EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

WHEREAS, peer-reviewed research has demonstrated that discount programs have been proven not to be effective; and

WHEREAS, The Program is not insurance coverage nor will it provide drug coverage to those millions of seniors who cannot currently afford even inexpensive prescription drugs; and

WHEREAS, The Program promotes the underutilization of generic drugs, heavy use of mail order, and limits senior citizens to the option of only one drug per therapeutic class;

Therefore be it resolved, that the National Pharmaceutical Association representing all of America’s minority pharmacists at its House of Delegates assembly during the 54th Annual Meeting July 20–24, 2001 in Cleveland, Ohio joins other national pharmacy associations in opposing the Prescription Drug Discount Card program as presently composed and urges the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, and all of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to immediately revisit this flawed and potentially unconstitutional Program;

Be it further resolved, that the Secretary of HHS appoint a blue ribbon committee consisting of all facets of the national pharmacy community to study this issue and make recommendations to solve America’s pressing issue of prescription drug coverage for those Americans over the age of 65; and finally

Be it resolved that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the President, Secretary of HHS, Administrator of CMS, and all the national pharmacy organizations.

THE BUDGET

HON. JAMES L. LANGEVIN
OF RHODE ISLAND
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my frustration with the state of the budget.

As we all know, during August recess, the Congressional Budget Office announced that the federal government will tap $29 billion from the Medicare Trust Fund and $9 billion from the Social Security Trust Fund to pay for government operations in this year alone, and another $30 billion from Social Security and $170 billion from Medicare over the next five years. This grim scenario will occur without a $170 billion from Medicare over the next five years. This grim scenario will occur without a $170 billion from Medicare over the next five years.

President Bush’s 2002 budget found $30 billion from Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds. And I was not alone. Over one hundred of my colleagues have co-sponsored legislation that would prevent Congress from spending the Social Security and Medicare surpluses, and this chamber has voted seven times in the past three years to establish lockboxes for these funds.

Past and present adi-ninistrations made the very same pledge to not touch these vital trust funds. We must honor our promises by acknowledging that the economy is slowing and working together to find a solution to the budget crisis that is fair, and based on an honest, realistic budget. It has become clear that relying on the exclusion of all other priorities is not the answer. Let us find a better way before it is too late.

APPROVING EXTENSION OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT WITH RESPECT TO PRODUCERS OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

SPEECH OF
HON. MIKE ROSS
OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, the catfish industry is an important part of the economy of my congressional district that covers all of south Arkansas. Thirty-six states either produce or process farm-raised catfish, with Arkansas being the third largest producer in the nation.

The catfish farmers in my district and across America are being hurt by the unfair practice of “so-called” catfish from Vietnam being dumped into our markets and sold as “farm-raised” catfish.

Last year, imports of Vietnamese catfish totaled 7 million pounds, more than triple the 2 million pounds imported in 1999 and more than 12 times the 575,000 pounds imported in 1998. In Vietnam, these so-called catfish, also known as “basa,” can be produced at a much lower cost due to cheap labor and less stringent environmental regulations. In fact, many of these fish are grown in floating cages in the Mekong River, exposing the fish to pollutants and other conditions. They are then dumped into American markets and often marketed as farm-raised catfish.

Vietnam says they are taking the necessary steps to fix the problem of mislabeling and dumping. However, this problem is not new and has been discussed with Vietnam for several years. We have yet to see any results to show that they are truly addressing this issue.

America is a country founded on the principles of fairness and good faith, but Vietnam must still prove that their actions are, indeed, in good faith. They must stop the dumping of this so-called catfish into America’s markets and allow our catfish farmers to have the level playing field that they deserve. Therefore, I do not support extending trade relations to Vietnam at this time.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH HOFFMAN

HON. MARK UDALL
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Elizabeth Hoffman, President of the University of Colorado. As Betsy enters her second year on the job, I can proudly say that CU is well on its way to fulfilling her vision of becoming one of the top three public research universities in the country.

During her first year in office, CU has set records in private gift giving, federal research income and state capitol construction funding. One of these gifts, a $25 million donation, is the largest gift ever to a public university. This donation allowed for the creation of a CU institute that will help twenty million Americans with cognitive disabilities.

In addition to her drive to make CU a world class university, Betsy Hoffman knows that the University of Colorado is also a school for the people of Colorado. She travels tirelessly around the state to “bring CU back to the people of Colorado.” She has quickly gained the support of the people of our state in her endeavors. Governor Owens says, “She’s been very good at representing the university around the state. I give her an A plus.” She is also supported by state legislators on both sides of the aisle and by members of the Colorado congressional delegation.

Under Betsy’s leadership, I have no doubt that CU will become the world class university she is steering it toward. I am including an article about her that was recently published in the Denver Post. Mr. Speaker, I ask for my colleagues to join me in praising the work of a visionary and an educator.

[From the Denver Post, September 2, 2001]
the luck of the draw and I came out on top. To be the president of CU is one of the greatest opportunities in this country.

Every school in the Big 12 Conference gets a free 30-second spot to promote themselves during televised sporting events. Hoffman rejected the offer other than the usual students in labs with test tubes. So the infomercial features a technical climber on a rock wall. A creek rushes below. The first version put together by CU's Fulbright Rhodes scholars and Nobel Prize winner, Hoffman barks.

"We want to recruit students and their parents—not scholars—in this spot," she says.

In one version Hoffman concludes by saying, "Come join us." But when it was marketed on employees some complained that "it sounds like she's asking you to join a cult," an aide offers. Hoffman laughs. "Oh, give me a break!" she says. It's the first 10 minutes of an 11-hour day.

Vice presidents' meeting, president's office. Seven people, including four vice presidents and Hoffman, sit around a conference table in Hoffman's quaint cottage office in Boulder. Hoffman runs a cordial meeting. She pokes fun at one morning's microscopic handwriting. "Students at the California Institute of Technology compete to see who can get an entire semester's notes on one page," she says. "They write bigger than this." She's ribbing chief of staff J.D. Beatty, one of a handful of her new recruits this year.

That's the typical of Hoffman. Recently before a regent's meeting, the 6-foot president doffed her high heels and challenged the veeps and regents to a pick-up basketball game at the Coors Events Center. Today, she's left her shoes on. The brain trust meets routinely to review the discussion at the regents' meeting a week earlier. This time there had been a tense discussion among regents about offering health benefits to partners of gay employees. The debate has been ongoing for 15 years, but regents will vote on it today.

Hoffman keeps the meeting moving as talk turns to Gov. Bill Owens' new panel to study reorganizing state higher education. It's the third state-ordered study remapping Colorado's higher-education system in two years and Hoffman takes it very seriously. "It's extremely important that CU speaks in a single voice so the task force hears the same message from us," Hoffman says. At the east end of her office is a mahogany desk. But she rarely uses it. Most of her work is done outside the office. A gold-plated plaque on the corner of the desk is etched with the names of all CU presidents since 1913, with the exception of CU's 17th president, Judith Albino, who brought her own name on that plaque. ''Not me,'' Hoffman says. ''I wanted my contribution to this university unless I've done so myself,'' she said at the time.

Rarely does she take a day off—and that includes weekends, her colleagues say. Most mornings she leaves the president's residence in Boulder at 7-7 if she has a breakfast meeting in Denver. And she has a late-night event nearly every night. She had one evening off earlier in the week. She went grocery shopping. And bought a rain cover for a Sunday trail ride organized by Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell to show support for a Continental Divide transnational trail.

Hoffman's 10-year plan to catapult CU into the nation's top three public research universities. "When people talk about Michigan, Wisconsin or Berkeley, I want them to talk about CU," she says. "Colorado is an afterthought on the national scene. We need to be at the top."

But is it realistic? "Absolutely," says Gov. Owens. "Even if she fails we might have the fourth or fifth best research university in the country. You have to strive mightily. And she does." What will it take for CU to be among the nation's top three? Hoffman will take each of CU's four campuses in Denver, Colorado Springs, Boulder and the Health Sciences Center at Fitzsimons to be nationally ranked on their strengths, Hoffman says.

It will require CU to amass a $5 billion endowment by 2010 (its current endowment is $4 billion) and $1 billion annually in federally sponsored research, and to collect more than $1 billion by 2040 in a revamped private-gifts campaign she'll announce in November.

In 10 years, all CU colleges and programs should be named for donors who pay $25 million to $50 million, Hoffman says. "Ten years from now," she says, "I want people to think of the CU Hospital like they think of the Mayo Clinic or Johns Hopkins."
Zedillo, the president of the Central Bank of Buenos Aires, ministers of finance in Mexico and Indonesia and the director of Fuji Bank in Japan.

The graduation will be preceded by a champagne reception. "I don't think I better have any champagne," Hoffman tells her husband. "Yeah, it's only 4 p.m." Binger says. "The day's only half over."

October 15, 2001

SECUING AMERICA'S FUTURE ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF
HON. HON. ROBIN HAYES
OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Chairman, oil imports are now at 57% and growing rapidly. If we are to meet our domestic energy needs, we must decrease our reliance on foreign imports by boosting domestic energy supply. A workable energy plan requires attention to all areas, conservation, production, alternative fuels, research, and especially common sense.

Over the last 20 years, the increase in demand for energy has outpaced the increase in supply. Since 1980, the supply has only increased by 18%, while energy demand has increased 24%. The United States is also far too dependent on foreign oil. Today, 57% of our oil comes from other countries; compared to 35% in 1973, and 48% 10 years ago.

Drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge may provide the necessary increase in production of energy. The U.S. Geological Survey estimates there are up to 16 billion barrels of oil in ANWR, this would be enough to replace all imports from Saudi Arabia for the next 30 years. My family and I lived on the North Slope for a year. The family we lived with perfected the ice pad drilling technique, which leaves virtually no footprint. We can drill in ANWR safely and in an environmentally responsible way. We should do this to secure America's future energy needs.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve the affordable and reliable energy supply that this bill can provide. I commend the bill's sponsor and the many members and staff who have devoted so much time to this effort, and I ask my colleagues to support this comprehensive energy policy for the future of our country.

In CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. SCHÄFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today to honor an uncommon Coloradan, Mr. Mort Marks of Aurora. Mort has been a tireless worker for the Republican Party and its ideals. A self-described supporter of the Republican big-tent, Mort has been instrumental in bringing the party into the major-