animals, learning, and community empowerment efforts. And of course, Mrs. Fajardo adored her husband and family.

One of Mrs. Fajardo’s most powerful traits was her innate passion for social justice. She served as a field deputy for Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina, and was instrumental in helping empower community members and community-based organizations. She was also a Warden’s assistant who counseled families and prisoners at the Louisiana State Penitentiary. One of her duties was to assist family members and media representatives during scheduled prison executions.

Mrs. Fajardo was also a strong supporter of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) and served as an executive assistant to MALDEF President Antonia Hernandez. This is where she met and fell in love with her husband Richard Fajardo.

Mrs. Fajardo was also a volunteer at the Central American Resource Center. During her years at CARECEN, she helped people in need and served as a strong supporter of immigrant and refugee rights.

Mrs. Fajardo will be dearly missed. Let us continue to keep her in our hearts and minds, and follow her example of leadership and caring.

HONORING CHUCK AND LORENE TOBIN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Charles “Chuck” and Lorene Tobin for their many years of devotion to each other as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

After their marriage, the Tobin’s moved to Dolores, Colorado in 1951, where Chuck began to work for the Texaco Bulk Plant and volunteered for the local fire department. After a dedicated career, he retired in 1992. Lorene was employed as a cafeteria cook with the Dolores School system until 1988. Since their retirement, they have both been enjoying the great outdoors and other events throughout the community.

Chuck and Lorene met at the Old Del Rio Restaurant where she was a waitress, and the two instantly fell in love. They are the proud parents of two sons, Chuck and Mike Tobin, and a daughter, Lynda Grossberg. The couple still resides in Dolores, Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, it is a wonderful privilege and honor to salute the 50th anniversary of Chuck and Lorene Tobin. It is with excitement and admiration that I wish them many more great years together.

LIFT THE UNITED STATES EMBARGO ON CUBA

HON. RON PAUL
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, encouraged in part by a recent resolution passed by the Texas State Legislature, I rise again this Congress to introduce my bill to lift the United States Embargo on Cuba.

On June 29, 2001, the Texas state legislature adopted a resolution calling for an end to U.S. economic sanctions against Cuba. Lawmakers emphasized the failure of sanctions to remove Castro from power, and the unwillingness of other nations to respect the embargo. One Texas Representative stated, “We have a lot of rice and agricultural products, as well as high-tech products, that would be much cheaper for Cuba to purchase from Texas. All that could come through the ports of Houston and Corpus Christi.” I wholeheartedly support this resolution, and I have introduced similar federal legislation in past years to lift all trade, travel, and telecommunications restrictions with Cuba. I only wish Congress understood the simple wisdom expressed in Austin, so that we could end the harmful and ineffective trade sanctions that serve no national purpose.

I oppose economic sanctions for two very simple reasons. First, they don’t work as effective foreign policy. Time after time, from Cuba to China, the policies have failed to achieve any of the goals that justify the measures. History clearly shows that free and open trade does far more to liberalize oppressive governments than trade wars. Economic freedom and political freedom are inextricably linked—when people get a taste of goods and information from abroad, they are less likely to tolerate a closed society at home. So while sanctions may serve our patriotic fervor, they mostly harm innocent citizens and do nothing to displace the governments we claim as enemies.

Second, sanctions simply hurt American interests, particularly agriculture. Every market close to our nation’s farmers is a market exploited by foreign farmers. China, Russia, the middle east, North Korea, and Cuba all represent huge markets for our farm products, yet many in Congress favor current or proposed trade restrictions that prevent our farmers from selling to the billions of people in these areas. The department of agriculture estimates that Iraq alone represents a $1 billion market for American farm goods. Given our status as one of the world’s largest agricultural producers, why would we ever choose to restrict our exports? The trade sanctions that serve no national purpose.

Still, support for sanctions continues in Congress. The House International Relations Committee last week considered legislation that will extend existing economic sanctions against Iran and Libya for another 5 years. While I certainly oppose this legislation, I did agree with the President that we should at least limit the time period to 2 years, so that Congress could reassess the policy sooner. I introduced an amendment to this effect, but the majority of committee members voted to continue “punishing” Iran and Libya for 5 years; presumably some members would agree to maintain sanctions indefinitely. Interestingly the bill focuses on preventing oil exploration and development in the region, even when new supplies of oil are introduce because it reduces prices at the pump for American consumers.

I certainly understand the emotional feelings many Americans have toward nations such as Iran, Iraq, Libya, and Cuba. Yet we must not let our emotions overwhelm our judgment in foreign policy matters, because ultimately human lives are at stake. For example, 10 years of trade sanctions against Iraq, not to mention aggressive air patrols and even bombings, have not ended Saddam Hussein’s rule. If anything, the political situation has worsened, while the threat to Kuwait remains. The sanctions have, however, created suffering due to critical shortages of food and medicine among the mostly poor inhabitants of Iraq. So while the economic benefits of trade are an important argument against sanctions, we must also consider the humanitarian arguments that Iraq alone represents a $1 billion market for American farm goods, China’s position as a humane nation, bolstering America’s position as a humane nation, bolstering the common criticism that we are a bully with no respect for people outside our borders. Economic common sense, self-interested foreign policy goals, and humanitarian ideals all point to the same conclusion: Congress should work to end economic sanctions against all nations immediately.

The legislation I introduce today is representative of true free trade in that while it opens trade, it prohibits the U.S. Taxpayer from being compelled to subsidize the United States government, the Cuban government or individuals or entities that choose to trade with Cuban citizens.

I submit for inclusion in the record, a copy of the Sense of Congress Resolution passed in Austin in late June.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 54

Whereas, The relationship between the United States and Cuba has long been marked by tension and confrontation; further heightening this hostility is the 40-year-old blockade of the United States trade embargo on Cuba, which isolates Cuba’s economy and some of the island nation that remains the longest-standing embargo in modern history; and

Whereas, Cuba imports nearly a billion dollars’ worth of food products each year, including approximately 1,100,000 tons of wheat, 420,000 tons of rice, 37,000 tons of poultry, and 60,000 tons of dairy products; these amounts are expected to grow significantly in coming years as Cuba slowly recovers from the severe economic recession it has endured following the withdrawal of subsidies from the former Soviet Union in the last decade; and

Whereas, Agriculture is the second-largest industry in Texas, and this state ranks among the top five states in overall value of agricultural exports at more than $3 billion annually; thus, Texas is ideally positioned to benefit from the market opportunities that freed trade with Cuba would provide; rather than depriving Cuba of agricultural products, the United States embargo succeeds only in driving sales to competitors in other countries that have no such restrictions; and

Whereas, In recent years, Cuba has developed important pharmaceutical products, namely, a new meningitis B vaccine that has virtually eliminated the disease in Cuba; such products have the potential to protect Americans against diseases that continue to threaten large populations around the world; and

Whereas, Cuba’s potential oil reserves have attracted the interest of numerous other
countries who have been helping Cuba develop its existing wells and search for new reserves; Cuba’s oil output has increased more than 400 percent over the last decade; and

Whereas, The United States’ trade, financial, and travel restrictions against Cuba hinder Texas’ export of agricultural and food products, its ability to import critical energy products, the treatment of illnesses experienced by Texans, and the right of Texans to travel freely; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the 77th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to consider the removal of trade, financial, and travel restrictions relating to Cuba; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Texas secretary of state forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate of the United States Congress, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to the congress with the request that this resolution be officially entered in the congressional Record as a memorial to the congress of the United States of America.

45TH ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE CONVENTION

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and send my personal greetings to all those gathered for the forty-fifth Archdiocese Convention of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. In welcoming the diverse spiritual leaders of the Church that are gathering together, I want to especially welcome His Excellency, Issam Fares, Deputy Prime Minister of Lebanon.

I would like to commend the Antiochian Archdiocese for using this convention to search for ways to help young people and families struggling with the challenges of our society. This biennial convention is an opportunity to share the history, cultural heritage and religious dedication of the members throughout North America. The work of Antiochian Orthodox Church through such programs as the International Orthodox Christian Charities, the bone marrow testing drive, health fairs and the Jerusalem Project, are the finest examples of the religious freedom that we enjoy in this country.

I wish to congratulate the members of the Antiochian Orthodox community on their efforts and wish them many years of success in their work throughout the United States.

RENEWAL OF THE IRAN LIBYA SANCTIONS ACT

HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON
OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, it was not too long ago that Pan Am flight 103 left London’s Heathrow airport for New York City on December 21, 1988. The plane was trans- porting 259 passengers, including students returning to the holidays, families eager to re- unite with loved ones, tourists looking forward to experiencing this great nation and business people on a routine trip.

Within an hour of takeoff, an explosion ripped through the plane and swiftly broke the aircraft into three pieces. The plane landed on the small Scottish town of Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 11 residents. If the delayed flight had taken off on time, the bomb would have most likely exploded over the Atlantic Ocean and we might not have ever known the cause of the accident.

Consequently, our government enacted the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act (ILSA) on August 5, 1996, to address the acts of terrorism con- doned by these countries. The law rightfully mandates sanctions against foreign invest- ment in the petroleum sectors of Iran and Libya, as well as weapons and oil equipment and aviation equipment to Libya in violation of United Nations Resolutions 748 and 883. ILSA has served to bring justice to the culprits of these acts of terrorism.

Today, the behavior that led the United States to take such measures against Iran in the first place has not improved, but grown even more severe in the past year. Iran con- tinues to condone terrorism and recklessly fund groups, such as the Hezbollah, Hamas, and the Palestine Islamic Jihad, who partake in acts of violence against civilians. Most dis- turbing, Iran continues efforts to acquire weap- ons of mass destruction—including nuclear, chemical, biological—and the missiles to de- liver them.

The recent State Department Report on Pat- terns of Global Terrorism reiterates, “Iran re- mained the most active state sponsor of ter- rorism in 2000.” The report also notes Iran has provided increasing support to numerous groups responsible for intentional attacks on civilians, while Iranian agencies “continue to be involved in the planning and the execution of terrorist acts.” Moreover, Iran continues to provide funding, training and logistical assistance to a variety of radical groups in the Per- sian Gulf, Africa, Turkey and Central Asia.

For many years, Iran has been able to finance programs to acquire weapons of mass destruction and support terrorist activity through its energy exports, which are where most of the countries revenues derive. ILSA is an effective measure to deter foreign corpora- tions from investing in Iran and reduce the amount of funds available to Tehran to sup- port terrorism and weapons activities. In fact, ILSA has succeeded in specifically deterring Japanese investment, as well as European cor- porations from investing in the Iranian market.

Accordingly, I believe it is imperative the United States send a clear message to nations that resort to terrorism by promoting non-negotiable policies that directly reinforce the premise that these actions will not be taken lightly and have serious long-term con- sequences. By not renewing these sanctions or limiting their conditions in any capacity, the United States would illustrate that we are not concerned with offensive Iranian behavior. I strongly urge this Congress not to falter in its resolve to combat terrorism in the world.

I pray for the families who paid the ultimate price, whose loved ones died. But they are not forgotten and these sanctions serve as a re- minder of the terrorism that took their lives and the unwavering stance we must take. It is our responsibility to ensure that they have not died in vain.

A NEWSPAPER ARTICLE ON THE LIFE OF FREDERIC BASITAT

HON. RON PAUL
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 26, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I commend to the attention of members an editorial appearing in the Wall Street Journal which is headlined “In Praise of an Economic Revolutionary.” The column is authored by Mr. Bob McTeer, president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

In his article, Mr. McTeer highlights the life of Frederic Bastiat, a member of the French Chamber of Deputies during the 19th century who made great contributions to both individual liberty and free markets with clear, simple and humorous observations and arguments. Bastiat was a pioneer in the field of eco- nomics who fought against the protectionist fallacies and absurdities that persisted in his day and indeed continue to haunt us today.

Bastiat understood well what few in Con- gress have come to grasp—that it is absurd to favor producers over consumers and sellers over buyers. This is because producers and sellers benefit from scarcity and high prices while consumers benefit from abundance and low prices. As a consequence, when govern- ment policies favor producers, the citizens of the United States are faced with scarcity and unnecessarily high prices. In essence, the economic pie is made smaller for all.

As members of Congress we should note, as Bastiat did, that because we have limited resources and unlimited wants, it is unwise to create inefficiencies for the purpose of cre- ating or protecting jobs. As Mr. McTeer writes, “Progress comes from reducing the work needed to produce, not increasing it.”

By supporting protectionist policies that tend to create stagnation and hurt consumers, some members stand in the way of economic progress that would benefit all. Yet we should reject these policies and in the tradition of Bastiat do away with the absurd notion that in- efficiencies are good for this country and its people.

Mr. Speaker, again I commend Mr. McTeer’s column and encourage the recogni- tion of the economic revolutionary, Frederic Bastiat.