

October 12, 2001

purpose by deflecting popular frustration with the lack of political freedom or economic development in Egypt. It also explains why so many of Osama bin Laden's recruits are Egyptian.

For years U.S. and other Western governments have been understanding of Mr. Mubarak and other "moderate" Arab leaders. They have to be cautious in helping the United States, it is said, because of the pressures of public opinion—the opinion, that is, that their own policies have been decisive in creating. Though the reasoning is circular, the conclusion has been convenient in sustaining relationships that served U.S. interests, especially during the Cold War. But the Middle East is a region where the already overused notion that Sept. 11 "changed everything" may just turn out to be true. If the United States succeeds in making support or opposition to terrorism and Islamic extremism the defining test of international politics, as President Bush has repeatedly promised, then the straddle that the "moderate" Arabs have practiced for so long could soon become untenable. Much as it has valued its ties with leaders such as Mr. Mubarak, the Bush administration needs to begin preparing for the possibility that, unless they can embrace new policies that offer greater liberty and hope, they will not survive this war.

TRIBUTE TO ABBY HOCHBERG-SHANNON

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 11, 2001

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, colleagues, as the Chairman of the Congressional Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus, most of you have heard me speak on the House floor about children's issues. Today, I want to wish a fond farewell to the member of my staff who has worked so hard on these issues during my years in Congress—Abby Hochberg-Shannon. Abby is leaving her position as my Legislative Director today to work for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

All of us who serve in Congress know how important our staff members are to us. Abby was one of the first people I hired when I came to Congress in 1997. She has a real passion for children's issues, which was so important when two young constituents were tragically abducted during my first term. Abby's hard work was integral to the establishment of the first-ever Congressional Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus. Now the caucus includes over 150 Members of Congress who provide a loud and unified voice as advocates for missing children.

Now Abby is going to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. I am proud that she will be continuing her work on these issues with such an outstanding organization. Although she will be sorely missed, I don't feel like I am losing a staff member. I know that I and other members of the Caucus will continue to work with Abby Hochberg-Shannon and the National Center on this issue so we can "bring our missing children home".

Thank you Abby for 5 years of dedicated work. The Hill will miss you.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO PROCTER AND GAMBLE

HON. DON SHERWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 11, 2001

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to Procter & Gamble and the 2,500 working men and women at the P&G paper products plant in Mehoopany, Pennsylvania, as they celebrate the plant's 35th anniversary on October 17 and 18.

The Mehoopany plant, which is P&G's largest plant in the world, makes a major contribution to the local, state and national economy. The plant's dedicated employees produce Pampers and Luvs disposable diapers, Bounty paper towels, Bounty napkins and Charmin bathroom tissues. The plant's payroll is over \$130 million annually. P&G contributes over \$200 million a year to the Pennsylvania economy in purchases of materials, freight, supplies and services. Hundreds of additional people are employed to provide those purchases.

Procter & Gamble is making an investment of \$350 million to add two new paper-making machines and converting equipment. The Mehoopany site was chosen by P&G for expansion as the most attractive option in meeting their economic, distribution and infrastructure needs.

I am pleased to say that the Mehoopany facility continues to be recognized not only as a business leader, but also for its environmental and safety records. The plant has won two Governor awards for environmental excellence and four safety awards from the American Forestry and Paper Association over the past five years.

P&G's Mehoopany plant not only fills the needs of millions of American consumers, but goes beyond U.S. borders by exporting more than \$150 million worth of tissues, towels, napkins and diapers to Canada, Europe and Latin America each year.

I clearly remember when the Mehoopany Plant began operations in 1966. I was just leaving the military and returning to Wyoming County to start my career. Since that time, I have seen the creation of several thousand good paying and stable jobs in Pennsylvania's 10th Congressional District. The plant draws its work force from six northeastern Pennsylvania counties. The continued success of the Mehoopany plant is due to the dedication and commitment of the men and women who work there.

Our nation's economic prosperity depends on companies like Procter & Gamble which are willing to invest in the future of our nation and in the men and women who have done such an outstanding job in producing the high quality products that consumers both domestically and internationally want and need. Congratulations to Procter & Gamble and to its employees on the 35th anniversary of the Mehoopany plant.

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IMPROVING TEACHER QUALITY

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 11, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I had planned to offer an amendment to strengthen teacher quality. However, I withdraw this amendment out of respect for the hard work of Chairman YOUNG, Chairman REGULA, and Ranking Member OBEY in crafting a strong, bipartisan bill.

Mr. Speaker, before I withdraw my amendment, I want to address the importance of training not only our teachers, but our substitutes as well.

Substitute teachers are critical to our children's education, yet less than 15 percent of them participate in any type of professional development. On average, students will spend the equivalent of 1 full year with a substitute teacher before high school graduation. America's substitutes have become an integral part of our teacher workforce, yet in all but 1 State, substitutes need no teaching certification, and in 28 States principals may hire anyone with a high school diploma or a GED who is over 17. In addition, over half of the school districts in this country do not require face-to-face interviews or reference checks for potential substitutes, and almost one-third of districts do not conduct background checks. Moreover, many substitutes want to become full-time teachers. But without training, few pursue this ambition.

Most substitutes cite a lack of discipline among students as one of the most significant reasons they leave the profession. It is no surprise that they are unable to maintain discipline when they have not been trained in basic classroom management. With skills and content training, substitutes would be more inclined to stay and to take on full-time teaching responsibilities.

In the spring, I conducted a survey of all the public schools in my congressional district. Among the many issues revealed, these surveys illuminated the great shortage of qualified substitutes and the desire for more professional development programs for teachers and principals in Rhode Island. These problems are not unique to Rhode Island. They exist nationwide and are likely to be exacerbated in the coming decade as growing levels of teacher attrition and retirement and increased school enrollment combine to create a massive teacher shortage. Indeed, the National Center for Education Statistics estimates that we will need 2.4 million additional teachers over the next 11 years.

Encouraging States and local educational agencies to include substitute training in a comprehensive teacher quality program will improve the work of substitutes, the ability of teachers to attend professional development programs, and ultimately will improve education for our children.

I urge my colleagues to work with me to find innovative ways to help our substitutes as well as our full-time teachers be better prepared for our classrooms and better teachers for our children.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully withdraw my amendment.