

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HYDRO RELICENSING IN NEED OF REFORM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 26, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Subcommittee on Energy and Power held an oversight hearing on the relicensing process for the Nation's hydroelectric projects. This is an important energy issue. Hydroelectric generation is the third largest source of U.S. electric generation. And it accounts for about 96 percent of U.S. renewable energy generation. While the time remaining in this session will not permit us to address any kind of meaningful reform in the relicensing process, it is clear from yesterday's hearing that this should be a top priority in the 106th Congress.

Currently relicensing applications make up the bulk of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's licensing workload. The Commission's work, in this area, has been hampered by the complex nature of the relicensing process. A number of parties are involved; the gamut of Federal laws governing the process often have very different and contradictory goals; and we also discovered that there are disputes between the authority retained by State resource agencies and the Commission.

The multiple layers involved in the relicensing process has imposed regulatory requirements and costs that threaten to undermine the Nation's hydropower system. New York City greatly benefits from the inexpensive hydropower generated by the Niagara Falls through New York utilities like, the New York Power Authority and Consolidated Edison. Given the need to relicense over 65 percent of the Nation's hydro electric capacity in the next 15 years, we must seriously consider establishing a more reasonable regulatory process.

I would urge my colleagues to make reform of the hydro relicensing process a top priority in the next Congress. We can ill-afford to lose the benefits of our Nation's most reliable and environmentally sound renewable energy source. I look forward to addressing this important energy issue next year.

SOUTH FLORIDA APPRECIATES FEMA'S HELP IN PREPARING FOR HURRICANE GEORGES

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 26, 1998

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, South Florida owes a debt of gratitude to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for its exceptional performance in helping our communities prepare for Hurricane Georges.

In the hours before the hurricane struck, FEMA played a critical role in helping the local counties make preparations for this dangerous

natural phenomenon. At all times, FEMA provided local officials, South Florida Congressional offices, and residents with information about the services it provides before and after the natural disaster.

South Florida was harshly hit by Hurricane Georges, although thankfully, not as severely as many had predicted. Throughout FEMA acted in a professional manner providing the residents of South Florida an opportunity to observe their tax dollars at work.

I extend my appreciation to FEMA director, James Lee Witt, and his staff for their magnificent work in helping my community prepare for this disaster.

WHAT IS A FLAG?

HON. JAY W. JOHNSON

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 26, 1998

Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I would like to enter into the RECORD the following essay by Peter Hagen, a seventh-grade student from Appleton, Wisconsin. Peter's essay is entitled "What is a Flag?," and took first place at the Appleton Flag Day essay contest. His words demonstrate how our flag touches each of us in an emotional, personal way. Peter understands the respect our flag deserves, and it is an honor for me to share his moving essay with the rest of America.

What is a flag?

Some say it's just a piece of cloth. Others may say that it's just fancy toilet paper.

But what does it stand for?

It is a representative of our country, just as much a representative as the President. Our country is a large number of citizens united under the government, the values of this country, and the flag. This country was formed and received its values and freedoms through the individual sacrifices of many different men and women. Some may have given their sacrifice through the system of indentured servants. Some may have come as penniless immigrants, coming to look for a better life. Some have even given their lives in defense of this country and what it stands for.

Yes, but what does this all tell me about my flag?

Our flag is the same flag that Francis Scott Key wrote about in his famous anthem. Our flag is the same flag that Betsy Ross gave so much time and effort to make. Our flag is the same flag that has crossed oceans and deserts, mountains and plains, country after country, making sure that the oppressed are freed.

This is what the flag means to me.

TRIBUTE TO SWADESH CHATTERJEE

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 26, 1998

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my congratulations to a respected citizen of my district and a national leader of the Indian-American community, Swadesh Chatterjee, on his election to the presidency of one of the oldest and best-known Indian-American organizations in the nation, the Indian American Forum for Political Education. A recent gathering of more than 500 members of IAFPE unanimously elected Mr. Chatterjee. There could be no stronger advocate for the American-Indian community nor a more adept leader than Swadesh Chatterjee to guide the IAFPE into the next century, and we are proud that he calls North Carolina home.

Since his immigration to America from Calcutta, India in 1980, Swadesh Chatterjee has been a leader in North Carolina's business community. Swadesh began as the plant manager of Brandt Instruments, a manufacturer of process control instrumentation located in the Raleigh-Durham area. He was quickly promoted to Executive Vice President, then to the position of President, where he has served for the past five years. Under his guidance, Brandt Instruments's operating profits have grown 170% in the last three years.

Swadesh Chatterjee has been an important leader of the growing Indian-American community in North Carolina. This community is noteworthy for the many accomplished professionals and business people it contains, for its strong emphasis on education, family life, and the preservation of cultural traditions, and for its contributions to the wider community. Swadesh Chatterjee is proud of this community, as they are of him, and we are all delighted that his leadership will now be extended nationwide. I am honored to represent Swadesh Chatterjee and his family and to know him as a friend, and I am pleased to commend his leadership and his achievements before my colleagues in the House today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 26, 1998

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, during the week of September 21, 1998, I was absent due to an illness in my family. I received an official leave of absence from the Majority Leader in this regard.

However, had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner on the following legislation:

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1998

H. Res. 545—impeaching Kenneth W. Starr, an independent counsel of the United States appointed pursuant to 28 United States Code section 593(b), of high crimes and misdemeanors, motion to table the measure (Roll Call No. 453): AYE.

H. Res. 144—to express support for the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition (Roll Call No. 454): AYE.

H. Res. 505—expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to the importance of diplomatic relations with the Pacific Island nations (Roll Call No. 455): AYE.

H. Con. Res. 315—expressing the sense of the Congress condemning the atrocities by Serbian police and military forces against Albanians in Kosovo and urging that blocked assets of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbian and Montenegro) under control of the United States and other governments be used to compensate the Albanians in Kosovo for losses suffered through Serbian police and military action (Roll Call No. 456): AYE.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1998

H.R. 4112—making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes (Roll Call No. 457): AYE.

H.R. 3616—to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1999 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 1999, and for other purposes (Roll Call No. 458): AYE.

H.R. 3736—to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to make changes relating to H-1B nonimmigrants:

On agreeing to the Watt (NC) amendment (Roll Call No. 459): NAY

On final passage (Roll Call No. 460): AYE.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1998:

H. Res. 552—providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4578) to amend the Social Security Act to establish the Protect Social Security Account into which the Secretary of the Treasury shall deposit budget surpluses until a reform measure is enacted to ensure the long-term solvency of the OASDI trust funds, and for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4579) to provide tax relief for individuals, families, and farming and other small businesses, to provide tax incentives for education, to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes:

On ordering the previous question (Roll Call No. 461): AYE.

On agreeing to the resolution (Roll Call No. 462): AYE.

H.R. 4578—to amend the Social Security Act to establish the Protect Social Security Account into which the Secretary of the Treasury shall deposit budget surpluses until a reform measure is enacted to ensure the long-term solvency of the OASDI trust funds;

On agreeing to the Rangel amendment (Roll Call No. 463): NAY.

On passage (Roll Call No. 464): AYE.

H. Res. 553—providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2621) to extend trade authorities procedures with respect to reciprocal trade agreements, and for other purposes (Roll Call No. 465): AYE.

H.R. 2621—to extend trade authorities procedures with respect to reciprocal trade agreements, and for other purposes (Roll Call No. 466): AYE.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1998:

On approving the Journal (Roll Call No. 467): AYE.

H.R. 4579—Taxpayer Relier Act of 1998:

On agreeing to the Rangel Amendment (Roll Call No. 468): NAY.

On passage (Roll Call No. 469): AYE.

RECIPROCAL TRADE AGREEMENT AUTHORITIES ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the House's consideration of Fast-Track trade authority today. While I have supported efforts to expand markets for our exports, particularly our agricultural exports, including GATT and the extension of MFN status for China, I cannot vote for this legislation. Over the past five years we have watched hundreds of thousands of jobs from our cities lost across the border of Mexico. I represent a very rural part of Illinois, and the impact this has on small towns is devastating. When a major employer leaves such a community, often times the displaced workers have no where to go for other opportunities. Families are dramatically affected. I have seen the consequences.

The underpinning of this debate defines who we are as a people. Currently in this country we are encouraging a race to the bottom. We have set up a framework where we encourage U.S. companies to find the cheapest wages and least restrictive employment and environmental regulations elsewhere in the world. This Congress should not be undercutting the hardworking men and women that have made this country the envy of the world. The freedom the United States represents more than any other is the ability to work hard and get ahead—an honest day's pay for an honest day's work. We have seen the erosion of this principle, because for too many people it takes more than one job to realize that promise. This is not justice.

As I listen to the debate this afternoon it is all too obvious that the timing of this discussion is aimed at political gains, not economic ones. Members on both sides of this aisle are ready to engage in honest debate about the provisions that can be added to this bill to make it acceptable to all—to make it truly represent free trade. We were ready to do that last fall. But today's vote does not advance this cause. I hope it has not been dealt too severe a blow. I urge my colleagues to vote against this legislation, and for a real debate on these critical issues.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATTLEBORO LIONS CLUB

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 26, 1998

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on October 13, 1998, the Attleboro Lions Club will be celebrating its 75th anniversary. Chartered in 1923, it is the third oldest Lions Club in the State of Massachusetts.

The Attleboro Lions Club has established a long tradition of service to the community.

Throughout its history, and as a result of its many fundraising efforts, the Club has been a significant contributor to Massachusetts Eye Research to aid in its fight to prevent blindness. The Club has also been a long-standing contributor to the Attleboro Scholarship Foundation, which provides funds to Attleboro students who are pursuing higher education. Since 1948, the Attleboro Lions Club has contributed approximately \$104,000 to this worthy cause. Other organizations Attleboro that have received funds from the Club over the last few years include the YMCA, the Literacy Center, the Audubon Society, Balfour Riverwalk Project, the Guide Dog Foundation, the Ten Mile River Watershed Alliance and Big Brothers, Big Sisters. The Club also hosts an annual Christmas party for the blind residents of the Attleboro community.

It will be my great honor to attend a luncheon on October 13 celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Attleboro Lions Club. I hope the members of the club will take great pride in the hard work and spirit of service that has characterized this organization since its inception.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH SNYDER

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 26, 1998

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of Elizabeth Snyder, a long time civic leader who helped pave the way for women to assume positions of leadership in California, who died in Los Angeles on August 26, 1998 of complications related to emphysema. She was 84.

Elizabeth first came to national attention in 1954, when she was elected Chair of the California Democratic Party, becoming the first woman in the United States to be elected chair of a major political party in any state. In a career that spanned more than half a century, Elizabeth worked prominently in the California presidential campaigns of Harry Truman, Adlai Stevenson, and Lyndon Johnson and served as the California Co-Chair of President Jimmy Carter's 1976 Presidential campaign. As one who benefited from Liz's leadership, her advice when I served as Chair of the California Democratic Party and her friendship for many years, I am pleased to call Liz's accomplishments to the attention of my colleagues.

Born on April 8, 1914, in Minnesota of immigrant parents, Elizabeth and her family moved to San Diego in the early 1920's. Following the collapse of her father's business at the outset of the Great Depression, Elizabeth, her mother and two brothers relocated to East Los Angeles where life was, in her words, "lean, precarious and hard." Elizabeth graduated with honors from Garfield High School in 1931. She studied at Los Angeles City College and in 1933, matriculated as a political science major at UCLA, where she went on to become one of the first two doctoral candidates in UCLA's political science department.

In 1939, her mother's failing health required Elizabeth to leave her post-graduate studies to go to work. Elizabeth became a substitute high school teacher in Los Angeles. Already