

The FLI Act provides individuals and families with tax incentives to travel in the next year by air, land, or sea, and not be afraid to vacation. It allows individuals to deduct up to \$750 from their taxable income to help cover the costs of travel and lodging, whether on land or on sea. Families who file jointly can deduct up to \$1,500.

The FLI Act is a relatively inexpensive and cost effective way that Congress can help stimulate our faltering economy. Airline bailout bills only provide a temporary solution to potentially, a long term problem. The FLI Act provides Congress with the needed vehicle to address the needs of America's hurting tourism industry, and at the same time, provide tax relief for working class and low-income families at a time they need it most.

I urge my colleagues to move swiftly and pass this innovative and necessary legislation.

REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S NATIONAL
DAY

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2001

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call attention to the National Day of the Republic of China on Taiwan. This day commemorates the Wuchang Uprising on October 10, 1911, which led to the overthrow of the Qing dynasty and the establishment of the ROC on January 1, 1912.

Although the recent terrorist attacks against America make it difficult for us to join the celebrations for this great day for the people of Taiwan, I believe it is appropriate to remember it, as it was the first step to a long process for Taiwan to become what it is now. It is a nation proud of its solid democratic foundations and strong economy and a nation that shares America's tradition of individual freedom and full human rights for its citizens.

For the United States, Taiwan is a significant trading partner, a valued regional military ally and, above all, a good friend. Taiwan mourned with us over the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Its leaders have expressed their condolences and solidarity with the people and government of the United States. Taiwan has cancelled all its National Day celebrations throughout the United States and pledged its full cooperation with us in combating terrorism.

The Republic of China on Taiwan shares with us not only our grief, but also our belief that this was not just an attack against America. It was an attack against democracy and freedom that both our countries cherish. On the 90th anniversary of its National Day, Taiwan celebrates these treasured ideals.

Over the past decade, the Republic of China has moved rapidly towards becoming a democratic society. Free and fair elections are routinely held at all levels of government, and approximately 70 percent of eligible voters participate in ROC elections. Taiwan has become a shining example of freedom and democracy in a part of the world in need of role models.

America stands by its long-standing commitment to the people and government of Taiwan

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

with which we have developed strong economic, political and social ties. As Taiwan celebrates its National Day, I share their joy and hope that we will be able to continue our partnership and friendship well into the future.

TRIBUTE TO URBAN SEARCH AND
RESCUE TEAM

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to express gratitude and thanks to the Urban Search and Rescue Team of Denver, Colorado. The Urban Search and Rescue Team traveled to New York City, to aid in the World Trade Center rescue efforts after the September 11th terrorist attack.

The team joined others at the World Trade Center rescue after the horrific terrorist attack against our nation. Though their chances of finding survivors were slim, the team was still determined. A recent edition of *the Denver Post* captures the sentiments of the team as Mike Seidler, a member of the team, said, "Until they turn it into 'recovery', we go at it as 'rescue'." Consisting of 130 members from the Denver area, the Urban Search and Rescue Team is one of twenty-eight teams nationwide, and is overseen by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

In this time of national shock and grief, it is truly inspirational to witness so many brave Coloradans coming to the aid of their fellow Americans. The courageous actions of this team, putting themselves in harm's way to rescue strangers, exemplifies the American spirit and is a reminder it is the American people who make our country so great.

The Urban Search and Rescue Team makes not only its community proud, but also those of its state and country. It is a true honor to have such extraordinary people reside in Colorado and we owe them a debt of gratitude for their service. I ask the House to join me in extending wholehearted congratulation to the Urban Search and Rescue Team.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2001

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, this Member was absent for official business purposes in Ottawa, Canada, as the Chairman of the House delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly for the major annual meeting during the evening of October 9, 2001, and unfortunately missed two roll call votes. Had this Member been present, this Member would have voted in the following ways:

1. Rollcall No. 372—"aye" on final passage of H. Con. Res. 244 authorizing the printing of a revised edition of the publication entitled "Our Flag."

2. Rollcall No. 373—"aye" on final passage of H. Res. 250 expressing the sense of the

October 10, 2001

House of Representatives that the Secretary of Energy should increase the capacity of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to 1,000,000,000 barrels of crude oil.

FARM SECURITY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 5, 2001

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, across the board, commodity prices have dropped to record lows since the passage of the 1996 Farm Bill. Rural communities and farmers are in dire straits as to their future success. Today we are given the opportunity to help sustain our rural economies and help the lives of millions of Americans.

We find ourselves at perhaps the most important crossroad in our nation's farm policy history. Today we have the power to profess our support for our nation's farm communities or risk their destruction at the hands of a well-intentioned, but potentially devastating policy proposal.

Growing up in Southern Louisiana, I was surrounded by rice fields and farm communities. Southwest Louisiana is known for its Cajun heritage. A large part of this heritage comes from a strong farming tradition. This is true for many of our nation's rural communities. Since before this country's inception, farm communities have developed and sustained local economies and industry. Beyond this, these communities have developed their own way of life, their own culture of agronomy, their own agriculture.

Through H.R. 2646 we have the opportunity to preserve this agriculture. We have lost many farmers over the past 5 years. However, we now are given the chance to save our local farmers and the industries that depend on a strong agricultural economy. By decreasing commodity programs through conservation policy, we sacrifice the farmers, as well as the mills, the seed and fertilizer suppliers, the crop aviators, the mechanics, and the thousands of other men and women directly affected by the health of our agricultural industry.

I am a strong proponent of increased conservation programs. However, I cannot support these programs at the expense of our nation's farmers. We can, and should, find other vehicles to sustain our nation's environment. Increased conservation programs in H.R. 2646 provide a good beginning. Other policy initiatives, such as the Conservation And Reinvestment Act (CARA), can provide much needed assistance to preserve habitat and open space without coming out of the pockets of commodity producers and local economies.

Without H.R. 2646, many of our nation's producers will not be able to survive. Without these farmers, many rural economies will not survive. And without a strong local economy, we run the risk of destroying even the culture of rural America. Please don't turn your backs on our nation's farming communities. As a hunter and sportsman I pledge to continue working with my colleagues to promote conservation, but not on this bill.