

that such drilling will seriously harm the environment in that environmentally fragile area.

More drilling for oil in Alaska is one of the oil industry's priorities. Both BP Amoco and ARCO are members of Arctic Power, a lobby group supported by the oil industry and the state government of Alaska. Arctic Power has only one agenda item—to lobby Congress to open up the coastal plain for oil and gas drilling.

BP Amoco's acquisition of ARCO is before The United States Federal Trade Commission. It is our hope that BP Amoco's poor environmental record will be considered as the merger approval process proceeds. Better still, BP Amoco could avoid great embarrassment, and set an example as an international environmental leader, by canceling its dangerous plans to drill for oil on the coastal plain.

Such drilling would scar the coastal plain for decades. One need look no further than Prudhoe Bay, the area to the west of the refuge and starting point for the Trans Alaska Pipeline System. Development at Prudhoe Bay has permanently altered more than 400 square miles of pristine wilderness. The area is now one of the world's largest industrial complexes with more than 1,500 miles of roads and pipelines and thousands of acres of industrial facilities. In 1997 alone, about 500 oil spills occurred at this site, involving 80,000 gallons of oil, diesel fuel, acid, biocide, ethylene glycol, drilling fluid, produced water and other materials.

Does Alaska need more of this type of environmental degradation? Opening the coastal plain to drilling will result in more of the same.

THE BP AMOCO ENVIRONMENTAL RECORD

In Alaska and throughout the world, BP Amoco is not what its advertisements proclaim. Recent drilling activities in Bolivia resulted in serious water contamination. BP Amoco's drilling subcontractor there refused to continue work, as he became aware of BP Amoco's disregard for the water supply when drilling for oil in South America.

BP Amoco this year pled guilty to a felony charge of dumping hazardous waste in Prudhoe Bay, and was fined \$22 million. Doyon Drilling, a BP subcontractor, was recently fined \$3 million after being found guilty of illegally injecting hazardous waste back into the groundwater at the company's Endicott Field along Alaska's North Slope. The hazardous waste eventually reached the surface and contaminated the surrounding Beaufort Sea. The company pleaded to 15 misdemeanor counts of violating conditions of the federal Clean Water Act, and was placed on probation for five years for ordering workers to dump thousands of gallons of toxic waste into unprotected well shafts.

The BP Amoco merger would effectively end competition for oil on the North Slope of Alaska. BP Amoco/ARCO would effectively control 74 percent of all Alaska oil activities, 72 percent of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, and all North Slope oil extraction. Should a company with an abysmal environmental record have undue control over the one of the world's greatest natural treasures, Alaska?

We think not. The record speaks for itself, and the future of an internationally significant environmental refuge is at stake.

FOOD STAMP VITAMIN AND MINERAL IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Food Stamp Vitamin and Mineral Improvement Act of 1999.

This is a commonsense piece of legislation. It would give those Americans using food stamps the ability to purchase vitamin and mineral supplements for themselves and their families.

A similar bill was introduced with bipartisan support in the Senate and already has the support of the following organizations: the Alliance for Aging Research, the Spina Bifida Association of America, the National Osteoporosis Foundation, and the National Nutritional Foods Association.

Nutrition experts such as Dr. Paul Lachance, Chair of the Department of Food Science at Rutgers University, Dr. Jeffrey Blumberg of Tufts University, Dr. Charles Butterworth, Director of Human Nutrition at the University of Alabama Birmingham, and Dr. Dennis Heldman, Chair of the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition at the University of Missouri have also called for making this commonsense change to food policy.

This legislation would contribute substantially to improving the nutrition and health of a segment of our society that too often falls below recommended levels of nutrient consumption. Scientific evidence continues to mount showing that sound nutrition is essential for normal growth and cognitive development in children, and for improved health and the prevention of a variety of conditions and illnesses. Studies have also shown, unfortunately, that many Americans do not have dietary intakes sufficient to meet even the very conservative Recommended Daily Allowances, or RDA's, for a number of essential nutrients. Insufficient dietary intakes are particularly critical for children, pregnant women and the elderly.

A recent study conducted by the Tufts University School of Nutrition, and based on government data, showed that millions of children living in poverty in the United States have dietary intakes that are well below the government's Recommended Daily Allowance for a number of important nutrients. The study found that major differences exist in the intakes of poor versus non-poor children for 10 out of 16 nutrients (food energy, folate, iron, magnesium, thiamin, vitamin A, vitamin B6, vitamin C, vitamin E, and zinc). Moreover, the proportion of poor children with inadequate intakes of zinc is over 50 percent; for iron, over 40 percent; and for vitamin E, over 33 percent.

For some nutrients, such as vitamin A and magnesium, the proportion of poor children with inadequate intakes is nearly six times as large as for non-poor children.

Pregnant women also have high nutritional needs. Concerns about inadequate folate intake by pregnant women prompted the Public Health Service to issue a recommendation regarding consumption of folic acid by all women of childbearing age who are capable

of becoming pregnant for the purpose of reducing the incidence of spina bifida or other neural tube defects. That is why this change has long been a priority of the Spina Bifida Association of America.

Furthermore, the percent of pregnant and nursing women who get the RDA level of calcium has dropped from just 24 percent in 1986 to a mere 16 percent in 1994. That's 84 percent of women who aren't getting enough calcium—which we know is critical to preventing the debilitating effects of osteoporosis.

And again, the evidence is that lower income women, many of whom are eligible for Food Stamps are more likely to have inadequate intake of key nutrients. Women with income of 130 percent or less of the poverty level have higher rates of deficiencies in intake of Vitamins A, E, C, B-6 and B-12, as well as Iron, Thiamin, Riboflavin and Niacin than those with higher incomes.

Obviously, the best way to obtain sufficient nutrient intake is through eating a variety of nutritious foods, but some groups—particularly those at the greatest risk, including children, pregnant women and the elderly who do not absorb nutrients as well—may find it significantly difficult to obtain sufficient nutrient intake through foods alone. Accordingly, many people in our nation do rely on nutritional supplements to ensure that they and their families are consuming sufficient levels of key nutrients.

I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor the Food Stamp Vitamin and Mineral Improvement Act of 1999. This bill, when passed, will help families, particularly children and the elderly, have a better chance at better health through adequate nutritional support.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES D. NORTHWAY

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. James D. Northway, who is retiring later this year from his position as President and CEO of Valley Children's Hospital in Madera, California.

Dr. Northway was born in San Francisco on July 22, 1935. He received his undergraduate and medical degrees from Stanford University. After finishing medical school, Dr. Northway went to Salt Lake City in 1960 to begin the specialty to which he would devote himself throughout his career—pediatrics. There he began a series of residencies and research fellowships in the field of pediatrics.

Dr. Northway is a veteran of the military, having taken a leave of absence from his practice from 1963 to 1965 to serve as Senior Surgeon in the U.S. Naval Medical Research Unit in Cairo, Egypt. Upon completing his tour of duty, Dr. Northway returned to the U.S. and proceeded to hold a number of teaching positions at the University of Utah, Indiana University, and the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Northway still serves as Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at the University of California, in addition to his other duties.

Since 1983, Dr. Northway has been President and Chief Executive Officer of Valley Children's Hospital. There he has overseen a facility that serves the entire Central Valley of California. Dr. Northway has helped to build Valley Children's into one of the finest institutions of its kind throughout the country.

In addition to his leadership of Valley Children's Hospital, Dr. Northway has been involved in a number of professional associations, holding the chairmanship of the California Children's Hospital Association and serving in the National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutes. Dr. Northway's participation in these groups has provided ample evidence of his unwavering commitment to the field of pediatrics and to the health of our children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Dr. James D. Northway for his leadership in the field of pediatrics and for his contributions to his community. We send our sincere congratulations and wish him a very happy retirement.

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF CALIFORNIA'S FIRST STATE CONSTITUTION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 150th anniversary—the sesquicentennial—of the defining period in the founding of the State of California. November 13 of this week will mark the anniversary of the adoption by the citizens of California of the first constitution of our state and the selection of the state's first democratically elected governor. This constitution expressed California's desire to be admitted to the United States, a request that was granted on September 9, 1850, when President Millard Fillmore signed legislation making California our country's thirty-first state. Mr. Speaker, the path to California statehood began when the conflict with Mexico ceased in California in 1847. A number of United States citizens had already emigrated to the Golden State even before the war with Mexico, but with the end of hostilities, the number of emigrants increased. The discovery of gold at Coloma in January 1848 became the catalyst which rapidly transformed our state. Word of the discovery of gold spread slowly at first, until President James K. Polk in his State of the Union message to Congress on December 5, 1848, officially confirmed the discovery. An influx of "Forty-Niners" invaded California, and the Gold Rush began.

During 1849 some 100,000 people went to California from the United States, Europe, and other countries around the globe. The trip from the eastern states was long and difficult—either a perilous 17,000 mile journey from New York around Cape Horn at the southern tip of South America and then to San Francisco or a two-thousand-mile overland trip from the American Mid-West across roadless and uninhabited territory. The sudden population explosion made it clear that government institutions needed to be established in the new United States territory.

Mr. Speaker, the Congress was unable to act effectively to set up government institutions for California from the other end of the continent because transcontinental telegraph lines did not exist and the Pony Express had not yet been established. As a result, Californians took matters into their own hands. In September of 1849, forty-eight delegates elected by their fellow citizens in California met in Monterey to draw up a state constitution. The document was modeled after the state constitutions of Iowa and New York, states from which several of the delegates hailed. It established state government institutions and declared California to be a free state, one from which slavery was to be excluded. Californians ratified that constitution on November 13, 1849, and in that same election they chose a governor and other state officials.

Mr. Speaker, this week as we mark the sesquicentennial of the historic vote of the people of California adopting the first constitution of our state, I invite my colleagues in the Congress to join me in honoring this important milestone in the history of California which set our state firmly on the path of statehood and a representative democratic government.

A TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF VICTOR VAN BOURG

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of loss that I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Victor Van Bourg, one of the nation's leading labor union lawyers, who recently passed away at the age of 68.

As a young man, Mr. Van Bourg joined the building trades as a member of his father's Local of the Painters' Union. He later attended the University of California at Berkeley where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1953 and his law degree from the University's Boalt Hall School of Law in 1956.

In 1964, Mr. Van Bourg co-founded the law offices of Van Bourg, Weinberg, Roger & Rosenfeld, one of the largest union-side law firms in the country.

During his career, he appeared numerous times before the United States Supreme Court, the California Supreme Court, as well as many other State and Federal Courts, and administrative agencies. One of his most recent victories included a unanimous California Supreme Court decision upholding the validity of a labor agreement guaranteeing that all work on the San Francisco Airport's multi-billion dollar expansion project would be completed with union workers.

Mr. Van Bourg was a fierce believer that only through unions could workers gain the strength to stand up to the otherwise unrestrained power of their employers, and he spent his life trying to even the odds against workers and unions.

Mr. Van Bourg represented workers all over the country, in every trade and profession where workers gathered in unions, from carpenters to costume designers, from teachers

and professors to janitors, healthcare workers, cement masons, and stationary and operating engineers. He also traveled abroad to meet with workers and their unions in nations including Poland, the USSR, and Israel.

Van Bourg was also General Counsel to the Ironworkers' International Union for more than a decade, spending much of his time in Washington, D.C., not only to represent the Ironworkers' International, but also participating in the AFL-CIO's General Counsels' Committee, and meeting with and advising labor leaders from all over the nation.

Mr. Van Bourg will be missed by his family, friends, colleagues, and members of the labor community. He may be one of those remarkable human beings who is truly indispensable.

TRIBUTE TO THE OLATHE STATE BANK

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this moment to recognize an exceptional bank in western Colorado. The Olathe State Bank in Olathe, Colorado is known for its commitment to its community. Its commitment was recently recognized by the Independent Bankers of Colorado. In September, the Olathe State Bank was awarded the 1999 Crown Service Award for Outstanding Service to the Community.

The award was in acknowledgment of the Bank's consistent and comprehensive community initiatives. Programs such as the scholarship program, special checking accounts for high school students and a travel program for customers over 55 years of age, go hand in hand with the many employee activities and benefits and the active participation of many of the board members in various community groups. These are but a few of many excellent examples of the dedication and foresight shown by this bank.

Mr. Speaker, that is why it is my pleasure to congratulate the Olathe State Bank on the well-deserved award and for the years of service and dedication to the community.

TRIBUTE TO DEPUTY TREASURY SECRETARY STUART EIZENSTAT IN RECOGNITION OF HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, last night a number of us joined in paying tribute to Deputy Secretary of Treasury, Stuart Eizenstat. He was honored at an event at the Department of State by our Secretary of State, Madeleine K. Albright, in recognition of his outstanding service as Undersecretary of State for Economic, Business and Agricultural Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, Secretary Eizenstat is an extraordinary public servant who has undertaken