

School. In his first year, he led the team to their first undefeated season in Lexington history. He was head football coach for 22 years, winning four more Missouri River Valley Conference (MRVC) championships. Bill also served as Athletic Director, basketball coach and track coach during this time. He was head basketball coach for six years and assistant basketball coach for ten years, winning one MRVC championship. Bill also had great success as a track coach, winning State meets twice and numerous District and MRVC championships. He was one of a select few Missouri coaches who won championships in three major sports for one school. Bill retired from coaching football in 1968, but continued to coach track until 1972. In addition to coaching, he taught driver's education, physical education and history. He retired from teaching in 1979 after 32 years at Lexington High School.

Bill was one of the first coaches named to the Missouri High School Hall of Fame in 1992, and as Hall of Fame Coach for Track in 1993. He is one of only two coaches named in more than one Hall of Fame in all of Missouri.

Bill also served as President of the MRVC, was twice honored as Coach of the Year at the Kansas City Area Night of Sports, and was named a life member of the West Central Coaches Association. He received the Distinguished Service Award from the Missouri Athletic Administration. Bill was President of the Lafayette County Teachers and a member of Phi Delta Kappa at Central Missouri State University. He was a former president and member of the Lexington Retired Teachers. Additionally, Bill was a member of the Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, and very active in the Lexington Historical Society. He was a member of the United Methodist Church of Lexington and served as Chairman of the Church Board.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Hamann will be greatly missed by all who knew him. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family: his wife of 58 years, Betty; his daughter, Sally; his two sons, James and John; his two brothers, Herbert and Charles, and four grandchildren.

CELEBRATION OF LOU TREBAR ON
HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I celebrate Mr. Lou Trebar. On Wednesday May 3, 2000, this Cleveland polka legend celebrated his 80th birthday with 1,500 of his closest friends. Gathered at the Slovenian National Home, thousands of polka fans and eighteen polka bands paid tribute to this local artist by giving him "the greatest day of [his] life."

Throughout Lou's life, he has made significant contributions to Cleveland's culturally diverse community. This Slovenian neighborhood native has enhanced Northeast Ohio's culture, and has added to the quality that makes Cleveland a polka city. Lou has a lifetime of dedication to promoting Cleveland-Style polkas and waltzes and to preserving the

rich Slovenian heritage from which Cleveland evolved.

This "Waltz King" is a true dean of Cleveland-style music. He was a pioneer in adapting Slovenian folk music into America's musical mainstream as the first Cleveland-style bandleader to create a multi-part harmony with all types of instruments. His vision and talent have greatly decorated the heritage of the Cleveland area.

I salute Lou for these many artistic accomplishments, and I join in with his many fans who wish him a happy 80th birthday.

AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT (NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TREATMENT) TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, since the President asked Congress to grant Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) to China, the members of this body—indeed, all of the American people—have been forced to consider broad questions about our relationship with China, about our values as a free people and about our fundamental best interests as they relate to the economy and to national security. These are very serious questions; and I—like many of my colleagues, I am sure—have invested a great deal of time in study, discussions and prayer about them.

Make no mistake—I understand the value of international trade, and I am a believer in developing trade opportunities to enhance our economic future. I recognize the realities of the global economy that exist today; and there is no doubt in my mind that trade is the key to the future for the United States, for China and for every other nation as well. My record reflects my belief in free and fair trade policies, including trade with China. I supported NAFTA, GATT, fast track and the Africa Trade bill this body just recently passed. Opening markets benefits both countries—the U.S. gains new destinations to export goods, and China gains investment from foreign companies.

But what I cannot support is relinquishing our annual review of China's progress towards free market reform and a democratic society. I cannot, in good conscience, award China PNTR when there are serious national security concerns involving China and Taiwan's volatile relationship as well as China's role in producing and disseminating weapons of mass destruction. When China's record of compliance with past agreements leaves much to be desired. And when China's progress in economic power and technological development has overlooked progress on human rights and religious freedom. Therefore, I am not convinced that the best interests of this nation and of the people of my state are served by rewarding China with unconditional permanent normal trade relations. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I am opposed to extending PNTR to China at this time.

Rather than granting PNTR, I believe a more prudent and responsible approach is to continue an annual review of China's trade status. In the past, as a supporter of free trade, I have favored granting normal trade relations to China on an annual basis. In this way, we have better opportunities to move that country toward a more democratic, free market system, while maintaining a trade relationship that certainly can be beneficial to the people of both nations. I see this annual review as an effective way to influence the Chinese government to reform its policies toward religious minorities, workers, and proponents of democracy.

But granting permanent status to China is a significantly different issue. Such a move would, in a sense, take China "off probation" and remove the incentive to make progress on those issues of particular concern to the United States. In my opinion, the question this PNTR vote poses is not on the merits of free trade but rather whether the U.S. should relinquish our influence on trade with China permanently.

NATIONAL SECURITY

My first concern about our relationship with China relates to national security. The prospects for peace and prosperity in Asia depend heavily on China's role as a responsible member of the international community. Perhaps our country's most important national security challenge is to build a constructive and stable bilateral relationship with China. The prospects for peace and prosperity in Asia depend heavily on China's role as a responsible member of the international community. In my opinion, a policy of engagement must be built on a foundation of strength and resolve that rewards responsible Chinese behavior and confronts provocative activities that undermine U.S. interests and promote greater risks of military and diplomatic confrontation.

Should we reward China with PNTR status given recent highly provocative actions on the part of the Chinese government? Our country would be sending exactly the wrong message if we were to support China's WTO membership with PNTR at a time when the Chinese have chosen to adopt a far more aggressive stance toward Taiwan, a stance that they know could lead to a serious military confrontation with the U.S.

China's recent provocative actions and continued demand for Taiwan to acknowledge its "one China" policy or expect military actions is troubling. Should we reward China for these actions? I believe we would be sending exactly the wrong message if we were to grant China PNTR at a time when the Chinese have chosen to adopt a far more aggressive stance toward Taiwan. I was pleased to see Mr. Chen's presidential inauguration in Taipei take place without incident this past weekend. However, Beijing's silent response leaves much to the imagination.

This comes on top of growing skepticism expressed by our intelligence community—skepticism about whether the Chinese intend to live up to their international commitments to stem the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, especially in the areas of short- and medium-range missiles and chemical weapons technology. Despite Chinese promises to abide by various arms control pacts, including

the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the Director of Central Intelligence recently reported that China remains a "key supplier" of technology inconsistent with proliferation goals—particularly missile and chemical technology to Pakistan, Iran and North Korea.

We must make it clear to the Chinese that we will extend a hand of friendship in good faith, but we will not turn a blind eye to its irresponsible or dangerous actions. It is not in our national security interest to condone and reward grossly irresponsible conduct by a country that wishes to become a leader in the international community.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

As a member of the House International Relations Committee, I am keenly interested in and aware of our role in international affairs. I have traveled to China and am amazed at what is going on there. China is clearly on the move and I have no doubt that they will eventually rival only the United States as a world superpower. However, the most recent State Department report on human rights practices in China reveals that the situation continues to grow worse. We cannot, and should not, overlook what our own government recognizes as abhorrent conditions in China.

As China progresses rapidly in terms of economic power, technological development and international affairs, its progress on human rights is sorely lacking. In terms of political freedom, democratic institutions and the guarantee of basic rights, China simply does not meet any reasonable standard that the United States or any nation with a mature, democratic heritage would consider acceptable. If America stands for anything, it stands for personal freedom and inalienable rights for all people. Our values cannot be divorced from any votes or from any considerations, including those related to trade. I am afraid that granting PNTR sends China the message that we approve of their political system as it stands today. And that is simply not the case.

The number of documented cases of religious persecution in China alarms me. As a firm believer in supporting religious freedom and author of the International Religious Freedom Act, I believe we must take a stand against human rights violations and persecution of people for simply expressing their religious beliefs. The Commission on Religious Freedom, established by the International Religious Freedom Act, released earlier this month a report which notes a marked deterioration in China's religious freedom during this past year. Make no mistake, the crackdown on religious expression in China has reached alarming and brutal proportions. China has enacted laws which have been used to persecute many religious groups of differing faiths. Unregistered groups, including home churches, have been raided and buildings destroyed. Individuals have been fined, arrested, tortured and some even killed. China continues to harass, detain, beat and torture members of religious groups, including Catholics, Protestants and Tibetan Buddhists. Tens of thousands of members of the spiritual movement Falun Gong have been detained and forced to sign statements disavowing their beliefs. An unknown number of those who refused remain detained; others are in prison or serving "re-education through labor" sen-

tences. To torture and persecute people for simply expressing their personal beliefs is unconscionable.

Although I believe that economic reform can lead to political reform and a greater respect for individual freedoms, there is a distinct risk that China may choose to abide by the WTO's rules while continuing to flagrantly ignore human rights standards. It's true that the WTO could be a catalyst for creating a modern legal system. However, there's no guarantee that the system will protect basic rights. For that to happen, there has to be a sustained effort to press for creation of a truly independent judiciary. Such sustained pressure can be most effective through an annual renewal process of trade agreements.

WORKER RIGHTS AND LABOR CONCERNS

The right for workers to organize and bargain collectively is not only discouraged in China, it is punished by imprisonment or worse. Forced labor camps continue to exist in China; and these camps provide no compensation for work under deplorable conditions. Since it is well established that China's labor practices do not meet U.S. or international standards for protecting worker rights, how can we, in good conscience, reward China for its abysmal labor practices by granting PNTR?

One of my particular concerns is the effect granting PNTR and opening China to U.S. companies will have on industries such as the textile industry. Without real labor standards and protections in place, PNTR could cripple our own apparel and textile markets, placing American jobs at risk and endangering American workers and their families. China is a formidable player in the world apparel and textile market. As of 1999, it was the world's largest producer of cotton, manmade fibers and silk as well as of apparel products. It has the largest production capacity for textile products in the world and has, in recent years, improved the efficiency of its textile industry and increased the quality and value of its apparel output. China has the potential to be a major threat to the apparel and textile industries in the U.S. and the workers in those industries. I reject the option of granting PNTR status to China today and see dedicated employees out of work tomorrow because of an influx of cheap Chinese textiles.

China's lack of PNTR status allows us annual reviews of the human rights and labor record in China. Granting PNTR to China will mean losing this annual review and any subsequent leverage to force China's compliance with international standards. An annual review will retain the ability of Congress to examine China's willingness and ability to keep its commitments. It will give China incentive to improve its record with regard to workers' rights and human rights and give it an opportunity to demonstrate its adherence to fair trade and environmental protection.

A RECORD OF NONCOMPLIANCE

To some degree, the Chinese government has avoided full compliance with many of the trade agreements it has made with the United States. While our trade deficit with China continues to grow, China has broken its agreements with us on opening markets, stopping the piracy of intellectual property, and ending the export of goods produced in the forced

labor camps. The statements of China's negotiators on PNTR lead me to believe that we cannot count on a total, good-faith compliance with this agreement, either.

This pattern of non-compliance, or of only partial compliance, bolsters significantly the argument against PNTR and in favor of the annual renewals that have been granted in the past. Just as ending our trade relationship with China altogether would be a foolish and self-destructive for the United States, losing our annual review and any subsequent leverage to move China ever-closer to compliance with international standards and agreements with us would be destructive to our economic interests.

In any number of areas—agricultural commodities, meat and poultry, telecommunications, petroleum, insurance-related services, and others—American interests are best served when we can revisit compliance issues regularly. With PNTR, our opportunities to monitor and influence compliance are severely limited, if not eliminated, while an annual review will retain the ability of Congress to examine China's willingness and ability to keep its commitments.

CONCLUSION

A "no" vote on PNTR will not mean an end to America's trade relationship with China. The U.S. and China will continue to have a binding trade relationship under international law, governed by the 1979 trade agreement between our two countries and several subsequent bilateral deals. The "most favored nation" provisions of those agreements require that China afford to the United States any trade and non-trade economic benefits that China grants to our competitors. It is true that the U.S. would not be able to file complaints against China through the WTO dispute resolution process. However, we will retain the right to use our own laws to sanction China—by withholding or limiting access to the U.S. market—for unfair trade practices.

Furthermore, if the U.S. and China are not tied through the WTO, we will be able to use our trade laws to redress abuses of human rights and worker rights. The U.S. would be prohibited from taking such actions if China and the U.S. have a WTO relationship. So China's lack of PNTR status allows us annual reviews of China's progress, thus giving China an incentive to improve its record with regard to workers' rights and human rights and give that nation an opportunity to demonstrate its adherence to fair trade and environmental protection.

There is no doubt in my mind that trade is the key to the future. Opening markets benefit everyone—the U.S. gains new destinations to export goods and China gains investment from foreign companies. In my opinion, the question this PNTR vote poses is not on the merits of free trade but rather whether the U.S. should relinquish our influence on trade with China permanently. International trade—and the benefits it affords—are a fact. Likewise, it should also not be disputed as to whether the United States should attempt to influence Chinese behavior in areas of human and workers' rights, weapons proliferation and compliance with international commitments. Clearly we should. Thus, my concern lies with whether we should take China off the one-year renewal

process. Given current conditions in China and recent actions by the Chinese government, I am not convinced that relinquishing this leveraging tool is in our best national interest at this time.

It is for all of these reasons that I must oppose permanent normal trade relations at this time. I am not convinced that it is in the best interest of Tennesseans and our country to reward China with unconditional permanent normal trade relations when it is clear they do not meet our standards for human and worker rights and could threaten our national security. Clearly trade must continue and we must pledge ourselves to work with the Chinese reformers to move their country towards free market democracy. However, until significant improvements are made in these areas, I cannot in good faith vote to grant PNTR.

I look forward to the day when China fully joins the international community in a commitment to democratic values, human rights, and trade that is truly free and fair. Until that time, we have a duty to use whatever tools we have available to us to influence China to take that path. My vote against PNTR for China is one such tool, and I utilize it in good conscience and with a conviction that it will benefit both the Chinese and American people.

TRIBUTE TO THE PARTICIPANTS
OF THE S.P.H.E.R.E.S. PROJECT

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend John Link, Amy Rahe, Carmen Reiner, and Adam Wietes. These four middle school students from Carlinville Middle School in Carlinville, IL, are tackling tough community issues as participants in the Bayer/NSF Award for Community Innovation.

Their project is Saving Prairies and Helping Environmental Regions Expand Successfully—S.P.H.E.R.E.S. Through this project they have successfully strengthened local support to create a preserve where native prairie grasses and indigenous creatures could flourish and students could study and experience the prairie habitat.

I want to take this opportunity to thank these students who at such a young age have made it their responsibility to preserve our environment. I am proud of them and look forward to all else they may accomplish.

IN HONOR OF HELEN STEINEL'S
RETIREMENT AFTER 30 YEARS
IN EDUCATION

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Helen Steinel on her retirement after 30 years in education.

Helen Steinel began her illustrious career in education as a teacher. She taught at Holy

Family, St. Joseph's, St. Joseph and Michael, and Mother Seton elementary schools, all schools in Union City, NJ. For the last several years, Helen has been the principal of Mother Seton School, where she is a mentor to her faculty, and where she has educated teachers as well as children in her work with student teachers.

For 30 years, Helen has dedicated herself to the education of children, and for 30 years, she has touched the lives of students and teachers in a way that her years of dedication cannot measure. Helen understands and imparts to others the knowledge that education is a profound tool for understanding the world and a necessary instrument in realizing one's full potential as a human being.

It is said that teaching another something of value takes compassion, understanding, and patience; and absent these virtues, the simple process of imparting knowledge can become strained and cumbersome, leaving both teacher and pupil estranged, unable to truly learn from each other. In honoring Helen today, I honor the virtues that allow teachers to become great educators.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me as I honor Helen Steinel, a great woman and educator I respect and admire.

TRIBUTE TO AKIRA INOUE

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, Each year, the Guam Chamber of Commerce selects the "Small Business Person of the Year" from a pool of individuals and business partners who either own and operate or bear principal responsibility for small business establishments on Guam. The chamber takes into account staying power, sales growth, growth in payroll, innovativeness in product or service, response to adversity, and civic contributions. This year the honor was bestowed upon local businessman, Akira Inoue.

Having held assignments in Australia, New Guinea, Saipan and other neighboring islands, Akira chose to settle on Guam, an island he deemed to be the ideal hub for Japanese oriented businesses. On September 1, 1968, he established Nanbo Guam, Ltd. Initially engaged in the importation and wholesale of general merchandise from Japan, Nanbo Guam started underwriting insurance in June of 1969.

With neither experience nor training in the insurance business, Akira assumed the function of general agent for The Tokio Marine and Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., of Japan. The company enjoyed a steady growth and, with it, the trust and support of the Guam community. When Typhoon Pamela devastated the island of Guam in 1976, Nanbo Guam's efforts to provide prompt settlements did not go unnoticed. Along with their good reputation came new applicants and increased premium sales. Akira credits this as the basis of Nanbo Guam's success.

Through the years, Nanbo Guam has developed and grown steadily. In 1977, the com-

pany began handling life insurance as the general agent for Pacific Guardian Life, Honolulu. In 1978, they established the Sun Rise, Inc., and opened the Japan Food Supermarket. In the 1980's, Nanbo Guam engaged in real estate ventures and revived their import business by establishing the Nanbo Trading Company. In the 1990's, they broadened the scope of their insurance business by concluding another general agency agreement property and casualty insurance with the Nippon Fire and Marine Insurance Co., Ltd., of Japan and by securing a claims agency agreement from the United Services Automobile Association. Akira Inoue's business acumen, innovations and his capable direction is undoubtedly the driving force behind Nanbo Guam's success.

Outside of his business ventures, Akira additionally devotes personal time and resources to civic and community activities. As one of the founding members of the Japan Club of Guam, he served as its first vice-president in 1972. From 1973 through 1977, he served as the club's president. During his tenure, he was instrumental in raising donations for the Christmas Seal Fund Drive. He was also actively involved with the Vietnam Refugees Relief Drive in addition to serving on the Board of Governors of St. John's Episcopal School. Between 1987 and 1989, he was a member of the committee to establish a Japanese school on Guam. Serving once again as president of the Japan Club of Guam from 1992 through 1995, he worked towards the full payment of the construction loan for the Japanese school and organized a relief fund drive for the victims of the 1995 Kobe earthquake. Akira is also a distinguished member of the Rotary Club of Tumon Bay.

For over three decades, Guam's business community has reaped great benefits from Akira Inoue's efforts and dedication. I join his proud family—his wife, Machiko, his sons, Naoyuki and Tetsuji, and daughters, Sachiko and Yoshiko—who, together with the Guam Chamber of Commerce and the people of Guam, celebrate Akira Inoue's contributions and success. I commend and congratulate him for being chosen as this year's "Small Business Person of the Year."

TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TRADE,
AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation requiring the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) study the issue of alleged potential health risks associated with wireless phones. This legislation builds upon a provision that I offered to legislation then pending in the House Commerce Committee during the previous Congress. That underlying legislation ultimately was not enacted in the previous Congress and today I offer the wireless health study amendment as a standalone piece of legislation, entitled the "Wireless Phone Health Risk Assessment Act of 2000."

Mr. Speaker, when I first raised the issue of cellular phone safety at a House Telecommunications and Finance Subcommittee