those who use private mail boxes explaining how their privacy would not be invaded if they used a government-issued box.

Coincidently, this regulation will also raise the operating cost on the Post Office’s private competitors for private mailbox services. Some who have examined this bill estimate that it could impose costs as high as $1 billion on these small businesses during the initial six-month compliance period. The long-term costs of this rule are incalculable, but could conceivably reach several billion dollars in the first few years. This may force some of these businesses into bankruptcy.

During the rule’s comment period, more than 8,000 people formally denounced the rule, while only 10 spoke generally favor of it. However, those supporting this rule will claim that the privacy of the majority of law-abiding citizens who use commercial mailboxes must be sacrificed in order to crack down on those using commercial mailboxes for criminal activities. However, I would once again remind my colleagues that the Federal role in crime, even if the crime is committed in “interstate commerce,” is a limited one. The fact that some people may use a mailbox to commit a crime does not give the Federal Government the right to treat every user of a commercial mailbox as a criminal. Moreover, my office has received a significant number of calls from battered women who use these boxes to maintain their geographic privacy.

I have introduced this joint resolution in hopes that it will be considered under the expedited procedures established in the Contract with America Advancement Act of 1996. This procedure allows Congress to overturn onerous regulations such as the subject of this bill. Mr. Speaker, the entire point of this procedure to provide Congress with a means to stop federal actions which pose an immediate threat to the rights of Americans. Thanks to these agency review provisions, Congress cannot hide and blame these actions on the bureaucracy. I challenge my colleagues to take full advantage of this process and use it to stop this outrageous rule.

In conclusion Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring the Mailbox Privacy Protection Act, which uses the Agency Review Procedures of the Contract with America Advancement Act to overturn Post Office’s regulations requiring customers of private mailboxes to give the Post Office their name, address, photographs and social security number. The Federal Government should not force any American citizen to divulge personal information as the price for receiving mail. I further call on all my colleagues should not force any American citizen to divulge personal information as the price for receiving mail. I further call on all my colleagues to assist me in moving this bill under the expedited procedure established under the Congressional Review Act.

***HD***Presentation by David Swartz to the House of Representatives on Kosovo

Ambassador Swartz explains how United States policy in Bosnia contributed to NATO’s current dilemma in Kosovo. He also states a clear position on a central question: Does the United States have an overriding national interest in the resolution of strife in the Balkans?

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May 25, 1999

CRISIS IN KOSOVO (ITEM NO. 5), REMARKS BY DAVID SWARTZ, FORMER AMBASSADOR TO BELARUS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, on May 6, 1999, I joined with Representative JOHN CONyers, Representative PETE STARK, and Representative CYNTHIA MCKINNEY to host the third in a series of Congressional Teach-In sessions on the Crisis in Kosovo. If a peaceful resolution to this conflict is to be found in the coming weeks, it is essential that we locate a quarter of a mile outside of the town. Businesses eventually moved toward the railroad and in a couple of years a new business center grew up and Old Town became simply the first ward of new Lebanon. Small towns grew up and along the railroad each taking its quota of trade. That the first years had given to Lebanon.

After 150 years Laclede County can boast of prosperous farms, schools within the reach of every child, churches for every community, and prosperity over the entire county.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my congratulations to the residents of the city of Lebanon and Laclede County. It is with great pride that I honor their achievements on their Sesquicentennial birthday.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

May 25, 1999

HON. IKE SKELTON
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to congratulate the City of Lebanon and Laclede County on its Sesquicentennial birthday.

Through the 1830’s and 1840’s pioneers chiefly from North Carolina, Tennessee, and Kentucky filtered in to fertile little valleys along streams and creeks in an Laclede County, Missouri. These settlers were farmers with only the bare necessities, and few tools, who relied upon their energy, efficiency and resourcefulness to overcome deficiencies.

In 1849 Laclede County was organized out of three neighboring counties, Pulaski, Wright, and Camden. A donation of 50 acres of land by Berry Harrison and James Appling established the county seat on what is now Old Town hill. A courthouse, jail, general store, and various office buildings were eventually added to this beautiful setting.

The county changed with the arrival of the Frisco railroad. The railroad was established three quarters of a mile out on the muddy crossing box, to be located a quarter of a mile outside of the town. Businesses eventually moved toward the railroad and in a couple of years a new business center grew up and Old Town became simply the first ward of new Lebanon. Small towns grew up and along the railroad each taking its quota of trade that the first years had given to Lebanon.

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