

May 17, 2001

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on May 22nd, President Chen Shui-bian of the Republic of China will be completing his first year of service as Taiwan's head of state, and I would like to take this occasion to congratulate him and comment on a few of Taiwan's achievements.

For the last two decades, the republic of China on Taiwan has been a major trading partner of the United States. It has maintained friendly ties and relations with us for the last ninety years. Taiwan is one of the most successful models of rapid political reform in the entire world. Fifty years ago, Taiwan was a closed authoritarian society with no freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, or right to vote. Today, Taiwan is a full-fledged democracy. It is home to more than 90 political parties. Virtually every political office in Taiwan is hotly contested through free and fair elections.

Taiwan believes in free-market economics. Taiwan's economics. Taiwan's economy is so strong that it offers its people one of the highest standards of living in Asia, universal education, and free medical care for people of all ages. With respect to U.S.-Taiwan trade, Taiwan is our seventh largest export market, supporting many jobs for U.S. manufacturers. In addition, U.S. colleges and universities host more than 10,000 Taiwan students. The U.S. is the number one destination for most of Taiwan travelers. Lastly, Taiwan and the United States share many common values such as a respect for human rights, freedom of speech, and democracy.

I would like to offer my congratulations to President Chen and the people of Taiwan. I also would like to welcome President Chen as he transits New York on his way to Central America. Although his stay in New York will be brief, his visit is of tremendous importance to all of us Americans who recognize and value what a great, longstanding friend Taiwan has been to the United States.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2002 AND 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1646) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 2002 and 2003, and for other purposes:

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to voice my reasons for voting against final passage of H.R. 1646, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act. I wish for my colleagues and constituents to know the reasons for my action.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

There were many good provisions in H.R. 1646 that I am glad were in the final bill that the House passed. I support the sale of *Kidd* class destroyers to Taiwan. I support the call for moving the United States Embassy in Israel to the capital of Israel, Jerusalem. I also voted for several amendments that made H.R. 1646 a better bill. I joined my colleagues in voting for Mr. DELAY's amendment to protect United States servicemen from the clutches of the United Nation's new international Criminal Court. America's service men and women serve our nation under our Constitution, not international bureaucrats under a foreign flag. I am pleased that this House voted to pass the amendment of the distinguished gentleman from California, Mr. LANTOS, prohibiting United States military aid to Lebanon until they step up their efforts to stop terrorist attacks against Israel. I am particularly pleased that the Hyde Amendment restoring the Mexico City policy was added to the final bill.

Despite these improvements, I could not vote for final passage of this bill for two reasons. The first reason is the failure of this House to pass the amendment of my friend and colleague from Colorado, Mr. TANCREDO. I cannot support a bill that authorizes \$118 million for rejoining the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). UNESCO is a profoundly anti-western, anti-American organization. President Ronald Reagan was correct in withdrawing the United States from this group, and I will not vote to send my constituents' tax dollars to an unelected intelligentsia who hate this country.

The second reason I voted against this bill is because of language urging United States acceptance of the Kyoto treaty on the environment. There is no way I could vote for this bill with the language intact. This provision is unsound constitutionally and economically. The Kyoto language is unsound constitutionally because the other body has refused to ratify this treaty. The Constitution specifically reserves the treaty ratification power to the Senate. This house has no place urging the President to enforce a treaty that our country is not bound by. We have very strict laws restricting air and water pollution. If the House of Representatives thinks these laws aren't strict enough, which I do not believe, then the House should pass a bill changing those laws. International negotiations are not the way the Founding Fathers intended for our environmental laws to be changed.

More importantly, Mr. Chairman, the Kyoto treaty is monumentally flawed. If ratified it would require the United States and other developed countries to reduce their emission of so-called "greenhouse gasses" at least 7% below 1990 levels by 2010. At the same time developing countries, such as China, Brazil, and India, were exempted from the greenhouse requirements.

If implemented, the Kyoto treaty would have driven manufacturing industries entirely out of the United States. The United States already has strict Clean Air laws. Requiring a 7% decline in emissions for every industry would impose enormous costs on manufacturers and has not been scientifically proven to prevent global warming. If given the opportunity to choose between a country with these strict laws and a nation that was not bound to re-

duce emissions, I am of no doubt as to which country that firm will move to.

In addition to driving industry off-shore, full implementation of the Kyoto treaty would require increases in gasoline and electricity prices of up to 50%, and an estimated job loss of 2.4 million, according to one study. Mr. Chairman, the Clinton Administration did not sign a treaty at Kyoto, they signed a death sentence for the American economy. President Bush sensibly announced on March 28 that the United States would not take steps to implement the Kyoto treaty. I could not join this House in urging our President to destroy the American economy, and voted against H.R. 1646.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote numbers 109, 110, 111, 112 and 113 on May 15, 2001 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all five votes.

ROC PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN'S
FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE

HON. J. D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, a year ago, Mr. Chen Shui-bian assumed the presidency of the Republic of China on Taiwan. Today I would like to join my colleagues and the people of Taiwan in wishing President Chen a happy one year anniversary in office. Also, a warm welcome to President Chen and his party as they transit through New York later this month. After a brief stop in New York, they will journey to Central America.

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan has a dynamic economy that is the envy of much of the world. Taiwan is now the world's 17th largest economy and holds \$100 billion in foreign exchange reserves. The United States is a major trading partner of Taiwan.

Politically, Taiwan is one of the freest nations. It has a democratically elected head of state and holds free elections at all levels. People enjoy full human rights and press freedom.

By any measurable standard, Taiwan is an economic powerhouse and a beacon of democracy. Mr. Speaker, I salute President Chen and his people on the occasion of Mr. Chen's first year in office.

HONORING FATHER AMOS
WISCHMEYER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has dedicated more