

Sport Supply Group, TV Guide, Welch's Foods, and Wilson Sporting Goods Company.

Approximately three million children in countries all around the globe enjoy playing Little League baseball. The program is supported on the local level by adult volunteers from within the community. These volunteers give freely of their time to provide a wholesome, family oriented activity for the children in their community.

I want to take this opportunity to salute the families, sponsors, and community leaders who will welcome these young people, their coaches, and their families to Cedartown, Georgia; and who will join with them in enthusiastic participation in this important, and positive American institution for the children of their community. The local teams, their coaches, and members of the community, have been busy with fund-raisers, requests for corporate donations, in order to secure funds to pay for food and lodging for the 13 guest teams and their coaches. Whether in Cedartown, Georgia, Warsaw, Poland, or Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Little League Baseball provides children of all backgrounds, from the local to the global level the opportunity to compete fairly and proudly for their community, their state, and their country.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2001

SPEECH OF

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4811) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the Burton amendment.

In these times of budget surpluses, and when we are working so hard to encourage emerging democracies, why are we debating an amendment today that proposes to cut aid to the largest democracy in the world? India is a nation with a great potential and tremendous opportunities, but with over 500 million people living at or below the World Bank's poverty line, India remains a nation with tremendous human needs. United States bilateral aid programs in India make a modest, yet important, contribution to the welfare of India's citizens.

Cutting this assistance would be a deliberate attempt to not only torpedo our help for human welfare, but also to stigmatize India just as relations between the world's two great democracies are on the cusp of attaining a new and positive relationship. The Burton amendment, in effect, will undo all the progress that has been made in building a warm and productive relationship with India.

India is the world's largest democracy. The Indian press corps is among the most active in the world and frequently investigates human

rights abuses. India has a fiercely independent Human Rights Commission which has instituted a process to receive complaints, initiate investigations of all claims, and the country has passed laws and taken action against those officials and members of security forces who commit human rights abuses.

Prime Minister Vajpayee has been outspoken in his condemnation of ethnic and religious violence in India. He has declared that his government "is resolved that perpetrators of violence should be dealt with firmly and that exemplary punishments should be awarded to them." And in a recent visit to Vatican and meeting with the Pope, the Prime Minister reiterated his commitment to "protect all minority communities and ensure an atmosphere of communal harmony."

The best response to human rights violations in India is for us to help India promote democracy and encourage India to improve its human rights records. This cannot be achieved by cutting off aid, but it can be accomplished by engaging India in a positive and constructive dialogue.

As the locus of international terrorism shifts from the Middle East to South Asia, India has become a critical democratic ally to the United States and has helped to protect our interests in the region. It would be wrong for us to turn our back on our ally, especially on a staunch democracy such as India.

Mr. Chairman, President Clinton's historic visit to India last March established a new understanding between India and the United States, and has allowed the relationship between our two democracies to flourish. The Burton amendment will go great damage to the historic progress that was made in bilateral relations between our two nations.

I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the Burton amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF ENRIQUE
"HENRY" MARTINEZ

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, there are those that stand on the sidelines of life, letting others take on the difficult tasks that make communities stronger. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a gentleman, Mr. Enrique Martinez, who has refused to be an observer, but rather has passionately given of his time and talents. Henry, as he is known to his many friends, has dedicated many hours throughout his lifetime for the betterment of our community, building our quality of life, and making a difference in peoples lives.

The son of Jessie and Maria Martinez, Henry was born in 1943 in San Antonio, TX. One of eight children, Henry learned the strength of family and how by working together great things could be accomplished. Working in the farm fields of our great Nation during his youth, Henry came to appreciate the value of hard work and discipline to accomplish goals. These attributes would serve him well as a golden glove boxer and later when he served as a member of our military in the U.S. Army in Germany.

In 1966, Henry married the former Teresa Pineda. Lovers of life, and childhood friends, Teresa and Henry would make a home with their two children Sylvia and Jessie and achieve the American dream. Many would be content, but Henry believes idle hands do not build communities.

Henry's patriotism and community spirit can be witnessed in the many dedicated hours every week he spends in support of the American G.I. Forum. This national organization that advocates on behalf of the Veterans and Latino community has worked tirelessly to combat injustice, increase educational opportunities, and build the quality of life of our communities. Henry has served as State Commander of the American G.I. Forum for the last 2 years and has held office in the past as State Treasurer and Commander of the Bay City Chapter. He also served on the board that was instrumental in bringing the traveling Vietnam Wall to my hometown of Bay City, MI, bringing great credit to the American G.I. Forum and paying great tribute to his late brother Tomas V. Martinez who died in the service of his country.

Henry also has an impressive record of achievement of service to his community in other areas. He serves on the UAW/GM Committee of Civil Rights advocating for social justice and the elimination of discriminatory employment practices. He has served as a Board Member of the Bay Area Runners Club, Tri-City SER Board, Cinco De Mayo Parade Committee, Community Center Recreation Board, and Migrant Outreach Center advocate. He has shown his commitment to our youth coaching YMCA flag football, Boys and Girls Club Soccer, recreational softball teams, and always willing to give a hand to any program in need. Henry also translates medical prescription instructions.

Mr. Speaker, on this the occasion of Henry's retirement after more than 32 years working for General Motors Powertrain in Bay City, I ask you and all our colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Enrique "Henry" Martinez. With his years of hard work for his family, for our veterans, for our youth, and for our whole community he has certainly earned the fruits of a well deserved retirement. He has set an example for all who follow in his footsteps and he embodies the true meaning of community spirit. May his life be blessed just as his efforts have blessed our community.

WELCOMING GENERAL ROSSO
JOSE SERRANO OF THE COLOMBIAN
NATIONAL POLICE TO OUR
COUNTRY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, he has become a regular fixture at our International Relations and Government Reform hearings and briefings on the illegal drug trade in the hemisphere. Gen. Rosso Jose Serrano is at home in the Halls of the U.S. Congress. I commend him on his selection of my congressional district in South Florida as the place he and his family will now call home.