

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2606,
FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2000

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 5, 1999

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the Foreign Operations conference report.

America loses when we fail to properly fund our foreign operations budget. The report we are considering is almost \$2 billion below the level requested by President Clinton and \$1 billion below last year's budget.

Without adequate funding for our international affairs operations, we will not be equipped to protect the security and the prosperity of Americans at home and abroad, and we risk losing our status as the world's remaining superpower.

American foreign policy should not embrace the short-sighted views of isolationists. Instead, we should meet the myriad of challenges facing the global community. America is at its best when we promote our values abroad by supporting struggling democracies and their efforts to make the transition to market economies.

Mr. Speaker, this conference report provides no Wye Aid funding which we promised our partners in the Middle East. It fails to provide adequate funding for emerging democracies in Africa and fails to assist our neighbors in the Western Hemisphere. It also ignores the needs of Asian countries recovering from financial devastation.

But the greatest disgrace of this conference report is our failure to lend a helping hand to the world's children. The children of Sierra Leone, for example, who have suffered the violent amputation of their limbs, sexual abuse, displacement from their homes, and the ravaging to their innocence and youth, lose yet again when we cut our foreign aid and humanitarian assistance. Programs to provide them food and medical intervention and to return them to their homes and neighborhoods can never succeed. And yet, what greater humanitarian purpose can our foreign policy serve than to bring prosthetic arms and hands to babies whose entire lives lie ahead of them?

I urge my colleagues to join me today and defeat this poorly funded conference report. America's front line of foreign policy should not be shortchanged.

RECOGNIZING BISHOP CHARLES
BUSWELL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a man whose dedication to his faith and community is unpar-

alleled. Bishop Charles Buswell served selflessly as a priest for 60 years and this year marks 40 years since he was ordained bishop.

Bishop Buswell was born in Kingfisher, Oklahoma in July 1939. There, he served in a variety of positions in the diocese and also founded a parish, Christ the King. In September 1959, he was ordained Bishop of Pueblo. It was at this point in time he was elected to the Second Vatican Council in Rome, which he called the most significant event of his lifetime. There, during his service from 1962 to 1965, he was one of 2,500 Catholic bishops who discussed possible liturgical changes with Pope John XXIII. For Bishop Buswell it was an exciting time in which he felt he could truly make a difference. He is now one of only thirty living American bishops who attended the Council.

Bishop Buswell took on tough issues of the time. He led the way on issues such as antiwar, racism, just wages, and women's causes both in and out of the Church. Today, long after his 1979 resignation, he is regarded as a prominent clerical figure in the peace movement.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to a man who had a truly remarkable career of giving his time to help others. I would also like to recognize the 40th anniversary of his consecration as a bishop. The people of Colorado and every corner of the United States owe a debt of gratitude to this man who has fought so hard to make a difference.

TRIBUTE TO LEWIS E. PLATT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 1999

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lewis E. Platt, Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of Hewlett-Packard who is retiring after 33 years of service to the Company.

Hewlett-Packard has flourished under Lew Platt's leadership. The Company, based in the heart of Silicon Valley, Palo Alto, has increased its revenues every year since Mr. Platt was elected President and Chief Executive Officer.

But Lew Platt's success cannot be measured by sales figures only. Lew Platt took it upon himself to create a workplace second-to-none in its acceptance of women and minorities. Because of his passion and commitment to create a level playing field for all his employees, he built upon the established "HP Way," to the much-celebrated corporate values instituted by the Company's founders Bill Hewlett and David Packard. And because of Lew Platt's leadership, Hewlett-Packard is consistently among the top ten of Fortune's Best Companies to Work For in America.

Mr. Platt has focused Hewlett Packard's corporate giving on three objectives: significantly improving K-12 science and math achievement, increasing the number of women and minorities studying and teaching science and mathematics, and ensuring that all children are ready to learn when they begin school. Under Mr. Platt's guidance, the Company has donated approximately \$55 million each year to education.

Lew Platt's leadership has extended well beyond Hewlett-Packard. In 1995, he was appointed by President Clinton to the Advisory Committee on Trade Policy Negotiations. He has served as Chairman of one of its three task forces, the World Trade Organization Task Force. He also serves on the Cornell University Council and the Wharton School Board of Overseers.

Lew Platt has also exemplified the best in leadership in his own community—Silicon Valley. In 1996, he was elected Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of Joint Venture: Silicon Valley, an organization formed to strengthen our local economy and help make our region a better place to live for everyone. Under his leadership, Joint Venture: Silicon Valley has launched a number of initiatives that bring people together from business, government, and education to identify and act on regional issues affecting our economic vitality and our quality of life. He has also served as a member of the California Business Roundtable.

Mr. Platt's leadership in California's 14th Congressional District and Silicon Valley which I'm so privileged to represent is a model for all to follow. Through his extraordinary leadership of H-P and the industry, Lew Platt has contributed mightily to our community and our country.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Lew Platt for who he is and all he has done. We are indeed a better country and a better people because of this man.

CONGRATULATING MR. LEWIS E.
PLATT

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 7, 1999

Mr. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to congratulate Mr. Lewis E. Platt, Chairman of the Board, President, and Chief Executive Officer of the Hewlett-Packard Company, who is retiring after six years as Chairman of the Board and 33 years of service to the Hewlett-Packard Company. A friend and a neighbor in Silicon Valley from the beginning of his tenure with HP, Lew Platt has understood the importance both of giving back to the community that has given so much to his company and of improving the cities in which he lives and does business. In 1996 Mr. Platt was elected Co-chair, along with San Jose Mayor Ron Gonzales, of the Joint Venture Silicon Valley (Calif.) Network, an organization formed in 1991 to strengthen the local economy and make the area a better place in which to live.

Yet by far, Mr. Platt's greatest contributions to my constituents in Silicon Valley and to the nation as a whole have come through the educational programs he has established and sponsored through Hewlett-Packard, aiding students at all levels of school. Lewis Platt has focused HP's national efforts around three stated company goals: significantly improving K-12 science and math achievements, increasing the number of women and minorities studying and teaching science and mathematics, and ensuring that all children are ready to learn when they begin school.