ISOLATIONISM OF UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gent- leman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT) is recognized for 5 min- utes.

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to speak about something that really bothers me. This country has a constant debate within its political body about what role we in the United States will play with respect to the rest of the world.

The United States is an internationalist and being an isolationist is something that has gone on in this country, back and forth. Our decisions in the 1920s in this body to pass the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act was a way of erecting barriers around the United States and ultimately led to the depression in 1929.

Those of us who consider themselves to be both free and fair traders have had great hopes in our decision nationally to deal in trade with the whole world as a way of preventing countries from getting into wars. If one is trading with somebody it is much less likely that one is going to involve oneself in some kind of destructive war that will destroy one’s own resources as well as those of the country with which one is dealing.

Beginning with the installation of the President by the Supreme Court of the United States, a new isolationism has begun to set in in this country and most people are not paying much attention to it or they are not putting it together and seeing the whole picture.

This isolationism is not one of economics but one of which the United States is isolating itself from the rest of the world in terms of public opinion about the problems which face the entire globe. And our country willy-nilly goes along deciding we are going to do it our own way. Never mind anybody else. We will do it our own way.

Now, in 1972 they created a convention to prevent the spread of biological warfare, 1972. It has been there for 30 years. But this administration went to the U.N. and said we refuse to be involved in finding any way to enforce that convention.

It is the same government that says that we are going to bomb the living daylight out of and sanction Iran because they are creating biological weapons. If you refuse yourself to be allowed to be inspected on that issue, how can you stand and take a public position in that world and say, but they cannot do it and we are going to isolate them until we stop them. It is simply the United States saying we are bigger than they are, we can do whatever we want.

Recently within the last week or so, the Japanese and the European Union decided they were going to try and save the globe from global warming. They came to an agreement, a sort of Kyoto II if you will, because the United States walked away and said we will not be a part of this. We are not going to do anything. We will not worry about global warming. We will con- tinue to do what we have always done.

We are 5 percent of the world’s popu- lation using 25 percent of the energy in the world and producing the largest portion of the global-damaging chemicals in our air. But the rest of the world has said, well, okay, if the United States wants to sit over there on the sidelines we will try to save it without them. We isolated ourselves.

The President does not believe in the anti-ballistic missile treaty. He said we have a shield because we are really afraid of Korea and we are afraid of Iraq and we are afraid of these rogue countries. We are going to spend 50, $70 billion trying to prevent one missile if it ever should come from one of these countries and in the process, tear up the treaty that said we are not going to have more missiles.

I do not think the problem is going to come from Korea or some other rogue country. North Korea. The prob- lems are the old Soviet Union and Rus- sia and the Chinese and some of these countries. It is much better to have an anti-ballistic missile treaty in place that is gradually bringing the number of missiles down.

To say we are going to prepare for the fact that there is going to be an es- calation is simply to set it in motion. The minute we put up a shield every- body is going to say we have to arm be- cause the Americans have a shield and they can go any time they want. We will set off back into the Cold War. It is like George Bush won, when the Cold War ended, and they did not know what to do so now they will cre- ate Cold War II. That is what is going on here.

The CTBT Treaty, the Confidential Test Ban Treaty, the United States will not sign that. Why should anyone else? People get all excited when the Indians do it or the Pakistanis do it. Why? The United States of America will not say we will stop. Where do we have the moral authority to tell any- body else? We have isolated ourselves into a position of moral authority, but we cloak it in a kind of funny way with we will tell all the rest of the world what to do but do not tell us anything. That is not going to work.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. Mr. KIRK. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gent- leman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designated majority leader.

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speak- er, I rise today to try in the next hour to cover a host of issues that are being hotly debated today in this country. I mainly want to focus on the issue of human cloning.

Next week, the House of Representa- tives will take up a piece of legislation I authored with my colleague, the gentle- man from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK), the Human Cloning Prohibition Act of 2001, H.R. 2172. This bill cleared the Committee on the Judiciary and is now scheduled to be taken up by the House on Tuesday.

I wanted to talk this afternoon about that bill, about a competing piece of legislative interest in this country, authored by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTSCH) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GREENWOOD), H.R. 2172, focus on some of the differences between these two bills in terms of the way we are going to deal with human cloning. And then I would also like to just go over some of the basics of sex- ual reproduction versus cloning repro- duction and as well some of the issues associated with the stem cell debate, because the issue of human cloning and the issue of stem cells do overlap some- what.

This chart I have next to me here on my left highlights some of the dif- ferences between these two bills. I would just like to go over that briefly.

The legislation introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GREENWOOD) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTSCH) is H.R. 2172. I think theirs is also entitled the Human Cloning Prohibition Act of 2001. There is creation of human embryos through cloning technology to be used specifi- cally for research and then for destruc- tion. It allows research cloning, but I want to highlight there are no thera- pies that exist today in humans, nor is there an animal model. I say this be- cause this form of cloning is referred to as therapeutic cloning. While it may be true that someday it may be possible to do this type of cloning they are talking about and use it for a thera- peutic intervention in a patient, there are no known therapies today available for human cloning.

What their bill essentially is is a moratorium on implantation. I will get into that in a little bit more detail. Im- plantation is when the embryo actually seats itself in the womb and begins the process of further differentiating into a fetus. I say that their bill is a morato- rium because they have a 10-year sun- set on their bill. Their bill goes away, would have to be reauthorized in 10 years, and so I think it could legiti- mately be called a moratorium and not a real ban on so-called reproductive cloning.

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HUMAN CLONING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Mr. KIRK. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gent- leman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the des-