

prices far below cost. As economic markets have failed in Russia and Asia, foreign steel manufacturers have increasingly turned to the United States to sell their product and, in return, obtain hard currency. In fact, the import rate rose 30 percent in the first ten months of 1998, as compared with the same period last year, and U.S. steel imports this past October were the second highest in history.

As a result, U.S. steel manufacturers are faced with a real crisis, one that threatens to undermine a key sector of our economy. Plants across the country have been forced to shorten shifts, lay-off workers and, in some cases, declare bankruptcy. In my own state, workers at Bethlehem Steel's Sparrows Point Division have been subjected to shorter hours, shorter shifts and even the shutting down of Sparrows Point's galvanized steel line.

Mr. President, for the past fifteen years, the U.S. steel industry has worked aggressively to streamline its operations, improve productivity and cut costs, but it cannot compete against illegally dumped steel. It is, in fact, time for this Congress to Stand Up For Steel.

With this legislation, we can begin to do just that. The Trade Fairness Act of 1999 is comprised of two sections which will enhance the ability of the Administration to take action on this crisis. The first of these sections amends the emergency safeguards provisions, Section 201, of the 1974 Trade Act which allows the President to grant temporary import relief to a domestic industry which the International Trade Commission finds has been seriously injured by increased imports. This section seeks not only to ensure that the steel industry is treated equitably, but that all domestic industries may be allowed to compete fairly in the global marketplace.

The second section creates a comprehensive steel import monitoring program which requires importers to provide information including the name and address of the importer, supplier and producer of the goods to be imported, the country of origin of the goods, the expected date of entry of the goods, a description of the goods, including the classification of these goods under the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, and the quantity of the goods to be imported. This information will aid the Administration in monitoring the amount of steel brought into the United States and allow these numbers to be tabulated and released at a rate faster than at present.

Mr. President, as you know, on January 7, the Administration submitted the "Report to Congress on a Comprehensive Plan for Responding to the Increase in Steel Imports." I am disappointed that this report appears largely to be a recital of things already

done by the Administration, rather than new steps planned to address the problem. The Administration should be focusing on keeping America's steelworkers in their line of work, instead of in line collecting unemployment. For over a century, the steel industry has stood tall and served as a foundation of the American economy. The time for the Administration to Stand Up For Steel is now. The U.S. steel industry and the 226,000 Americans employed by it deserve nothing less than the full support of their country.

The Trade Fairness Act of 1999 would allow the Administration to provide strong support for the American steel industry. I strongly urge my colleagues to support its passage.●

TRIBUTE TO THE PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROFESSIONALS

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Pennsylvania Association of Student Assistance Professionals (PASAP), who will be holding their ninth annual conference in Pittsburgh from March 14-16. The PASAP is a state-wide organization comprised of school officials, teachers, treatment center and medical personnel, psychologists and other professionals who address the influence of alcohol, drugs and mental health issues on students in the 501 Pennsylvania school districts.

The theme of this year's conference, "Help is Just Down the Hall—Building Resilience, Building Partners, Building America's Future," will focus on parental involvement, crisis response in a school setting and other issues focusing on the at-risk student population.

According to state statistics, more than 61,000 students were directly helped during the last school year as a result of the Student Assistance program process.

The PASAP provide a state forum for sharing resources, common needs, experience and outcomes and promote the development of joint school and community programs for youth. The PASAP also provide leadership and training on national, regional, state and local levels as well as advocate for increased local, state and federal support for student assistance programs, treatment services and related personnel in the public and private sector.

Mr. President, the PASAP has altered the course of many lives among Pennsylvania's youth. I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending the PASAP for their committed efforts to the well-being of the youth in Pennsylvania and the future of our country.●

TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, Senator MURKOWSKI and I have sub-

mitted a resolution that is critical to the future health and well-being of the people of Taiwan and the rest of the world. I rise today to express my support for the resolution regarding the Republic of China on Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization (WHO). Improving health care in Asia, and around the world, is one of the most important issues facing the international community as we move into the 21st century. Despite the fact that many people are better off today than their parents and grandparents were years ago, we still face tremendous obstacles to establishing basic health care in a number of regions around the world. To this date, children are still not vaccinated, clean water and sanitation are still not available to hundreds of millions of people, curative drugs and treatments are still inaccessible, and over 500,000 mothers die unnecessarily each year in childbirth.

The WHO has been instrumental in helping to draw attention to these issues, and to bring needed relief to some of the most underprivileged people in the world. As we all know, sickness and disease span across borders and can affect anyone, regardless of where he or she lives. Here in the United States, we have been lucky enough to enjoy relatively easy access to the newest advances in medical technology and knowledge. However, the people of Taiwan have not been so fortunate. The 21 million citizens of Taiwan are currently barred from accessing the same technologies and techniques through the WHO that many other nations benefit from.

In addition, Taiwan has been frustrated in its attempts to share its own medical knowledge with the rest of the world. Until Taiwan gains membership in the WHO, it cannot contribute its substantial expertise in health care to furthering the organization's goals. We can all benefit from the advances Taiwan has made on its own, and Taiwan can, in turn, improve its own situation by accessing the resources amassed by the WHO. The resolution that Senator MURKOWSKI and I have submitted addresses an issue of basic human decency, and I urge my colleagues to support our efforts to help Taiwan become a member of the WHO.●

TRIBUTE TO GUS OWEN, FORMER SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEMBER

● Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate Gus Owen, the immediate past Vice Chairman of the Surface Transportation Board (STB), for his outstanding service to the nation. Gus Owen completed his term of service on the STB on December 31, 1998, after more than four years of public service. It is most fitting that we recognize Mr. Owen's service because he met the