

the end, Lake Minnetonka's environment was the top priority.

All of us who love Lake Minnetonka owe Bob Rascop a deep debt of gratitude. His vigilance and environmental expertise have been instrumental in protecting Lake Minnetonka. I will always be grateful to Bob for his exceptional leadership and visionary guidance, and my thoughts and prayers are with his wonderful family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VAN HILLEARY

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, September 18, I was unavoidably detained from the House Chamber when my flight from Tennessee to return to Washington was canceled. Had I been present I would have cast my vote as follows: rollcall 477—"yes"; rollcall 478—"yes."

HATCH-WAXMAN ACT LOOPHOLES
MUST BE CLOSED

HON. ALAN B. MOLLOHAN

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Mr. Speaker, the modern day pharmaceutical marketplace was established by passage of the 1984 Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act. The act, commonly known as the Hatch/Waxman Act, gave brand companies longer patent periods to provide them with financial incentive to innovate. The act also gave generic drug companies a streamlined approval process, so they could bring less-costly versions of drugs to market quickly after patents expired.

The Hatch/Waxman Act worked well. Brand companies introduced hundreds of new drugs and grew to become the most profitable industry in the world. Meanwhile, generic companies were able to provide the public with drugs that cost significantly less.

Unfortunately, the brand drug companies were not satisfied with their astounding success. They are now using loopholes in the Hatch/Waxman Act to file frivolous administrative and legal challenges to keep generic competitors out of the marketplace. For example, brand companies are exploiting loopholes in the act to keep generic versions of drugs such as Taxol for cancer and Losec for ulcers out of the marketplace. Each day the brand companies succeed in delaying generic competition, they reap windfall profits at the expense of patients.

The Hatch/Waxman Act is a good law that will be made great when the loopholes are closed and fairness returns to the pharmaceutical marketplace.

HATCH/WAXMAN ACT

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, in 1984, the Hatch/Waxman Act was signed into law to bring order to the pharmaceutical economy and benefit the American consumer. This Act was enacted in response to rising drug prices and assertions by drug companies that long regulatory delays increased costs for consumers. The Act served as a compromise between the competing interests of generic and brand name drug manufacturers. Under the Act, brand drug companies received extended patent periods. The patent extensions were designed to enable brand companies to make greater profits, which allow for more research. The Act also provided generic drug companies with the right to develop less-costly generic versions of brand drugs as the patents expire.

The Act has been a success for two reasons. First, it provides brand name and generic drug companies with incentives to provide better quality products for consumers; and second, it encourages the brand name industry to dedicate more of its profits to research and development of new drugs under a set patent expiration date.

The best way to ensure continued investment in new drug research is to make sure the Hatch/Waxman Act is enforced fairly and consistently. By doing this, we can give the American public greater access to innovative and affordable medicine, and drug companies will have the incentives intended by Congress to continue to provide their services.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, Friday, September 15 marked the beginning of "Hispanic Heritage Month." Our country's history has been richly enhanced by the contributions Hispanic-Americans have given us. I am happy to take part in recognizing these contributions. In my home state of New Mexico we are proud of our Hispanic heritage, which reflects the influence of many cultures.

Not only has New Mexico's history been shaped in part by its Hispanic heritage, but so has the history of our entire Southwest. Indeed, the reach of that Hispanic heritage extended into our eastern manufacturing centers in the 19th Century. It is sad that this rich contribution to our national history is often overlooked. But as the Hispanic presence in our country grows, we cannot continue to ignore the part of the American heritage that played itself out predominantly in—but not only in—the huge territory comprised of what is now the states of New Mexico, Arizona, Texas, California, Colorado, Utah, Nevada and even Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri and Louisiana. (I say "predominantly in" because the first continuing Hispanic presence in our country is

generally recognized as having occurred in St. Augustine, Florida.)

To return to New Mexico and my district, New Mexico may have been traversed by Alvaro Nuñez Cabeza de Baca as early as 1536. However, New Mexico became the object of focused exploration in 1540. In that year Francisco Vasquez de Coronado led an expedition into New Mexico and then out across the Great Plains. This was the first documented encounter between New Mexico's Native American communities and Hispanic explorers—encounters that varied in the degree of conflict that occurred between the members of our indigenous cultures and those explorers, but encounters that also began a centuries-long process of cultural exchange and mutual adaptation that eventually shaped the Hispanic Southwest.

Unfortunately, the next 400 years of Hispanic history in New Mexico—and, indeed, in the Southwest—have been neglected and overlooked. And this rich history has also been inappropriately obscured under the cover of past prejudices. Even the use of the term "Spaniard" in referring to those early European explorers and settlers ignores the fact that many of those Spaniards came from other European countries—Italy, Flanders, Germany, Greece and even Ireland and England. And while some Spaniards undoubtedly visited and explored New Mexico in search of riches, and Spanish missionaries were intent on converting Native Americans to Christianity, it is clear that most of the early Spanish colonists came to find a new life for themselves in a new land. And others, it has become increasingly clear, came to escape the Inquisition and find a measure of religious freedom for themselves.

The Spanish Crown's first effort to actually settle New Mexico occurred in 1590. Gaspar Castaño de Sosa led a wagon train of Spanish and Portuguese settlers—many of them possibly Sefarad, Iberian Jews—from the area near present-day Monterrey, Mexico up the Rio Grande and then north along the Pecos River to "winter over" at Pecos Pueblo in New Mexico. The Jamestown, Virginia settlement was still seventeen years in the future. And Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts, was thirty years away. In the spring of 1591 Castaño de Sosa was arrested at Santo Domingo Pueblo, New Mexico through the machinations of a rival Spanish government official. Castaño de Sosa had moved his fledgling colony to this location by that time. Following his arrest he was marched back to Mexico City, tried, convicted of illegal settlement and then ordered to serve a sentence of hard labor on Spanish ships employed in the Oriental trade. He was killed in a shipboard uprising without ever learning that his appeal of the sentence had been successful and the Spanish Crown had ordered him back to New Mexico as its first governor.

In 1597, after it was clear that Castaño de Sosa had forfeited his life, the Spanish Crown selected Juan de Oñate y Salazar to resettle New Mexico. A number of the members of the Oñate settlement expedition had participated in the original settlement efforts led by Gaspar Castaño de Sosa. Juan de Oñate established his first capitol and settlement—named San Gabriel del Yunque-Yunque—at the Pueblo of