

consistent with a normal passenger would be, and they will be motivated for airline safety. Pay them what they need to have. Get them there today.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot wait until our law is passed, until it is conferenced, until it is signed, until it is enacted. Mr. Speaker, we, in the Federal Government before Monday morning comes, before we fly on Veterans' Day, we must have better airline safety. I call on all of us to act and act immediately to bring the kind of safety to our airports that we can bring only by replacing these proven criminal corporations and getting their questionable employees off the system, off the payroll and bringing in loyal Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for this to be enacted and enacted before our great holiday.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACK VICTIMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, today the Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection had a hearing where we listened to the new chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, Mr. Tim Muris, and we talked about a lot of issues that are under his control. On the previous day, we had a hearing of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations in which the chairman did an excellent job dealing with questions of the charities that have been created as a result of the September 11 catastrophe.

The outpouring of support from Americans is truly magnanimous since this tragedy. But we have to be sure that the contributions that are made expressly for the purpose of aiding fellow Americans in the wake of these attacks are used for the right purpose. In my home State we had Hurricane Andrew, which was a major catastrophe, a calamity; and we had the same type of outpouring of contributions that were given to help the victims of that hurricane, and, likewise, since September 11 we have had the same thing occur here in this country.

Americans regularly give to charities. A recent study in the Washington Times indicates that the average household gives about \$1,600 or 3.2 percent of their income to charities. In addition, about \$1 billion has been donated for relief efforts. The outpouring of donations since the attack provides further evidence of the desire and instinct of Americans to help their fellow man.

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That is a given.

But, Mr. Speaker, the problem is a lot of these charities are keeping these

monies, they are not distributing it, and there are roughly 50,000 people that are unemployed up in New York because of the September 11 calamity. And with the 5,000 people killed, there are roughly 7,000 children without parents. So we need these charities to step forward and to go ahead and distribute this money as quickly as possible.

Earlier this year, and recognizing the vital roles of charity, especially charitable foundations, I introduced legislation to abolish an antiquated excise tax that not-for-profit foundations pay on their net investment income. I am hopeful my colleagues will support this and it will be part of the stimulus package, because if we do not have this antiquated excise tax on the not-for-profit foundations, they will have more money to distribute.

As I mentioned earlier, Mr. Speaker, Americans are very generous in their donations, and yet we hear stories of people saying they went to ground zero and went to the various charitable organizations and lo and behold they could not get money. A few did, but for the most part they got very little money. So I am here this afternoon to encourage the charities to distribute the money and realize that in the end the money that they collected is for those 50,000 people unemployed who cannot make mortgages and those roughly 7,000 children that are without fathers and mothers.

Let me conclude by saying that the FTC, in the hearing we had today, indicated in testimony that their findings are that fraud cases are few and far between. So while there has been some talk about these charitable organizations as scam activities, from what the FTC chairman has seen, these frauds are few and far between. And I am heartened and pleased to hear the agency is aggressively monitoring and investigating any attempts of fraud within charities to take advantage of the September 11 occurrence.

We need to highlight here in the House and the Senate how important it is that we show confidence in these charities, but at the same time the charities need to show and demonstrate that they are helping by distributing the money.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Mr. Monohan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate disagreed to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 1447) "An Act to improve aviation security, and for other purposes," agrees to a conference asked by the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BREAU, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. BURNS, Mr. LOTT, Mrs.

HUTCHISON, and Ms. SNOWE, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

RADIO FREE AFGHANISTAN WILL HELP WIN HEARTS AND MINDS OF YOUNG AFGHANS

(Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I am here to applaud this Chamber for passing the Radio Free Afghanistan bill, because the battle we are in right now is not just to win this war militarily, but we have to win the hearts and minds of those young boys and girls playing out in the street or playing in the dirt and thinking about what are they going to be when they grow up.

We cannot have them saying they want to grow up to be a bin Laden; that they want to grow up to be a terrorist. We need to have them thinking about wanting to grow up to be a farmer, to be a teacher, to be a truck driver, a doctor, and get the ideas in their head of the freedom that we enjoy here and have them yearning for that freedom.

So this is a country that has spread our way of life and our philosophy throughout many parts of the world. We need to make sure they in Afghanistan know that we hold out our hearts and prayers to them; that there is a better life waiting for them. We need to inspire their young, and all the people of Afghanistan, for the future.

FAST TRACK AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DAN MILLER of Florida). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, the League of Conservation Voters circulated a letter urging Members to oppose the Presidential trade negotiating authority known as Fast Track, or trade promotion authority. League of Conservation Voters warned it would consider including the trade bill on its annual scorecard.

The league has stated Fast Track would threaten hard-won environmental and public health laws and regulations. The bill would do nothing, nothing, to prevent countries from lowering their environmental standards to gain unfair economic and trade advantages over Western democracies.

Environmental provisions must be included, Mr. Speaker, in the core text of these trade agreements. Though Fast Track supporters have repeatedly refused, these provisions must be enforced by sanctions. Simply look at how environmental and labor standards evolved in the United States. Creation of these standards did not come about