

a report on the operations of the State Justice Institute.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2048

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

SECTION 1. REPORT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ON STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE.

Section 213 of the State Justice Institute Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10712) is amended by striking "On October 1, 1987" and inserting "Not later than October 1, 2002".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 2048, the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 2048 will require the Attorney General to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on the Judiciary regarding the effectiveness of the State Justice Institute. This report would be due by October 1, 2002.

Congress established SJI as a private, nonprofit corporation in 1984. Its stated purpose is to further the development and adoption of improved judicial administration in State courts. SJI is to accomplish this goal by providing funds to State courts and other national organizations or nonprofit organizations which support the State courts. SJI also fosters coordination and cooperation with the Federal judiciary in areas of mutual concern.

Since becoming operational in 1987, the institute has awarded more than \$125 million in grants to support over 1,000 projects; another \$40 million in matching requirements has been generated from other public and private funding sources. As noted, H.R. 2048 would require the Attorney General to study the operations of the institute and release a report on its effectiveness. After 14 years and \$165 million in grants, it is now more appropriate to take a closer look at the efficiency and effectiveness of this institute and the project it supports.

Madam Speaker, this concludes my description of the bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time I may consume.

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2048. This bill was

marked up and favorably reported by voice vote by the Committee on the Judiciary on July 24. It is wholly non-controversial.

It requires the Attorney General in consultation with the State Justice Institute to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on the Judiciary regarding the effectiveness of the institute. The report will be due no later than October 1, 2002.

The SJI is a useful project. Congress created it in 1984 to provide funds to improve the quality of justice in State courts. Congress also directed the SJI to facilitate enhanced coordination between State and Federal courts and develop solutions to common problems faced by all courts. It was last reauthorized in 1992. That expired in fiscal year 1996.

While the Committee on Appropriations has continued to appropriate approximately \$7 million annually for the State Justice Institute, it has not been formally reauthorized since 1996 by the authorizing committee of the Committee on the Judiciary.

The ultimate purpose of the SJI report mandated by this legislation is to aid Congress in reauthorizing the SJI. With the information from this report, Congress can ensure that SJI reauthorization is accomplished with all due diligence.

The Attorney General did issue a study of its effectiveness in 1987, but this report provides little information, as the SJI did not become operational until 1987. So we need a new report to help inform future legislation to reauthorize it.

H.R. 2048 is a good bill, and I ask my colleagues to support it.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE).

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) pretty well laid this out.

I would just indicate that by noting that the 1984 legislation which created the institute required the Attorney General to submit a report governing the effectiveness of the State Justice Institute's operations by October 1, 1987, to the House and Senate Committees on the Judiciary. Since SJI did not become operational until fiscal year 1987, the report submitted by former Attorney General Meese is of limited value in assessing the operations of the institute.

H.R. 2048 simply changes the due date for a report that will be identical in scope to the 1987 study. Unlike the previous effort, however, the study that will emanate from H.R. 2048 will be based on at least 14 years' worth of operations at the institute. As a result,

Congress should have the first real comprehensive evaluation of the effectiveness of SJI by October 1, 2002.

Madam Speaker, this is a non-controversial bill, as has been indicated. It promotes good government. While I am impressed with SJI operations to date, all Federal entities should be accountable to the taxpayers. I therefore urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2048.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 233) recognizing the important relationship between the United States and Mexico.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 233

Whereas the United States and Mexico share a special bilateral friendship which is matched by few other countries in the world;

Whereas the United States and Mexico are partners joined by geography as well as by a multitude of government-to-government and private relationships which are of critical importance to both countries;

Whereas the United States and Mexico share concerns on a wide range of issues, including trade, immigration, the environment, economic development, and regional security and stability;

Whereas Vicente Fox Quesada of the Alliance for Change (consisting of the National Action Party and the Mexican Green Party) was sworn in as President of the United Mexican States on December 1, 2000, the first opposition candidate to be elected president in Mexico in seven decades;

Whereas the United States, as Mexico's neighbor, ally, and partner in the hemisphere, has a strong interest in President Fox's success in promoting prosperity and democracy in his country and the region during his term of office; and

Whereas President Vicente Fox is making a state visit to Washington, D.C. on September 5-7, 2001; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) welcomes the state visit by the President of the United Mexican States, Vicente Fox Quesada; and

(2) declares that, in keeping with the just interests of the United States, the special nature of the relationship between the United States and Mexico should be further cultivated to the mutual benefit of both countries.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, just over 1 year ago, on July 2, 2000, an extraordinary event took place. In a single day the people of Mexico peacefully ended 7 decades of one-party rule with their votes. Tomorrow, the man they elected as their president, Vicente Fox, will address a joint meeting of Congress as part of the first State visit hosted by George W. Bush.

The inauguration of Vicente Fox as Mexico's president has ushered in a new chapter in our Nation's relationship with our neighbor to the south. President Bush and President Fox have seized the opportunity to forge a new partnership. Both leaders have acted to leave the past and build a road to the future based on real shared interests.

The cornerstone of our relationship with Mexico is the North America Free Trade Agreement, initiated under the President's father's administration.

Commerce between the United States and Mexico increased from \$83 billion in 1994 to nearly \$200 billion in 1999. Total trade among the three NAFTA members, including Canada, reached \$557 billion in 1999. Mexico has surpassed Japan as the United States's second largest trading partner. Even so, there is a belief abroad in our land that NAFTA is the culprit for the present economic downturn. This is simply not true.

The implementation of NAFTA, in fact, coincided with the longest peacetime economic expansion in the history of our Nation.

The trafficking of illicit narcotics through Mexico has left a swath of corruption and misery in its path. Securing Mexico's full cooperation in addressing the drug threat has long bedeviled our relations. President Fox has, however, demonstrated great courage in facing this violent and corrosive threat to the security of both of our nations. Under his leadership, Mexico has finally begun to extradite Mexican drug kingpins to face justice in the United States for their crimes.

Under President Fox's leadership, real law enforcement cooperation has

begun at the working level where it counts, policeman to policeman.

Migration is at the top of our bilateral agenda with Mexico. The U.S. Census of 2000 revealed that almost 12 percent of the U.S. population is of Hispanic origin. Mexicans and Mexican-Americans constitute about 65 percent of that total. President Bush believes it is very important that America be a Nation that welcomes immigrants. He recognizes the huge contributions to our economy that immigrant workers, including Mexicans, have made and the vital role America has in welcoming people who will fulfill that role in our economy.

□ 1615

Accordingly, President Bush and President Fox have been working to establish a series of principles regarding migration issues that will be announced during President Fox's state visit.

Madam Speaker, the resolution before the House today recognizes the extraordinarily important bilateral relationship between the United States and Mexico, and welcomes the state visit by Mexico's democratically elected leader, President Vicente Fox.

Madam Speaker, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL), introduced a similar resolution earlier this year, and I am pleased he is among the Members from both parties, including the ranking member of our Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), who have cosponsored this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I certainly commend the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), the chairman of the Committee on International Relations, for his leadership and for his sponsorship of this resolution, House Resolution 233, and I endorse the resolution, and also recognize the support of the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), the ranking Democratic member of the Committee on International Relations.

I also acknowledge the support of the chairman of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER), and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the ranking member of our Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere.

Madam Speaker, the resolution celebrates the unique bilateral relationship that the United States shares with its other neighbor, Mexico. It also acknowledges the pivotal role that Mexico plays in addressing issues that are of concern to both the United States and Mexico. And finally, the resolution welcomes President Fox to the United States.

Since assuming office in December of last year, President Fox has done much to build a new Mexico, a Mexico which tolerates diverse political views, which is accountable to its citizenry; and it is certainly a remarkable effort on the part of his leadership, and the fact that after 70 years, for the first time, a new political leader has come before the voters of Mexico and been elected, someone other than the party that has been presiding over Mexico's politics for the last 70 years.

Largely as a result of the efforts of President Fox's administration, Mexico's government now embraces divergent viewpoints, its press corps has become increasingly vigilant and vocal, and Mexican political society has become more vibrant and quite robust.

Oftentimes in collaboration with the United States Government, President Fox's administration has also recorded unprecedented victories in the fight against drug cartels and smugglers of illegal immigrants from other countries.

President Fox's administration continues to face significant challenges, including tensions in Chiapas, a softening economy, and entrenched corruption in some segments of the government, and accounting for Mexico's past human rights violations.

Madam Speaker, I commend President Fox for his outstanding leadership and real sense of commitment to address the social and economic problems currently confronting some 29 million indigenous Indians now living in Mexico. The indigenous Indians of Mexico have suffered tremendous hardships economically and socially, mainly due to negligence and indifference by previous administrations. President Fox is the first among Mexico's top leaders to seriously address the needs of indigenous Indians, especially the crisis that occurred in Chiapas in the Yucatan Peninsula whereby the needs of indigenous Indians of that region of Mexico have not been properly addressed by Mexican authorities.

How ironic that during the 1860s when Mexico fought a revolution against French rule, the gentleman who led the revolution against French rule and who later became Mexico's first president after the revolution was an indigenous Indian by the name of Benito Juarez. Over 100 years later, the issues affecting the lives of the indigenous Indians of Mexico have finally been brought to the attention of President Fox. I sincerely commend President Fox for his sensitivity and true sense of compassion in establishing national policy that will allow indigenous Indians to seek opportunities not only for higher education, but better health and better living conditions.

Madam Speaker, although these challenges are daunting, I firmly believe President Fox and his administration have the determination, the skill and

the knowledge to address these issues successfully. I urge my colleagues to join me in pledging their support to President Fox, his administration, and Mexico's national parliament in their continuing efforts to address these and other issues of mutual concern.

Madam Speaker, as indicated earlier by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), President Fox will address a joint session of Congress tomorrow. To President Fox and his delegation I say, "Bienvenidos a los Estados Unidos," welcome to the United States. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this measure.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of H. Con. Res. 233, which recognizes the important relationship between the U.S. and Mexico.

Madam Speaker, like many Americans, I have been impressed by Mexico President Fox's policies on a wide range of fronts. We congratulate him, and the Mexican people, on their commitment to democracy, which has been demonstrated in the revolutionary changes undertaken in the run-up to the most recent election, in the conduct of that election, and in its aftermath.

President Fox has broken new ground regarding counter-narcotics cooperation, economic reform, the fight against corruption and illegal immigration into Mexico en route to the United States. It is in the American national interest that he succeeds in all these fields.

For Mexico's economic reforms to take root, however, it must end its long-standing prohibition against foreign investment in its energy sector. The current prohibition has proved to be an enormous impediment to progress in Mexico. Currently, Mexico produces 3.8 million barrels of oil a day, the fifth-largest producer in the world. But, if it developed all the oil resources that it has, it could produce 6 million barrels a day, the second largest producer, according to the well-known firm, Cambridge Energy Research Associates.

The growth potential for its gas sector is even more dramatic. Mexico is currently producing 4.5 billion cubic feet per day. But according to Cambridge Energy Associates, Mexico could more than double this to 10 billion cubic feet per day. Canada, in fact, produces four times as much gas as Mexico even though both countries have the same amount of gas reserves. Currently Mexico actually imports natural gas from the United States, when the situation if anything, should be the reverse.

Yet, opening up the Mexican energy sector to foreign investment is just the first step towards the economic take-off that both Mexico and the United States seek. Once they increase their energy capacity, Mexico should resist the temptation to play politics with the Organization of Petroleum Exporters. Mexico, it should be recalled, and before President Fox took power, was a key player in pushing oil prices up from \$10 a barrel in 1999 to today's \$25 a barrel, when it colluded with Venezuela and Saudi Arabia to limit production. Its Minister has publicly boasted of this effort.

The oil price rise that they helped to engineer staggered our US economy. Richard

Berner, chief economist at Morgan Stanley Dean Whitter, estimates that every \$5 increase in the price of a barrel of oil knocks 0.3 percentage points off of our GDP. The price rise since 1999 represents one full percentage of our GDP, or hundreds of thousands of jobs. And the irony of course, is that the energy price rise that Mexico helped to create ended up hurting its own economy because of the repercussions it had on the United States economy.

What does all this mean for the United States and for Mexico? Clearly, the US welcomes our new relationship with Mexico. But if we are going to take this relationship up the next level—including improved treatment for the millions of Mexicans who are in this country illegally—we must have a new deal regarding Mexican energy production. Foreign investment and an end to Mexican cooperation with OPEC will serve the interests of both of our countries by opening the flood-gates of Mexican energy production and undermining the OPEC cartel. Cheaper energy will benefit the entire world economy—not least of all the United States and President Fox of Mexico.

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 233.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

□ 1801

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon) at 6 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF MEMBER OF THE HONORABLE CHRIS CANNON, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following commu-

nication from Jeff Hartley, Director of Communications for the Honorable CHRIS CANNON, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 2, 2001.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a deposition subpoena issued by the Third District Court, Salt Lake Department, State of Utah, in a civil case pending there.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that it is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House to comply with the subpoena.

Sincerely,

JEFF HARTLEY,
Director of Communications.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Chairman of the Committee on Government Reform:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM,
Washington, DC, August 30, 2001.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER. This is to formally notify you pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House that the Custodian of Records, Committee on Government Reform has received a subpoena for documents issued by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

DAN BURTON,
Chairman.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on motions to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 2291, by the yeas and nays;

House Resolution 233, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for the second vote in this series.

DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES SUPPORT PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 2291, as amended.