

THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT

HON. WALTER B. JONESOF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Thursday, February 12, 1998*

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today with one simple question for the FCC.

Where is the telecommunications competition that Congress promised the American people two years ago?

Did the dog eat it? Is it in the mail?

Congress spend years crafting a well-balanced compromise that became the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

It needed only a light touch from regulators to steer it to a safe harbor, bringing much-needed competition to cable, long distance and local markets.

Instead, the Washington bureaucrats churned out unnecessary and unintended regulations.

These regulations, subsequent court cases and the steadfast quarantine of the Baby Bells has actually delayed competition by creating confusion and uncertainty.

Congress' intention was to simplify this industry. Unfortunately, this commonsense philosophy seems lost on the FCC.

So, Mr. Speaker, I renew my question for the FCC.

Where is the competition that Congress promised the American people?

Did the dog eat it? Is it in the mail?

Or has the FCC frittered it away with detail?

TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT
ANNIVERSARY**HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR**OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Thursday, February 12, 1998*

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. It would give me great pleasure to be able to stand before the American people today and cheer the second anniversary of the signing of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Unfortunately, there is nothing to cheer about. The sound that American consumers hear is the sound of a busy signal.

In the two years since the Telecommunications Act was signed into law, the American people have been promised a new era of competition and lower phone rates. Well ladies and gentlemen, the American people are still on hold.

Instead of receiving lower phone rates, they have received thousands of pages of new regulations and they have witnessed jurisdictional squabbles and federal court appeals. They have gotten the stingy judgment of regulators and bureaucrats instead of the prosperous judgment of the marketplace. This is not what Congress intended when we passed this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, on this important anniversary, I call on the Federal Communications Commission to loosen the shackles on telecommunications competition.

It is time for the Federal Communications Commission to trade in its approach of confrontation and punishment, for one that celebrates cooperation and competition.

Let us unleash the markets and allow hard-working, tax-paying American people to re-

ceive the benefits of the new era of competition they were promised by Congress and the President.

Come on FCC, drop a dime and reach out and touch the American people.

CALLING FOR U.S. SUPPORT FOR
TAIWAN'S REPRESENTATION IN
THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION**HON. SHERROD BROWN**OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Thursday, February 12, 1998*

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution calling for Taiwan's representation in the World Health Organization (WHO) and U.S. support for such a bid. As the ranking member on the House Subcommittee on Health and Environment, I am pleased that several of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle have joined me in this important endeavor, for health knows no boundaries and this issue is one that should unite rather than divide us.

Sick children feel the same pain and shed the same tears, whether they live in Taipei, Los Angeles, Milan, or Nairobi. The stated and noble aim of the WHO is to help achieve the highest possible level of health for all peoples, but the 21 million people of Taiwan are currently barred from accessing the latest medical knowledge and techniques which the WHO could provide. Moreover, Taiwan cannot contribute its own substantial health resources and expertise to furthering the goals of the WHO, as it did prior to 1972.

Quite simply, as increased international trade and travel leads to a greater potential for the cross-border spread of infectious diseases, the case for Taiwan's participation in the WHO grows stronger every day. Taiwan and its children have much to gain from the WHO, as does the WHO from Taiwan. This issue is principally a matter of the basic human right to good health, and I encourage all my colleagues to support this resolution.

IN HONOR OF MELVIN E. KAMEN:
AN INVENTOR OF THE YEAR
NEW JERSEY INVENTORS HALL
OF FAME**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Thursday, February 12, 1998*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding scientist, Mr. Melvin E. Kamen, who will be honored as an "Inventor of the Year" by the New Jersey Inventors Hall of Fame at their 10th Annual Awards Banquet on Thursday, February 12, 1998, at the William Hazell Center at the New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark, NJ.

Mr. Kamen, Chief Research Scientist for Revlon, has been with the company for 28 years. Prior to his association with Revlon, Mr. Kamen was the president and chief chemist of New Jersey-based Kamco Chemical Industries. He is recognized for his work in developing ENVIROGLUV, a revolutionary new glass decorating technology. He holds memberships

in several professional organizations, including the American Institute of Chemists and American Oil Chemist Society, as well as the New York Academy of Science and the Society of Glass and Ceramic Decorators.

Mr. Kamen, a resident of Highlands, NJ, is Senior Vice President of Advanced Technology at the Revlon Research Center in Edison. Mr. Kamen spent 10 years developing and refining the ENVIROGLUV process. This process eliminates any heavy metals, solvents and volatile organic compounds from the glass decorating process. ENVIROGLUV provides both an economic and environmentally sound alternative that is superior to conventional glass decorating methods. This technology is touted as one of the biggest breakthroughs in the glass decorating business in 100 years.

Revlon Technologies is the technology licensing division of Revlon, Inc., a worldwide leader in the development and marketing of cosmetics, skin care, fragrance, personal care and professional products. The division's first product is ENVIROGLUV which uses patented and proprietary inks in a glass decorating technology based on ultraviolet light rather than old-fashion heat curing ovens. The process offers superior color, greater speed and flexibility, reduced manufacturing costs and environmental benefits.

It is an honor to recognize Mr. Melvin E. Kamen for his outstanding accomplishments. I am certain that my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to this remarkable gentleman.

DAYCARE FAIRNESS FOR STAY-
AT-HOME PARENTS

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK R. WOLFOF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Wednesday, February 11, 1998*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 202, the Equitable Child Care Resolution. There's been a lot of talk about child care over the last few months, and I think that's good. It's good that we're talking about this subject. But my question is, is it fair and right to give tax credits only to those parents who use paid day care for their children? What about those who have made the decision to either be home with their kids, or who have their relatives caring for their children?

There are a lot of different child care proposals on the table right now, and there will probably be more to come. The administration has laid out its child care proposal. But there is something that all of these proposals have in common: They are all trying to help families, but only those families who use commercial day care. But what I would like to see is fairness for the families who don't fall under that category.

The fact is, at-home care of children is not just a thing of the past in some "Leave It To Beaver" world. The majority of families with preschool-aged kids are either caring for the children themselves or are having relatives take care of the kids. Some of these parents are working part-time, or working in "tag-team" shifts so they can both have time with their kids and avoid having to pay for someone else to care for them. Some of them have grandma or grandpa taking care of their children, or an aunt or uncle.

According to the most recent information that we have from the Census Bureau, only about a third of children under the age of 5 are in some form of paid day care while the mother works outside the home. Is it really fair to only give tax relief to that one-third of American families? What can we do to help the other two-thirds of families? Let's not forget about them.

The American family is under great financial pressure today. And a lot of that pressure is due to the burden of taxes. Who is being hit the hardest? Families with children. These last 50 years have meant a huge increase in the tax burden being placed on these Americans. In 1948, for example, a mom and dad with four kids only paid a mere 3 percent of their family income to the federal government in direct taxes. But last year, that figure had jumped dramatically. In fact, that same family had to pay almost a quarter of its income to Uncle Sam! (When you include state, local and indirect taxes, that 1997 figure leaps to about 38 percent.) This is ridiculous. And something has to be done about it. Why are we penalizing people for getting married and having children? And why, as we talk about child care proposals, are we penalizing those who are sacrificing even more by staying at home or having relatives take care of their kids?

And that's why I stand here to give my support to the Equitable Child Care Resolution, H. Con. Res. 202. I urge my Colleagues to take this step to ensure that all families will be treated fairly as we continue these discussions about day care.

USING SPACE TO ENSURE U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 1998

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, on January 15 of this year, a highly respected defense think-tank, the Center for Security Policy, held a high-level roundtable focusing on the need for American space dominance to promote U.S. national security in the next millennium. Key speakers included former Defense Secretaries Caspar Weinberger and James Schlesinger, who were joined by five retired four-star flag officers and a range of senior military officials and civilian analysts.

There was a general consensus at the conference that President Clinton's recent line-item veto of three Congressionally-sponsored programs to create advanced space technology for U.S. national security—the KEASAT, Clementine 2, and military spaceplane—was misguided, inappropriate, and unacceptable because it put U.S. national security at unnecessary risk.

The roundtable dealt with a range of issues related to space and built its theme around the growing importance that space plays in ensuring U.S. national security. Secretary Weinberger began the discussion by placing space in the broader context of U.S. national security when he noted, "since the first ballistic missile rose from the pads, space has had military uses by ourselves, by others, and by those friendly to us and those not friendly to us." In reference to the Clinton administration's recent

veto, the Secretary went on to argue, "we cannot put the country at risk by deliberate attempts to block us from the use of space or to block any attempts to develop systems that could be helpful to use in space." General Edward "Shy" Meyer, who served as Army Chief of Staff under President Carter noted that our force structure depends on space for key advantages. Admiral Wesley McDonald, former Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, stated, "I can't impress you enough as to how dependent on use of space the Navy is." Retired Air Force General Mike Loh, who led the Air Combat Command, stressed how "very dependent they [the military services] have become on space assets. It is almost frightening when you then turn around and look at how little we have allowed for the protection and the space superiority of those assets. As I look back over the last couple of years, we have become more and more dependent on [space] and we want to become dependent on it because, for those functions, space is a more efficient medium than the way we did it before. It is less costly in the long run, and it is better. I am all for it, provided we can maintain space superiority." In addition, conferees considered matters of procurement and policy, discussing the increasing pace of change in the commercial space markets and the impact that the proliferation of civilian space technologies will have on U.S. national security.

I want to commend the Center for holding the roundtable and encourage my colleagues to review the summary of the Roundtable's proceedings available from the Center for Security Policy at 1250 24th Street, NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20037 and on the Center's home page, "www.security-policy.org."

TITLE X PARENTAL NOTIFICATION ACT OF 1998

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 1998

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, Good morning. I stand before you today to plead the case of a young girl and her parents from Crystal Lake, Illinois, whose lives were changed forever by an intrusive, overbearing federal government.

She was 13 years old when her 37-year-old teacher began having sex with her. A few months into the affair, the teacher—tired of using condoms—brought her to a place where he knew the young girl could get birth control products without anyone finding out: the county health department. This teacher knew that federal Title X rules prohibited clinics from notifying parents when issuing birth control drugs to minors.

When the young girl arrived at the health department, the clinic nurse gave her a shot of a powerful birth control drug that would last three months. This hormonal drug, Depo-Provera, poses severe side effects including excessive bleeding and bone loss. In fact, the ACLU protested its use in chemically castrating male sex offenders in California because of the "cruel and unusual punishment" the side effects constitute to the criminals. But yet, it is safe and appropriate for little girls. And its use is widespread. In Illinois alone, health clinics injected Depo-Provera into the veins of

young girls more than 6,500 times over a two-year period, despite the minimal testing of the drug on adolescents.

The little girl from Crystal Lake received at least two more shots of Depo-Provera from the county health clinic. And her teacher continued molesting her—all behind her parents' backs. The crime was finally uncovered 18 months later when the girl broke down and told her parents. The teacher was arrested and sentenced to 10 years in prison. The young girl spent five days a week in therapy and is recovering from effects of anorexia nervosa.

I told this little girl's story to the United States Congress last year when Congressman ISTOOK and I were trying to attach a parental notification amendment to the Title X program. I spoke of how her pain continued because the federal government had rules in place which shielded the teacher's crime. I spoke of how irate and helpless her parents felt when they learned that the federal government had cut them out of the discussion of their young daughter's sexuality. But in the end, parents lost again. The House's 220-201 vote for a toothless, alternative bill killed the Istook-Manzullo amendment and sent another message that parents are irrelevant in our society.

Shortly after our loss last September, I vowed to continue this battle to bring sanity and parental responsibility to this flawed program. And today, I come before you to announce that I have introduced two free-standing bills to give parents more protection and knowledge when their children seek birth control drugs from federally funded clinics.

The "Title X Parental Notification Act of 1998" would require clinics receiving Title X money to notify parents or legal guardians before providing minors with prescriptive birth control products, including birth control pills, IUDs, Norplant and Depo-Provera. The clinic would have to give actual written notice to parents or guardians at least five days before issuing the drugs to the girls. In addition, the bill would require the clinics to follow any state mandated criminal reporting requirements for signs of child abuse, child molestation, sexual abuse, rape or incest in their clients.

The second bill, known as the "Title X Child Abuse, Rape, Molestation and Incest Reporting Act," deals solely with the provision requiring Title X clinics to follow any state reporting requirements.

Any clinic that violates the provisions in either of the bills would lose its Title X funding.

The general argument for providing young girls with birth control products behind their parents' backs is cloaked in double standards. On one hand, we make laws to protect children from the dangers of drugs, alcohol and tobacco. But then we open them to the dangers of AIDS and other diseases by giving them the tools to have sex. We make laws requiring children to get their parents' permission for an aspirin at school, an earring or a tattoo. But then we give them confidential injections of powerful birth control drugs that carry tremendous side effects. We make laws saying parents are legally responsible for their children's actions until the children become adults. But then we rip parents from the equation when it comes to something as critical and potentially dangerous as sexuality. This doesn't make sense.

In addition to notifying parents, clinic workers must get more vigilant in protecting our