

dedicate himself through practice and hard work, which led to his second-to-none selection.

Congratulations, Adrian!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LEONARD L. BOSWELL

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2000

Mr. BOSWELL. Mr. Speaker, because of illness in the family, I was necessarily absent on the following votes yesterday. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

Rollcall No. 410—"yea" on the Neal (MA) amendment;

Rollcall No. 411—"yea" on the motion to recommit;

Rollcall No. 412—"yea" on final passage of H.R. 1102;

Rollcall No. 413—"yea" on adoption of the conference report accompanying H.R. 4576;

Rollcall No. 414—"yea" on final passage of H.R. 4118;

Rollcall No. 415—"yea" on motion to instruct conferees to the bill H.R. 4577;

Rollcall No. 416—"yea" on final passage of H.R. 2634.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

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. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, today, I cosponsored an amendment to withdraw the global "gag" language from the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill. The language denies U.S. family planning funding to any overseas organization that uses its own non-U.S. funds to provide abortion services. The family planning dollars appropriated in this bill are critically important to the prevention maternal and child deaths and the continued spread of STDs. Congress should not make the allocation of this life saving funding contingent on how a foreign organization chooses to spend its own dollars.

CONTRACT OR REGULATIONS

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2000

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, this is the time of year when millions of homeowners take the

plunge and hire a contractor to fix the roof or add a deck or make any one of dozens of important—but costly—home improvements.

Now, if you're like most people, before hiring a contractor you want to make sure that you're dealing with a reputable firm.

For instance, you wouldn't want to hire a company with a record for leaving trash in people's yards. You wouldn't want to hire a company known for breaking the law. That's just common sense.

Well, that's what the President's proposed contractor regulations are, too: common sense.

The regulations say that, before the federal government awards a contract, we ought to consider a company's record. It says we ought to look at how responsible a firm has been before they get one nickel in taxpayer money. It says America's government ought to be as careful spending money as America's families are.

Now, I call that being a smart consumer.

That's different from the way things are now.

As it stands today, if the government has to sue a contractor, taxpayers can be forced to pay the company's lawyer bill—even if the company loses.

And it doesn't stop there.

Under current law, it's okay for a contractor to charge Uncle Sam for the costs of fighting to keep their workers from organizing a union.

As incredible as it seems, that's something that actually happens today.

Should any contractor be worried about this measure?

Not the reputable ones who follow the law.

Today we can send a powerful message. The message is that, from here on in, when it comes to spending tax dollars, the United States government is going to be one tough customer.

LET'S REQUEST THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION TO STUDY HOW HIGH DRUG PRICES HURT THE U.S. ECONOMY

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee recently wrote to the U.S. International Trade Commission requesting a section 332 study relating to the pricing of prescription drugs by certain U.S. trading partners. The questions asked—if one reads between the lines—seem to be designed by the pharmaceutical lobby to study whether countries that control drug prices are being unfair to the drug companies; whether such price controls have caused U.S. prescription medication prices to be higher than they would otherwise have been. Implicit in the phrasing of the questions, is the assumption that other countries should be paying more.

Other sources of information suggest another approach. Perhaps Americans should be paying less.

The pharmaceutical industry is in an enviable financial position. Drug firms enjoy, on

average, three times the profitability (28 percent) of the other 36 industry groups in the Fortune 500. While maintaining the present level of research and development, they were able to invest, last year, about \$14 billion in direct-to-consumer advertising, public relations, lobbying and promotion to doctors. Taxpayers paid more than 30 percent of the costs of R&D through government grants, in addition to the millions in benefits from the government from R&D tax credits. The industry reaps huge benefits, while poor Americans choose between needed medications and paying the rent or for food; or they cut prescriptions in half to try and prolong their pharmaceutical supplies.

The U.S. spends far more than any other country on health care (14 percent of GDP) yet it ranks 37th in the world in the quality of health systems; we rank in the lowest 25 percent of industrialized nation's in life-expectancy and infant mortality. Our system is inefficient and wasteful. American health care has an over-emphasis on state-of-the-art cure instead of preventive care; relatively, we are overwhelmed by MRIs, CAT scanners and high priced drugs. Why have drug costs increased at more than twice the general inflation rate, leading to prescription drug spending growing at twice the rate of all other health expenditures, accounting for 10 percent of total health expenditures?

Perhaps, the chairman's requested study could be extended to include the increased productivity our economy might enjoy if drug prices were lower and the resources used instead on repairing the country's infrastructure, on education or even to lower taxes. How does the high cost of health care impact our trade balance? How much of the "extra" cost of an American car is attributable to the inflated cost of providing health care to workers, driven by such factors as rapidly rising pharmaceutical prices?

We may be able to coerce our trading partners into allowing prices to be raised for their citizens. However, I doubt that Americans will be overjoyed to discover that the efforts of the International Trade Commission resulted in poor Mexicans being deprived of their life-saving medications, to further enrich the pharmaceutical industry (which will not be passed on to American consumers, in any case). The answer is obvious, we should be concentrating not on forcing others to pay more, but on convincing the prescription drug manufacturers to be a little less aggressive in maximizing profits here at home.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY CELEBRATES THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE FLEMINGTON AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY #159

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the accomplishments of the Flemington American Legion auxiliary #159. This organization has continually made lasting contributions to its local communities through hard work and dedication to those in need.

For nearly fifteen years, its members have canvassed the Flemington Area for needy families during the holiday season. Last December, they raised enough money to shop for sixty families with over one hundred children. Four "Santas" personally presented each family with two large boxes of food, toys, games and clothing for the children.

This past January, the organization made another demonstration of its commitment to the community during times of crisis. On January 22, a gas explosion badly injured and burned a fire chief and police patrolman after they responded to a 911 call, resulting in their lengthy hospitalization. In response, the organization hosted a benefit spaghetti dinner. With a massive volunteer effort, members worked as cooks, dishwashers, and parking attendants. Contributing both time and money, the group served over 800 dinners, raising enough funds to present the two men checks of \$5,000 each when they were finally discharged from the hospital.

As extraordinary as this effort was, it was just one of many times that the American Legion Auxiliary #159 has worked on behalf of those in need. Throughout the years, the American Legion Auxiliary #159 has donated money to Special Olympics, Childrens Miracle Network, Cancer Research, March of Dimes, Red Cross, Salvation Army and numerous other local charities. Working with its "Legion Family" that includes the American Legion and Sons of the American Legion Post #159, it has continually demonstrated its dedication to the community.

The American Legion Auxiliary #159 is a great asset to both Central New Jersey and our nation. I urge all my colleagues to join me today in recognizing its dedication to community service and Central New Jersey.

TRIBUTE TO MR. GEORGE DONALD
O'QUINN

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2000

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the life and career of Mr. George Donald O'Quinn. Two weeks ago, Mr. O'Quinn retired as Principal of Boone Trail Elementary School after 38 years of committed and dedicated service. Mr. O'Quinn has never asked for a medal or a monument; he has only hoped for the success of his students, his school, and his community. It is fitting then that today we honor the accomplishments of this humble public servant.

Mr. O'Quinn was born in 1937 and raised in the community he so proudly served. In fact, he attended the same school that he would later capably lead for so many years. After earning his Bachelors of Science degree in Agriculture from North Carolina State University in 1961, Mr. O'Quinn began teaching at Coats High School, in Dunn, NC. Over the next five years, he taught at Lillington High School and worked at Southern National Bank as that institution's vice president. Fortunately for the people of Lillington, Mr. O'Quinn returned to the classroom in 1972. After four

years of teaching Vocational Education at Boone Trail, he was named Principal, a position he would hold for the next 27 years.

It is also important to note that Mr. O'Quinn was engaged in the affairs of his community. He served and held leadership positions in numerous organizations, including the Harnett County Community Development Association, the North Carolina Farm Bureau, the Boone Trail and National Ruritan Club, and the Lillington Jaycees. Mr. O'Quinn also served as a Deacon and Sunday School Teacher at Anitoch Baptist Church. On top of his community activities, he was also able to raise a beautiful family with the able assistance of his wife Elaine.

Mr. Speaker, Donald O'Quinn's love for his community, his school, the children he mentored, and his family is truly remarkable. Tonight I praise him for nurturing so many children, embodying the spirit of his community, and sharing his gifts with us all.

TRIBUTE TO DOUGLAS "JOCKO"
HENDERSON

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2000

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Douglas "Jocko" Henderson, who passed away July 15, 2000. Douglas "Jocko" Henderson was an innovative radio pioneer whose contribution to the industry is legendary. One of the first African American disc jockeys in Philadelphia, "Jocko" was known for his smooth rhyming rap before rap had a name.

From 1952 to 1974, Jocko hosted his "Rocketship" music program on radio stations WHAT and WDAS. He played the popular records of the day but introduced them with his silver-voiced rhyming style that other disc jockeys began to imitate. For many years he hosted popular radio programs in Philadelphia and New York. He also produced sell-out rhythm and blues shows at theaters on the east coast, from Miami to Boston.

In 1993 he was honored with a plaque on the Philadelphia Music Alliance's Walk of Fame.

In later years he developed and marketed a series of educational audiotapes designed to help teach children to read by utilizing his rhyming style.

Douglas "Jocko" Henderson was an innovator and a man of great talent and dignity.

HONORING RETIRING CON-
NECTICUT STATE SENATOR
ADELA "DELL" EADS

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2000

Mr. LARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a former colleague in the Connecticut State Senate, who after many dedicated years of service to the people of Connecticut, the

Senate and our political atmosphere as a whole, is stepping down.

Adela "Dell" Eads was born 80 years ago in Brooklyn, New York. She attended Sweet Briar College in Virginia as well as the Gibbs School in New York City. She began her political career in 1976 in the State House of Representatives where she served two terms. Dell was first elected to the Connecticut State Senate in 1980, and in her 20 years of service held numerous leadership positions in her party and the senate including Senate President Pro Tem and Minority Leader.

In a time where our political dialogue seems to be clouded by partisan bickering an grandstanding, Dell has always been the epitome of dignity and class. She is known today, as well as when I served with her in the state senate, as a bridge builder who always chose to do what she knew was best for her District and the State of Connecticut as a whole, rather than what was simply popular.

Even though we represent different political parties, I have nothing but sincere admiration for her as a former colleague and consummate public servant. The State of Connecticut and the Senate will surely miss her.

I ask the House of Representatives to recognize her career in public service as well as applaud the manner in which she has conducted herself during the last 24 years; with grace, understanding and most of all the willingness to work with others to accomplish what is right.

HONORING ED WATSON ON HIS
80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2000

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ed Watson of Houston for his abiding commitment to public service as he celebrates his 80th birthday. Texas is fortunate to have a native son who has spent his life working on behalf of his community, contributing unselfishly to numerous causes while raising a fine family.

Ed was born in "Pole Cat Ridge," Wallisville, Texas, on July 20, 1920. He graduated from Anahuac High School in 1939 and joined the U.S. Navy in 1942. After his service in World War II, he attended the University of Houston until he went to work in 1946 at Shell Oil Refinery in Deer Park. Ed and his wife Jerry were married at the Lawndale Baptist Church more than 50 years ago, on May 7, 1948.

Shortly after, Ed was called back into service during the Korean Conflict in 1950 for 15 months. In 1954, having outgrown their home in Pasadena, the Watsons and their four children moved to Deer Park. In March 1955, his family became members of the First Baptist Church of Deer Park.

Ed has been involved in politics and community affairs since 1947. He has been a member of the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers International Union for more than 50 years, and he was serving as President of Local 4-367 when elected in 1972 as a member of the Texas House of Representatives, a