

said France, an attorney for the National Wildlife Federation in Missoula.

Loggers and environmentalists have been able to look at specific pieces of land and agree upon "appropriate timber harvest" that "lays lightly on the land," he said. "It works best when we are discussing specific tracts of land in our own, local area."

"Let's start talking about salvage logging in burned areas and restoration projects in the urban-wildland interface," said Anne Dahl of the Swan Ecosystem Center. "We are very capable of making good decisions as a community."

"We need to start over and practice sustainable forestry on the millions and millions of acres of forest land that we already roaded and developed," said Steve Thompson, a Whitefish consultant, writer and environmental activist.

Don't get distracted, Thompson advised, by focusing your energy on a repeal of President Clinton's roadless initiative—the last administration's controversial ban on road building and logging on 58 million acres of undeveloped national forest land.

"Many of the forest issues that we face are very polarized, very difficult," France said. "They are not easily resolved by even powerful congressmen in Washington, D.C. I encourage you to focus on the places where we can actually make progress on the ground."

Loggers—who sat with Rehberg on another of the roundtable panels—emphasized that there will be no consensus unless the discussion and decisions are local.

"To manage our national forests from an office back East is unacceptable," said Liles, who works at Smurfit-Stone Container Corp.'s Frenchtown linerboard plant. "The national folks don't have to experience the economic devastation their policies cause. They don't know us or our geography. We have very good people right here in Missoula, Montana, in the Forest Service. We need to allow them to do their jobs."

Hurst told Rehberg that federal land management policies have bankrupted his community and broken its spirit. "Eureka, Montana, is going broke," he said. Earlier this month, he laid off 40 percent of his employees.

Local management works, Hurst said. "Look at Alberta, the most prosperous piece of real estate in North America. Why is that? Why is Alberta so prosperous when Montana is the Appalachian West? The key there is the province has all the control over the natural resources. The local people have control."

Sherm Anderson, who owns Sun Mountain Logging Co., told Rehberg he could help by educating people back East about forests and how they live and grow and die. "If I were king and could change one thing, it would be the perception that our forests—if we don't touch them—will stay the same forever," he said.

"You can't legislate perception," Rehberg said.

"But if people could understand how a forest operates," Anderson said, "maybe we could get some intelligence back into our national forest management."

Forest Service officials were not invited to participate in any of the day's roundtable talks, but several sat in the audience of more than 100 people who crowded around Rehberg and the panelists to listen. And Maggie Pittman, a spokeswoman for the agency's Northern Region office in Missoula, asked Rehberg to include agency officials next time around.

"We are thrilled that Denny Rehberg is holding this forum," Pittman said later.

"It's a wonderful way for Denny and his staff to get up to speed fairly quickly. We would have enjoyed a place at that table today. There are some misperceptions that we would like to talk about, but also we consider ourselves a key part of the conversation."

"Public land managers need to be part of the discussion about public land management."

TESTIMONY OF KIM LILES

Representative Rehberg, ladies and gentlemen. I am happy to be here with you today, to have an opportunity to express my concerns and that of my co-workers regarding our ability to continue to earn a living in the natural resource based industries.

I am a member of The Pulp and Paperworkers' Resource Council, a grassroots organization representing over 350,000 workers in the pulp and paper, solid wood manufacturing and related industries. I am also employed by Smurfit-Stone Container and I am a member of Hellgate Local 8-0885 PACE International Union.

First of all let me say that I am an environmentalist like I hope everyone in this room is. I share everyone's concern for the health and conservation of our natural resources, our environment and the beauty of our state. I hope that just because I am employed in the timber industry, people don't assume I want to destroy the environment, or degrade our environmental controls. I most certainly do not and neither do those I work with and for. We all enjoy this great state and most of us are outdoorsmen, Hunters, campers, mountain bikers, snowmobilers and fishermen. We have a vested interest in being good stewards of the land as much as anyone else.

Today, America has 630 wilderness areas encompassing 102 million acres of land under federal control. The National Forest System with 155 national forests, encompassing 200 million acres of land, has in the past been guided by the concept of multiple use for sustained yield—a policy of wise conservation. These uses have always included managed timber harvesting, recreation of all sorts, including skiing, fishing, hunting, camping, snowmobiling and others. These forests have also at the same time been managed for wildlife and the environment.

I as well as my co-workers and others involved in natural resource based industries are deeply concerned with the management of our public lands. To manage our National Forests and public lands from an office back east, by the stroke of a pen is unacceptable. These people do not have to live with outcome of their actions. We can be better served by people here locally and on the State level. They are in touch with the needs of the area and have the know how, ability and a vested interest in being good Stewards of the land as well.

Whether we want to admit it or not this is about jobs, it's about economies, families and communities. How many school closures, plant shutdowns, and economically devastated families and communities are we going to have to endure before we come to the realization that in order to sustain an economy, you have to produce a value added product somewhere in the equation. You cannot sustain an economy with service-based jobs, tourism nor education, it doesn't work. You cannot support a family on a \$6.00 an hour job either.

Montana used to be about 7th in the nation in average per capita income. Today we are now 50th in that category. We are however #1 in one area, that being heads of households

holding two jobs to support their families, a very sad commentary.

In Montana since 1989, over 17 mills have been shut down, over 2,000 jobs have been eliminated. That is jobs in the timber industry alone, that is not including mining jobs and support industry jobs that have also been eliminated. The cumulative effect of extreme environmental regulations, regulatory rules and a smothering bureaucracy are having and have had a negative impact on our States economy.

I submit to you that we can have both, a vibrant economy utilizing our natural resources, supplying good paying jobs and a healthy and stable environment. We need to find that balance. There is middle ground to be had here. Let common sense be a part of any and all decisions we might make regarding these issues.

I am proud to say I'm a native Montanan and have lived here all of my life. I can only hope my four children can also have that opportunity. I see so many young people leaving our state today to earn a living elsewhere simply because there are no jobs that pay a living wage suitable for raising or sustaining a family. What a sad truth that is.

Again, we need to find the middle ground here. It seems the pendulum has swung too far in one direction, believe me, I do not want to see it go all the way in the other direction. We need to stop it (the pendulum), in the middle. We can do that, and we must do that.

FORTY-THREE BRAVE AMERICAN SOLDIERS

HON. JIM TURNER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, history almost forgot forty-three American soldiers who were involved in one of the hottest firefights of the Cold War. The morning after Thanksgiving in 1984, the soldiers monitoring the demilitarized zone on the North Korean border saw their North Korean counterparts race across the border towards them, in hot pursuit after a fleeing Soviet defector. What followed for almost an hour was a gunfight between the forty three American soldiers, their South Korean allies, and dozens of attacking North Koreans. In the exchange of fire, an American soldier was injured, one South Korean was killed, and at least two North Koreans were killed and another two wounded.

The forty-three American soldiers faced the danger of combat, protecting our liberty and our commitment to democracy. But for years, they were never recognized with the Combat Infantryman's Badge—a mark of honor and distinction reserved for those American soldiers who faced enemy fire and survived.

Finally, after seventeen years, these brave men will receive the recognition they deserve. The reasons for the delay—bureaucratic politics and inconsistent regulations—might just as well be forgotten by history. But we must never let these men, their courage, their sacrifice, and their honor, be relegated to the status of a footnote in the history books.

Our nation has always had its heroes. From the great revolutionaries like Patrick Henry and George Washington to the pioneers like

Daniel Boone and Davy Crockett, we have always looked to those who risked themselves for a greater purpose. Some of our heroes left their mark with a flourish, and some carried out their role with only silent dignity, yet we have always respected them with our gratitude and our honor.

The Combat Infantryman's Badge is a simple piece of cloth; a musket bordered by a wreath on a pale blue background. But the risk, sacrifice, and indeed, heroism that it represents is real.

To these forty-three brave American soldiers, we owe a great debt. Decades may have passed since that November morning they stood tall and protected us, but the memory shall not fade. History will never forget their courage.

GETTING OUR GIRLS READY FOR
THE 21ST CENTURY ACT (GO GIRL!)

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, what's wrong with this picture? Females make up slightly more than 50 percent of this country's population, yet, less than 30 percent of America's scientists are women. Even fewer engineers are women—less than 10 percent!

In 1994 there were 209 tenured faculty at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology—and 15 of them were women!

Of course, these figures aren't surprising when you learn that in 1985 women earned less than thirty percent of the bachelor degrees in the physical sciences, and, less than ten percent of the bachelor degrees in engineering.

You don't even want to hear the percentage of PhD's in science and math-based fields that are earned by women. Just to give you an example, about eight percent of the PhDs in physics in 1988 were awarded to women.

My colleagues may be asking themselves, "So what . . . is this some national problem?"

Yes—this is a big problem. A big problem for employers; a big problem for women as future wage earners; and a big problem for our nation as we compete in the global marketplace.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that between 1994 and 2005, the number of women in the labor force will be growing twice as quickly as men.

A recent study of school-to-work projects found ninety percent of the girls clustered in five traditionally female occupations. My colleagues do not need me to tell them that careers in traditionally female occupations pay far less than careers in science, math, and technology. For example, a data analyst can expect to make \$45,000 a year while a licensed practical nurse makes less than \$25,000 a year. And a kindergarten teacher makes only \$18,044 a year.

In addition, the National Science Foundation reports that the jobs facing workers will require higher skill levels in science, math, and technology than ever before.

The NSF report is verified by a letter I recently received from the American Electronics Association. They wrote to tell me that today the hi-tech industry is facing a critical shortage of skilled workers. And, the future looks even worse. A recent AEA report showed that the number of degrees in computer science, engineering, mathematics and physics have actually declined since 1990.

Quite clearly, there is no way that America can have a technically competent workforce if the majority of students—females—continue not to study science, math and technology.

That is why today I am introducing a bill to help school districts encourage girls to pursue careers in science, math, and technology.

Although my bill is formally titled "Getting Our Girls Ready for the 21st Century Act" it will be known as "Go Girl!"

"Go Girl" will create a bold new workforce of energized young women in science, math and technology.

"Go Girl" is modeled on the Trio program, which has successfully encouraged two million low income students, whose parents never attended college, to attend and graduate from college. Similarly, the lack of female role models hamper female interest in studying science, math, and technology.

Girls, and their parents, first, must be able to envision a career in these fields for themselves and their daughters. Then, they need practical advice on what to study and how to achieve the necessary academic requirements.

"Go Girl" follows girls from the fourth grade, the grade in which girls typically begin to fall behind boys in math and science, through high school.

To encourage girls' interest in math, science and technology in the early grades, girls will participate in events and activities that increase their awareness of careers in these fields, and they will meet female role models.

Older girls will visit college campuses and meet with students and professors in these fields.

"Go Girl" participants benefit from tutoring and mentoring, including programs using the internet, such as the "design your future program" started by Carol Bartz, the president of Autodesk Software Company.

American school girls are close to fifty percent of America's future workforce. If they turn away from careers in science, math, and technology, we will be short changing our employers and our young women.

I hope that my colleagues will join me in sending a new message to our girls in school—a message that says, "you go, girl" to a career in science, mathematics and technology.

WAGE AND LABOR RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE AMERICAN TERRITORIES

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak against the on-

going wage and labor rights violations in factories operating in some of our American territories, and I ask that my colleagues join me in creating reforms that will finally ensure that all workplaces that operate under the American flag do so in compliance with federal law. I have been involved for a number of years in an effort to reduce the well-documented exploitation of temporary foreign workers, particularly Asian women, in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (US/CNMI). In the past few months, I have been troubled to learn that the practice of exploiting temporary workers has now spread to American Samoa.

According to a recent Department of Labor investigation, the Daewoosa factory in the American Samoa employed 251 Vietnamese "guest workers"—more than 90 percent of them women—for nearly two years under conditions of indentured servitude. These workers took on a debt of up to \$8,000 dollars each in order to qualify for what they believed would be good jobs in America, but instead they were constantly paid less than the Samoan minimum wage of only \$2.60 per hour. Sometimes the workers of the Daewoosa factory were not paid at all. Many workers also faced verbal, physical and sexual abuse, including a severe beating that caused one young woman to lose an eye. As a result of these violations, Daewoosa owner Kil Soo Lee now faces charges of forced labor in federal court.

While I applaud the Federal Government for prosecuting this particular violator of labor laws, I believe we must take steps to ensure that these injustices never happen again. I urge my colleagues to read the following article from the Honolulu Star-Bulletin and consider whether they would ever tolerate such conditions and exploitation in their own districts. I also invite my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring legislation to bring all of the U.S. territories into compliance with the federal laws that protect workers throughout the United States.

[From the Honolulu Star-Bulletin, Mar. 31, 2001]

HAWAII SHOULD LEAD FIGHT TO END ABUSE OF WORKERS IN U.S. TERRITORIES

The issue: Allegations that Asian workers were forced to work at an American Samoan garment sweatshop under inhuman conditions have resulted in federal charges here.

Human rights and labor abuses uncovered on the Northern Marianas island of Saipan three years ago embarrassed U.S. garment manufacturers, resulting in lawsuits and federal legislation targeted for the islands north of Guam. Sweatshop conditions as bad if not worse in American Samoa have prompted criminal charges in federal court.

The two cases suggest that U.S. territories in the Pacific have been vulnerable to such abuses far more than had been assumed. Reform legislation that failed in the last Congress should be rejuvenated and broadened to include all U.S. possessions.

About 14,000 workers, mostly young women, from China, the Philippines, Bangladesh and Thailand were lured by promises of good wages to pay fees of up to \$10,000 to enter the labor force in the Northern Marianas. In 1998, federal lawsuits accused 32 contractors on Saipan of beatings, forced abortions and rat-infested quarters in essentially a prison environment surrounded by barbed-wire and armed guards.