

and a state of the art game center. Through all the years, the fun, family-oriented atmosphere and safe environment remained constant. Because of Cool Crest, Independence and surrounding area families have a secure area where kids can play miniature golf and video games away from gangs, violence, drugs, and other negative influences. The miniature golf courses are challenging and unique, as they are surrounded by the flowing beauty of manicured gardens. Various challenges found on the courses include a moving rocket, an animatronic alligator, and the Eiffel Tower. The video games are cutting-edge to keep players of all ages satisfied.

I applaud the vision and dedication of the Patterson and Licausi families. The efforts of the Licausi's will ensure Cool Crest's mission to provide quality family entertainment in a clean, unique, and safe environment is afforded to all of its visitors.

Cool Crest truly is a local landmark, and I congratulate Patterson and the Licausi families on their first half century of keeping families entertained and safe. I am confident the next 50 years will be as memorable and productive in the established Cool Crest tradition.

HONORING HELEN RESTINO, UPON  
RETIREMENT FROM THE TOWN  
OF HOOSICK HOUSING AUTHORITY

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2000

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Helen Restino as she retires from her service to the town of Hoosick Housing Authority. Mrs. Restino, of Hoosick Falls New York, retires after 27 years of dedicated duty. During that time, she brought happiness to many senior citizens in the 21nd congressional district. Her housing programs are nationally recognized and greatly appreciated by the local community.

Mrs. Restino positively impacted the town of Hoosick. As executive director of the Housing Authority, Helen provided general supervision over all administrative and business affairs. She managed the "Housing Project", directed and coordinated the administration of the Section 8 Voucher Program, and supervised the Low and Moderate Income Conventional Housing Program. Helen directed all aspects of the Housing Authority's daily operations and activities, including finance, procurement, maintenance, property management, modernization, personnel management, planning and development, and resident and community relations.

I commend Mrs. Restino for her outstanding performance over the course of her career. As a direct result of her actions, the town of Hoosick Housing Authority was recognized four times for superior achievement by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Her organization won the Certificate of Excellence in Management Operations and High Performer Designation in 1995 and 1996, the Outstanding Performance Award in 1998, and Secretary's Commendation as High Per-

former in 1999. Mrs. Restino has set the example for all other housing authorities.

Mrs. Restino's most important role was in bringing joy to senior citizens who reside in the housing authority's centers. She undertook her job with fairness and compassion for all. The concerns of the residents were always Helen's top priority. Her enthusiasm, professionalism, and dedication to duty will be missed by all.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Helen Restino for her selfless service to the town of Hoosick Falls and congratulating her as she retires. Also, please join me in wishing her the very best of luck in all her future endeavors.

HONORING GEORGE DING-FELDER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize an exceptional man, George Ding-Felder. In February, George was recognized as the "Heat Hero" in honor of his outstanding achievements in the area of drunk driving arrests. For his efforts in this area, George is eminently deserving of the thanks and admiration of this great body. George became a state trooper in 1995 and has served with great distinction ever since. As proof, look no farther than his record in combating drunk driving. In 1999 alone, he had 130 DUI/DUID arrests. It is obvious that George and his untiring efforts to help his community have made a real difference. He personifies the spirit that this award stands for and we all can learn from the example he has set.

It is clear why this outstanding American was chosen as the recipient of the "Heat Hero" award. His efforts in the fight against drunk driving have made his community a safer place. In fact, his commitment to this important cause has probably saved many a life. I think that we all owe George a debt of gratitude for his service to the state. Due to George's dedication, it is clear that Colorado is a better and safer place. Your community, state and nation are grateful for your dedicated service, George.

THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY  
FAIR PRICING ACT, H.R. 4732

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing "The International Energy Fair Pricing Act of 2000" which will help to ensure that this Administration adopts a consistent and comprehensive policy of opposition to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC and other similar cartels.

In the ongoing energy crisis facing this nation, it keeps the spotlight where it belongs—on this international energy cartel. With the

enactment of this measure, the Administration will no longer be able to go back to business as usual in supporting back room arrangements and cartel-like behavior.

It specifically directs the President to make a systematic review of its bilateral and multilateral policies and those of all international organizations and international financial institutions to ensure that they are not directly or indirectly promoting the oil price fixing activities policies and programs of OPEC.

It would require the Administration to launch a policy review of the extent to which international organizations recognize and or support OPEC and to take this relationship into account in assessing the importance of our relationship to these organizations. It would set up a similar review of the programs and policies of the Agency for International Development to ensure that this agency has not indirectly or inadvertently supported OPEC programs and policies.

Finally, it would examine the relationship between OPEC and multilateral development banks and the International Monetary Fund and mandates that the U.S. representatives to these institutions use their voice and vote to oppose any lending or financial support to any country that provides support for OPEC activities and programs.

A copy of the bill follows:

H.R. 4732

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the "International Energy Fair Pricing Act of 2000".

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), in its capacity as an oil cartel, has been a critical factor in withholding production from the market and driving up oil prices approximately 300 percent from January 1999 to June 2000.

(2) Nationwide, gasoline prices have increased approximately 60 cents a gallon since the beginning of 1999 with crude oil prices increasing 48 cents over this same time period.

(3) The Department of Energy's weekly survey showed the average cost of gasoline in the United States increased 5 cents a gallon to \$1.68 from the second to the third week of June 2000, a record high for a fourth week in a row.

(4) Price declines in the cost of oil in April 2000, following the March 2000 OPEC meetings, have been reversed because OPEC output did not meet global demand and supply conditions. When OPEC members met in March 2000, quotas were not set high enough for refiners around the world to rebuild crude stocks depleted by winter heating demand.

(5) Crude oil stocks in the United States are only 31,000,000 barrels above the lowest operational inventories ever observed in recent times (the equivalent of 2 days of refinery operations) and 20,000,000 barrels under the normal range for the month of June.

(6) The United States needs to make a systematic review of its bilateral and multilateral policies and those of all international organizations and international financial institutions to ensure that these policies are not directly or indirectly supporting the oil price fixing activities, policies, and programs of OPEC.

**SEC. 3. POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES.**

(a) **POLICY WITH RESPECT TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.**—It shall be the policy of the United States that the extent to which each international organization supports, or otherwise recognizes, OPEC will be an important determinant in the relationship between the United States and this organization.

(b) **POLICY WITH RESPECT TO INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.**—It shall be the policy of the United States that the extent to which each international financial institution supports or otherwise recognizes OPEC, will be an important determinant in the relationship between the United States and the institution.

(c) **POLICY WITH RESPECT TO THE ENERGY AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES.**—The United States should carefully review all the energy development projects and programs administered by the United States Agency for International Development in developing countries to ensure that these projects and programs do not indirectly or inadvertently support the activities of OPEC.

**SEC. 4. POLICY TOWARD THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.**

(a) **REPORT TO THE CONGRESS ON ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.**—No later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall transmit to the Congress a report that contains the following:

(1) A description of any loan, guarantee, or technical assistance provided or to be provided by any international financial institution that does or would directly or indirectly support any activity or program of OPEC or any other cartel, or any member of OPEC or any other cartel, engaging in production cutbacks or other market-distorting practices.

(2) A description of the energy sector loans of, technical assistance provided by, and policies of each international financial institution, and an analysis of the extent to which the loans, assistance, or policies promote the complete dismantlement of international oil price fixing arrangements and the development of a market-based system for the exploration, production, and marketing of petroleum resources.

(b) **UNITED STATES POSITION IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.**—The United States Executive Directors at each international financial institution shall use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to oppose the provision of any loan, guarantee, or technical assistance by the institution that would directly or indirectly support the activities and programs of OPEC or any other cartel, or any member of OPEC or any other cartel, engaging in production cutbacks or other market-distorting practices.

**SEC. 5. REPORT RELATING TO THE ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD).**

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall prepare and transmit to Congress a report that—

(1) describes the efforts of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to review the market-distorting practices of international cartels, including OPEC, and recommends specific actions that the member countries of the OECD can undertake to combat such practices; and

(2) describes actions to be taken by the United States to ensure that the OECD expands upon its activities and programs regarding the operation of international cartels.

**SEC. 6. AMENDMENT TO THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.**

Section 106 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151d) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g)(1) In carrying out the activities under this chapter, the President shall—

“(A) ensure that amounts made available to carry out this chapter are not used to support, directly or indirectly, the programs, activities, and policies of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), or any other cartel, or any member of OPEC or any other cartel, if OPEC or such other cartel engages in oil price fixing; and

“(B) certify annually to the appropriate congressional committees that the requirement of subparagraph (A) has been met for the prior fiscal year. “(2) In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

“(i) the Committee on International Relations and the Committee on Banking and Financial Services of the House of Representatives; and

“(ii) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

“(B) the term ‘oil price fixing’ has the meaning given such term in section 7(2) of the International Energy Fair Pricing Act of 2000.”.

**SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

(1) **INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.**—The term “international financial institution” has the meaning given in section 1701(c)(2) of the International Financial Institutions Act.

(2) **OIL PRICE FIXING.**—The term “oil price fixing” means participation in any agreement, arrangement, or understanding with other countries that are oil exporters to increase the price of oil or natural gas by means of, inter alia, limiting oil or gas production or establishing minimum prices for oil or gas.

(3) **OPEC.**—The term “OPEC” means the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

(4) **PETROLEUM RESOURCES.**—The term “petroleum resources” includes petroleum and natural gas resources.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION****HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2000

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall votes 315, 316, 317, and 318, amendments to H.R. 4690, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for Fiscal Year 2001.

Had I been present, I would have voted yes or aye on each of these votes.

Campbell amendment; Reduce Federal Prison System spending: No. 315, “aye”.

Hinchey amendment; Fund Economic Development Administration: No. 316, “aye”.

Scott amendment; Increase funds for Boys and Girls Clubs in public housing: No. 317, “aye”.

DeGette amendment; Abortion for women in prison: No. 318, “aye”.

**CANADA'S MEDICINE WON'T CURE U.S. SYSTEM****HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2000

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert for the RECORD and excellent editorial written by the Republican Conference Chairman J.C. Watts. His editorial ran in the Dallas Morning News on Sunday, June 11, 2000.

Mr. Watts correctly identifies the pitfalls of Congress adopting any health care system that resembles Canada's failed socialist system. Americans told us in 1994 that they do not want a national takeover of our health care system. We must stop any one-size-fits-some government run program and embrace a concept that gives seniors a plan that best fits their own needs.

That is why Republicans have drafted a Medicare prescription drug bill that will provide needed medicine to our nation's seniors. It is a private based plan that will give seniors access to affordable, reliable and quality health care because I believe seniors should never have to choose between food and medicine.

[From the Dallas Morning News, June 11, 2000]

**CANADA'S MEDICINE WON'T CURE U.S. SYSTEM**  
(By J.C. Watts)

While it certainly is true that grass often looks greener on the other side of the fence, anyone who has gotten a closer view can tell you where the crabgrass grows. That couldn't be any truer than in the debate over prescription drug prices.

Those who are making political hay by holding up Canada's system of health care on the basis of cheaper drug prices are playing a false and dangerous game of bait and switch. The truth is that Canada's drug prices are linked to a system of health care that no American would settle for. Don't trust anyone who pretends to sell you one without the other.

Just as Democrats say Americans should flock to Canada for drugs, Canadians already flock to the United States for treatment. The Canadian government uses a big-government approach that rations health care and discourages new medical technology. As a result, Canadians wait three times longer for cancer treatments and nearly 12 weeks to see a specialist. Canada also strongly controls the prices of innovative medicines, which has discouraged investment in research to develop medicines.

Worse yet, the Canadian government won't pay for many of the latest breakthrough medications. For example, a number of top-selling drugs that are widely used by seniors in the United States—drugs that treat ailments such as arthritis, osteoporosis and allergic rhinitis—aren't reimbursed by some of Canada's biggest provincial health plans that provide prescription drug coverage to the poor, elderly and disabled.

Canadians also face longer waits in gaining access to new medicines produced by Canadian drug makers. The Canadian government typically takes about a year and a half to approve a new drug for sale—that is at least 6 months longer than it takes here at home. Then, each provincial government in Canada takes additional time in deciding whether