy Institute (EPI) estimates that if labor force participation were the same as a year ago, the official unemployment rate would be 10.1 percent.

Long-term unemployment, the percentage of the unemployed out of work for over six months, has risen to 45.1 percent, only slightly off last year's record 45.6 percent. The other significant employment rate, the U–6 measure of underutilization which includes the unemployed, discouraged, and those working only part time continues to hover at 15.8 percent, representing nearly 25 million Americans.

With the continued loss of jobs comes downward pressure on the wages and benefits of working Americans. According to the Department of Labor, workers' pay for the twelve months ending in May rose a scant 1.8 percent before adjusting for inflation. The economic news, however, is not all bad. According to the Department of Commerce, through the first quarter of 2011, U.S. corporations earned profits at a record annual rate of $1.727 trillion—the highest amount ever recorded in the sixty years the government has been tracking such data.

NO TO THE KOREA-U.S. FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

This FTA is the largest since the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and has the potential to eliminate as many U.S. jobs. While the Administration is careful to only claim that the FTA will ''support'' 70,000 jobs, the net effect will be a loss of jobs; EPI estimates a 159,000 job loss. According to the International Trade Commission (USITC) the KORUS FTA will increase the trade imbalance in seven industrial sectors. Electrical equipment (with a negative balance between $762 and $790 million) and motor vehicles and parts (with a negative balance $531 and $708 million) being the two most at risk sectors. Jobs will also be at risk in the aerospace, auto parts and supply, appliance, machinery, textile, and other industries.

It is important to note that prior official estimates by the USITC of the impact of trade agreements have significantly underestimated U.S. trade imbalances and job losses. According to the USITC, China's entry into the World Trade Organization was not supposed to have appreciably affected employment, but an estimated 2.4 million American jobs have been lost to China since 2001. A similar impact was felt after the passage of NAFTA, which the USITC originally projected would create a trade surplus for the U.S.

The KORUS FTA does not address the huge trade imbalance between the U.S. and South Korea in automobiles. In 2009, South Korea shipped approximately 500,000 cars to the U.S., while we exported a mere 6,000 autos to South Korea. While the December 2010 supplemental agreement allows the Big Three U.S. automobile manufacturers to sell up to a total of 75,000 U.S. made cars (but, importantly, does not guarantee this number) without having to meet South Korea's stringent safety and environmental requirements, it is doubtful that a South Korean consumer would want to buy an inferior U.S. made product, particularly when South Koreans have a cultural aversion to foreign made autos; foreign autos only make up four percent of the South Korean market.

Any extension of the U.S.'s meager 2.5 percent protective tariff will continue to be nullified by the manipulation of Korea's currency, an issue that the FTA fails to address. Nonmarket barriers in South Korea's auto market, such as, higher insurance rates and taxes, were also not addressed in the FTA. The Korea Automobile Manufacturers Association actually expects exports to the U.S. to increase.

The agreement contains inadequate provisions regarding the rule of origin that undercut what it means to label a product ''Made in U.S.A.'' and allows for 65 percent foreign content in manufactured goods that are eligible for the lower tariff treatment. This means that a product with only 35 percent domestic content will be considered American made. NAFTA required a 50 percent domestic content requirement and the EU-South Korea agreement requires an even higher 55 domestic content. The ultimate effect of the low domestic content requirement of the KORUS FTA will be to incentivize the outsourcing of production to countries with low wages and few labor rights, including Mexico and China. More specifically South Korean vehicles shipped to the U.S. could be built with North Korean and Chinese made auto parts, putting at risk the jobs of both American and South Korean workers, which is a primary reason why South Korean unions oppose the KORUS FTA. While the lowest domestic content requirement may be beneficial to large multinational corporations like General Motors, which now produces and sells more vehicles in China than it does in the U.S., it will put the jobs of American auto workers at risk.

The FTA also raises concerns over the possibility that goods made in the Kaesong Industrial Complex (KIC), the North Korean sweat shop zone set up by Hyundai where some 120 South Korean companies employ over 40,000 North Koreans, and where labor rights are nonexistent, could gain future access to the U.S. market. According to South Korea's Ambassador to the U.S., Han Duk-Soo, ''The planned ratification of the South Korea-U.S. free trade agreement will pave the way for the export of products built in Kaesong to the U.S. market.''

North Korean workers in the KIC are paid a mere 0.25 to 0.38 per hour with the repressive North Korean regime first taking a cut of nearly 45 percent of the wages. These payments provide an important source of foreign currency for North Korea, pumping millions per month into the corrupt regime, and, ironically, helping to fund the North's dangerous nuclear program. The Kaesong Industrial Complex has remained open despite the ongoing geopolitical tensions on the Korean peninsula that require the continued presence of 28,500 U.S. military personnel. Hyundai recently signed a new lease to expand the KIC ten fold and house an expected 1,500 companies and employ an estimated 350,000 North Korean workers.

This KORUS FTA also fails to address flaws in the May 2007 framework that the Bush Administration negotiated. That framework, which also applies to FTAs with Columbia, Panama, and Peru, specifically excludes reference to the conventions of the International Labor Organization, the only internationally enforceable labor standards. The labor provision also limits labor violations to those that ''affect'' trade and are sustaining or reoccurring. The framework also extends extraordinary private investor rights that undermine federal and state sovereignty and incentivize the offshoring of U.S. jobs. Additionally, the agreement's deregulation of financial services ignores the experience of the recent financial debacle that led to our current economic crisis and threatens to undermine the re-regulation of that industry.

NO TO THE U.S.-COLUMBIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The killings of trade unionists continue in Columbia. Last year, even with the ETA under scrutiny, fifty-one of our brothers and sisters were murdered and twenty-one trade unionists survived attempts on their lives, an increase from 2009. According to the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), more trade unionists are killed in Columbia than the rest of the world combined.

The killings continue because year after year the Columbian government has failed to bring justice for the victims of this violence. Nearly 2,800 trade unionists have been murdered in Columbia since 1986 yet there have been only a handful of persecutions. The impunity rate for the murders of trade unionists is 96 percent.

The Administration's so-called ''Action Plan'' to address the labor atrocities is not an agreement and lacks any meaningful enforcement provision. Indeed, once implemented, any violation under the LAP would be ''resolved'' through the weak labor chapter based on the May 10 agreement. Since violations would have to be connected to trade, labor violations in the public sector, or any sector where there is not a connection to trade, would apparently not be covered. Moreover, violations would have to be sustained or reoccurring. Most importantly, however, the LAP makes absolutely no guarantee that the killings, injuries, and threats will stop. Even if all of the requirements of the ''Action Plan'' are met there is no guarantee that the murder rate will go down, nor would a failure to stop the killings prevent

the free trade agreement from being implemented, and once the free trade agreement goes into effect the U.S. will lack any leverage with Columbia to stop the murders and improve labor rights.

If the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) is any model, there will be an increase in murders if the FTA is passed. When CAFTA was under consideration, the murders of trade unionists in Guatemala dropped to zero, only to increase to sixteen in 2009 and ten in 2010. The labor protections in CAFTA have been a failure; last year the Guatemalan labor leader who filed the first labor complaint under CAFTA was murdered.

The agricultural provisions of the FTA fail to address the displacement of over 5.2 million Afro-Columbians and indigenous peoples within Columbia, which now has more internally displaced citizens than any other country in the world.

Before a trade agreement with Columbia goes forward, Columbia needs to demonstrate to the world that it has a zero tolerance for violence against trade unionists and that human rights will be protected. The U.S. needs to show the world that it is serious about protecting basic human rights and that it will not sacrifice that agenda for higher profits for multinational corporations.

NO TO THE U.S.-PANAMA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

As the U.S. struggles with a budget deficit of historical proportions, it is incredible that we would be considering extending trade privileges to Panama, one of the world's top countries for tax cheats. Panama has long been a heaven for money laundering both for multinationals and narco-traffickers. Unfortunately, the FTA fails to effectively close this huge loop hole. Nor does the FTA allow U.S. companies the ability to bid on improvement projects in the Panama Canal Zone.

All three of these flawed FTAs contain the NAFTA Investment Chapters which provides foreign investors and corporations extraordinary rights to challenge state and federal laws pertaining to procurement (e.g., Buy American requirements), consumer and public health protections, and environmental regulations. Such challenges would not take place in U.S. courts, but before secret international tribunals which would have the power to require compensation for ''regulatory takings.'' This is no hypothetical matter, as the federal and state governments have spent millions defending NAFTA challenges to regulations while Canada and Mexico have had to pay millions because of these challenges.

CHINA—THE REAL TRADE CHALLENGE

Like most Americans, we do not understand why Congress and the Administration continue to focus on passing these free trade agreements while our manufacturing base and economy strain from the impact of the unfair trade practices of China. Last year our trade imbalance with China was over $273 billion, an imbalance that costs the U.S. millions of jobs and billions in lost tax revenue. China is a country that gives generous subsidies to state owned enterprises, engages in intellectual property theft, has no independent labor unions, and continues to manipulate its currency, which is estimated to be undervalued by as much as 40 percent. The undervalued currency makes Chinese manufactured products artificially cheap and U.S. made products more expensive. Failing to address China's numerous unfair trade practices will prevent the U.S. from ''winning the future'' as President Obama has proclaimed America must do.

FAIR TRADE—A NEW TEMPLATE

We have stated repeatedly that the U.S. should take a strategic pause and evaluate the full impact of past trade agreements and practices before ratifying any new agreements. Such a pause is more important than ever before as our weak economy continues to struggle with the lasting effects of bad trade deals and the wreckage of the global financial crisis brought on by deregulation. The KORUS FTA has yet to be ratified by the South Korean Parliament, and 2012 parliamentary and presidential elections may push off ratification even further into the future.

Economically, the KORUS FTA has the potential to do as much damage to the living standards of ordinary Americans and NAFTA. Linking Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) to the KORUS FTA is a clear indication that the FTA will result in the loss of American jobs. American workers need jobs, not the burial insurance of TAA. Morally, no FTA is as repugnant as the agreement with Columbia, the murder capitol of the world when it comes to violence against trade unionists. As previously stated, the so-called Action Plan is a fig leaf that seeks to provide cover for the inaction of the Columbia government and the impunity with which murders take place in that country.

America can no longer afford ''free'' trade agreements that benefit Wall Street and multinational corporations at the expense of U.S. workers. I urge you in the strongest possible terms to reject these job killing agreements.

If you have any questions, please contact Legislative and Political Director Matthew McKinnon.

Sincerely,

R. THOMAS BUFFENBARGER,
International President.

ANNOUNCING THE NAVEEN JINDAL SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 21, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to announce before the United States House of Representatives the naming of The Naveen Jindal School of Management at The University of Texas at Dallas (UT Dallas).

UT Dallas is the educational institution of choice for over 17,000 students from North Texas and around the world. Its School of Management, established in 1974 and alma mater to over 600 new graduates per year, plays a crucial role in fulfilling the university's mission statement: to serve as a global leader in innovative, high quality science, engineering, and business education and research.

The Honorable Naveen Jindal, now the namesake of the School of Management, earned his Masters of Business Administration degree from UT Dallas in 1992. During his time in the MBA program, he was named Student Government president and the university's Student Leader of the Year.

Mr. Jindal now serves as an esteemed Member of Parliament in his homeland of India. He is known as a responsible industrialist and youth icon for his work in the private and public sectors alike.

As a proud representative of UT Dallas in the United States Congress, it is my privilege to recognize Naveen Jindal for his leadership, innovation and philanthropy.

I look forward to the many stories of success and growth which will continue to come from the students, administrators, and faculty of The Naveen Jindal School of Management.