

Besides the fact that this provision baldly impedes the right of businesses to conduct affairs in the manner they so choose, what is perhaps most troubling about this provision, which restricts freedom of contract and clearly infringes on intellectual property and other constitutional rights, is that it was added to the Conference Report in the dark of night. This provision was not contained in either of the underlying House or Senate Agriculture Appropriations bills—or any other bill for that matter. Moreover, the provision was never the subject of any committee hearings or other public deliberation by the Congress.

While it will slip past Members today because it is buried deep in an important appropriations bill that, among other things, provides billions of dollars in drought relief to American farmers, I take small comfort in knowing that this provision will not slip past the Courts and will not survive judicial review.

Until that time, let us at least realize that this ill-advised provision requires narrow interpretation, not only because of the stealth with which it was included, but because an inappropriately broad reading would raise very serious questions with respect to conflicts with US patent and trade laws. To avoid—or at least minimize—such conflicts, the only interpretation of this provision (which replaced a broader proposed provision that the Conference Committee rejected) is that it is strictly limited to contacts or agreement involving drug reimports, and also containing explicit contractual provisions to this purpose and effect.

Make no mistake—this provision is horrid. That's what you get when you have a flawed process—you get flawed policy. It profoundly affects both intellectual property rights and constitutional rights. It has no place in this bill and I am deeply disappointed the Conference Committee allowed such a provision to be included in this bill.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4205,
FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2000

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the conference report for the FY01 National Defense Authorization Act named for my distinguished colleague and Chairman of the Armed Services Committee, FLOYD D. SPENCE. Chairman SPENCE has been a great advocate of our nation's military and has worked tirelessly to rebuild a military weakened by years of cuts in the defense budget. Under his leadership we have increased the Department of Defense's budget \$60 billion over the past five years of Clinton-Gore administration cuts.

This bill makes significant progress in keeping faith with the greatest generation by restoring the promise of lifetime health care to America's military retirees and their families. Congressman BUYER's efforts to address a financial challenge resulted in taking retiree

health care out of the defense budget and setting up a long-term funding plan to ensure that our nation's military retirees will have access to the medical care that they have deservedly earned.

The defense authorization act also provides active duty service members a new opportunity to convert their Post-Vietnam Era Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) benefits to the Montgomery GI Bill if they declined to do so before or withdraw all funds from their VEAP accounts. The bill also builds upon the concurrent receipt initiative provided in last year's defense bill. Beginning in fiscal year 2002, those service-members who are medically retired and rated at least 70% disabled by VA will be eligible for additional special monthly compensation of up to \$300.

Mr. Speaker, I regret that my colleague from Virginia, Readiness Subcommittee Chairman Herb Bateman passed away before seeing this bill signed into law. Throughout the measure are marks of his efforts to ensure that our defenders of freedom are battle ready and have the tools and resources they need. I also wish to thank the retiring Members of the panel who have worked tirelessly to rebuild our nation's military. Your support for our men and women in uniform has not gone unnoticed.

While we have successfully increased funding in critical modernization programs, we have a long way to go. Following the "lost decade" of defense in the 1990s, America's military must be reshaped to meet the challenges of the post-Cold War world. Starting immediately, the United States must commit the resources necessary to improve current military capabilities and prepare our forces to face the threats of the coming decades. Anything less jeopardizes the military's readiness and America's place in the world.

HONORING NEW HOPE BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the New Hope Baptist Church in Port Arthur, Texas, which will be receiving a State Historical Marker from the Texas Historical Commission on October 15, 2000. New Hope Baptist Church was the first African-American Baptist Church and was officially founded on August 12, 1906, but existed quite some time before that date. The church was first organized by the Rev. Stevenson, Sis. Copeland, Sis. Laura Hebert, and Sis. Sharlit Bill. New Hope was originally located on Titsingh Street (now known as Marian Anderson Avenue).

As the African-American population grew, a larger place of worship was needed and a one-room building was rented on West 10th Street. The Rev. A.D. Hendon was the first official pastor and served one year and 11 months. Professor A.J. Criner was the first Chairman of the Deacon Board, as well as the Principal of the African-American public school. The New Hope Baptist Church had 14

charter members, and some of the early members included: Rev. Stevenson, Sis. Copeland, Sis. Sharlit Bill, Sis. Laura Hebert, Nora Wade (King), Will King, M.G. Glass, A.J. Criner, Nellie Jones, Rev. A.D. Hendon, W.M. Richardson, Vallie Brown, J.W. Willis, W.P. Powell, A.W. Edwards, and Willie Braxton.

The one-room building was used as a stable during the week. On Saturdays, the members would start clearing out the stable and assembling makeshift benches with boxes and planks for members to sit on. There was no pulpit. The minister would stand in front of the congregation with his Bible in hand and preach. The building would often flood and leak when it rained. Rev. J.E. Nelson was the second pastor and served one year, through 1909. During his administration, the first church was built at the same spot where the old structure stood. Hurricanes reportedly blew down two church buildings and early records were lost in floods and storms.

New Hope developed a close relationship with the first Methodist Church of Port Arthur and Israel Chapel A.M.E. Church on Texas Avenue. Each alternated its services to allow the other to hold worship services in its sanctuary during a building program. Rev. J.W. Williams came in 1910 and rebuilt the church that was destroyed by a hurricane. However, this building was soon destroyed. Mr. Speaker, throughout the 20th Century New Hope Baptist Church should serve as an example to us all—always keep the faith and hope to rebuild.

TRIBUTE TO BETSY CROWDER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor Betsy Crowder, a well-known and loved constituent who distinguished herself in so many ways and whose life was cut short on September 29, 2000.

Born in Boston, Betsy Crowder's love and appreciation for the environment developed early on when her parents would take their four daughters on camping trips in Canada during the summer. She met her late husband Dwight in 1949, when they were both members of the Stanford University Alpine Club and they were married a year later. In 1960, the Crowders built a home in Portola Valley and became very active in local conservation issues.

Betsy Crowder served on numerous County and local advisory committees for land use and trails including the Portola Valley Conservation Committee, the San Mateo County Trails Advisory Committee, the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council, the San Mateo County Bikeways Advisory Committee, the Committee for Green Foothills and the Planning and Conservation League.

Betsy Crowder also served as a Planning Commissioner for Portola Valley from 1972 to 1977 and as an environmental planner for the City of Palo Alto from 1972 to 1980.

Since 1989, she was a member of the elected Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD), including two years as President of the Board in