

into the negotiations of an agreement. This action could potentially have a profound impact, and negative implications on the economic future of all Americans, and all countries involved. What we need is "fair trade."

Mr. Speaker, we were sent here to represent the people of our respective districts—and—to delegate our authority, accountability, and responsibility for trade agreements would be blatantly negligent. The cost of this degree of irresponsibility is too great for companies and hard-working families to bear. The long-term cost is too high, the burden is too great, and the provisions are too unfair. Our country has paid too high a price already for free trade—what we need is "fair trade."

I have remained concerned for some time about the nature of the international trade agreements that our Government negotiates. They have not been fair to, nor appropriate for the American people.

It is for these reasons that I, in fact, opposed both the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The lack of attention to fundamental labor rights, and environmental protections is blatantly irresponsible.

We should be passing trade measures that effectively strengthen the U.S. economy, and well-being of the American people, not those that jeopardize it. There are serious economic, social, environmental and political consequences that must be addressed in any trade agreement. Individual workers' rights, decent standards of living, and environmentally safe working and living conditions are fundamental to any workable trade agreement.

Mr. Speaker, the continuing pattern of de-emphasizing the importance of internationally recognized labor rights in free trade treaties is dooming American workers to constant, unending pressure—to lower wages and benefits—under the guise of improving our Nation's economic competitiveness internationally.

Ignoring environmental protections in trade agreements further leads to a diminished standard of living for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, "Fast Track" is not a right, and the American people must not be held hostage to this "unfair trade agreement process." I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in voting no to "Fast Track." Vote "no" to H.R. 2621.

PROTECT SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 1998

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4578, the Republican plan to preserve 90 percent of the budget surplus for Social Security reform.

In supporting this bill, Republicans demonstrate our commitment to the 44 million people currently receiving Social Security benefits and the 82 million beneficiaries who will retire and begin collecting Social Security three decades from now. This bill sets aside \$1.4 trillion dollars for Social Security—funds that will be used to strengthen a system that keeps mil-

lions of seniors out of poverty. Students of history will note this is \$1.4 trillion dollars more than the Democrats set aside during their 40-year control of this chamber.

In supporting this bill, Republicans demonstrate that we are pro-active problem-solvers. Although the Social Security Trust Fund currently is running a surplus, we know that changing demographics—including the retirement of baby boomers like me—will threaten the long-term viability of the program. By setting aside \$1.4 trillion, we guarantee that Congress will have the resources needed to implement a reform plan and preserve Social Security in perpetuity.

As Chairman ARCHER said earlier today, Republicans are committed to preserving Social Security and giving middle Americans much needed tax relief. Despite what the Democrats believe, these two are not mutually exclusive activities. The health of today's economy and a balanced budget generated from the prudent fiscal policies of GOP leadership give us the opportunity to do both.

Mr. Speaker, I take exception with the rhetoric coming from the other side of the aisle on this topic. The Democrats accuse Republicans of raiding the Trust Fund, yet these same members sat in a Ways and Means Committee hearing last week and heard Judy Chesser, Deputy Commissioner of the Social Security Administration say that wouldn't happen with a tax cut. When Ms. Chesser was asked whether this bill would affect the OASDI Trust Fund, she replied simply and clearly, "No."

The smear campaign Democrats are waging against this bill is irresponsible and absolutely false. America is fed up with lying; to set the record straight: This bill "steals" nothing—it "saves" money for Social Security. This bill "robs" from no one, it "gives" \$1.4 trillion to our senior citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, due to the wedding of my son in Pennsylvania, I was unable to make rollcall votes 466, 467, 468, and 469. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 466, "yea" on rollcall vote 467, "no" on rollcall vote 468, and "aye" on rollcall vote 469.

TAXPAYER RELIEF ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 26, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1998, H.R. 4579, and in support of the Democratic substitute—which contains all of the tax cuts included in H.R. 4579. The Democratic substitute is a sound and responsible alternative as the tax cuts take effect only after Congress has enacted legislation to ensure the long-term solvency of Social Security.

At first glance, H.R. 4579 appears to be okay. In fact, it includes provisions that: Increase the standard deduction for married couples; provide the self-employed with a deduction for health insurance costs; and allow families, which take the \$500 per child tax credit and the Hope Scholarship Credit, to apply such Credits against the alternative minimum tax. Each of these tax provisions are borrowed ideas that were originally proposed and sponsored by Democratic Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, the fact of the matter is that the Republican leadership wants to spend money that it does not have, and that's just irresponsible. This tax bill waives the Budget Act, which requires that all tax cuts be offset and paid for in full.

H.R. 4579 takes \$177 billion away from Social Security over the next ten years, and diverts it to tax cuts. The projected surplus is based solely on the Social Security Trust Fund. In fact, if it was not for the Social Security Trust Fund, we would not even show a budget surplus. The budget surplus is comprised of investments that American workers have made in Social Security. These funds have already been committed to the trust fund.

This is the wrong pot of money to tap. It will be several more years before the non-Social Security portion of the budget is in surplus. By raiding the trust fund, H.R. 4579 places the long-term solvency of Social Security in danger. This measure depletes critical resources necessary to ensure that we can provide retirement benefits to future generations of Social Security recipients.

Mr. Speaker, we must save Social Security first. With the Nation enjoying a record budget surplus, we promised the American people—that if they would help us to control spending, and help us to balance the budget—and that if we could yield a budget surplus—we would use those funds to protect Social Security. To act otherwise, would be to renege on that critical promise.

While I have always supported responsible tax cuts that are paid for out of the budget, I reject fiscally irresponsible and short-sighted efforts such as this. The American people do not want us to jeopardize their Social Security benefits. We must preserve the surplus for Social Security, strengthen the system and ensure that all Americans will be able to enjoy the retirement income security that is provided by Social Security well into the next century.

It is for these reasons that I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 4579 and in supporting the Democratic substitute.

A TRIBUTE TO THOMAS M. BARRY

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to an outstanding American and citizen from my home State of Missouri, Mr. Thomas M. Barry, on the occasion of his appointment as President of SBC International's Telkom South Africa operations.

Tom Barry represents the finest attributes of corporate service—his is a true American success story. For over 30 years he progressed

through a number of assignments in Southwestern Bell's Missouri division before his appointment as assistant vice-president for external affairs in 1985. The following year Tom was named vice-president for public affairs for the company's five-State operating area. In 1990, he became the president and CEO of Metromedia Paging Services, then an SBC Communications, Inc. subsidiary. He became senior vice president for strategic planning for SBC in 1991 and the following year Tom Barry was designated senior vice president for Federal relations.

In all of his business before Congress and with my office, I have known Tom to be highly qualified to address the complex issues emerging in the telecommunications field. When Congress debated the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Tom demonstrated a unique understanding of the importance of balancing competing concerns, from his company's interest in competitive equities in the telecommunications industry to the importance of preserving universal telephone service and the need for "e-rate" discounts and telecommunications services for schools and libraries and rural health care centers.

I was pleased to learn that Tom will now turn his talents to addressing the telecommunications needs of the people of South Africa. I have been informed that the telephone penetration level in South Africa is only 10 percent among historically disadvantaged households, a group that represents 87 percent of the population.

SBC's Telkom South Africa operations, in conjunction with their partners, have promised to implement an aggressive plan to modernize the existing communications network and expand telecommunications services throughout the country for the benefit of all citizens. Tom Barry's next mission is to bring telecommunications services to more than 20,000 priority customers—including hospitals, schools, and community centers—throughout South Africa.

I am happy to join Tom's many friends and colleagues in congratulating him on a job well done in Washington and wishing him every continued success in his new undertaking as President of SBC International's Telkom South Africa office.

IN HONOR OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the midst of a year long celebration, to honor Saint Stanislaus Church on its 125th anniversary.

Located in Cleveland, Ohio's Historic Slavic Village, St. Stanislaus Church, a Victorian Gothic structure, originated to serve the Polish immigrants who worked in the steel mills in the 1870's. In 1877, under the leadership of Father F.A. Marshall, the rapidly growing community assumed the name of St. Stanislaus, a saint of the 11th century who was cherished by the Poles because of his valor to stand up to a corrupt king. In 1883, Father Anton Kolaszewski was initiated as the new pastor of St. Stanislaus church. As the congregation

grew, so did the need for a larger church. In 1886 developments began and, six years later, a church that was built by the hands of its community was dedicated. Upon its completion, St. Stanislaus was considered the second-largest Gothic church in the United States.

Throughout the 1920's, 30's, and 40's the St. Stanislaus Parish, through the leadership of Fr. Protase Kuberek and Sir Sigismund Masalski, was known for its talented marching band and professional dramatic presentations in the Polish language. These social events provided by the church kept the city in harmony and the parish gratified of its heritage and religion. On September 19, 1969, a historic moment in St. Stanislaus chronicle occurred. The Archbishop of Krakow, Poland, Karol Cardinal Wojtyla, presently Pope John Paul II, celebrated mass at the church in appreciation of the assistance the Polish Americans of Cleveland gave to Poland.

Today, under the leadership of Father William Gulas and through the dedication of its parishioners and help throughout the community, Saint Stanislaus Church is continuing to undergo a massive restoration and improvement project. The walls, columns and ceilings will be repainted to reveal original artwork and colors, scrolling and trimming. In addition, the floors, electrical systems, sound and heating systems and water-damaged plaster will all be repaired. Already hailed as the most extensive and complete restoration of any church in the United States, this 107 year old building will finally reveal its original beauty and elegance that once shined nearly 100 years ago.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in celebrating the 125th anniversary of Saint Stanislaus Church, a parish that has warmed the hearts it has touched and enhanced those who have witnessed its significance.

TRIBUTE TO NICK CANGIOLOSI

HON. STEVE R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Nick Cangiolosi of Garfield, New Jersey, a man who embodies the American dream.

Having arrived in America at the age of fifteen from Palermo, Italy, Nick came to this country with nothing but hope in his heart and a determination to succeed. Like many Italian immigrants coming to America in the 20th century, Nick was a success story waiting to happen. With a remarkable work ethic, soon after his arrival in America, Nick gained the experience and resources to start a business with his brothers. To this day, the firm Nick began, Vinyl Building Products, enjoys a high degree of success.

Parallel with Nick's commercial success, he has established a track-record as model citizen. In the vibrant Italian-American community in New Jersey, Nick's history of volunteerism is legendary. He is also well-known throughout the entire state of New Jersey for his outstanding volunteerism and philanthropic efforts in support of a number of worthwhile causes and institutions. I know that among his many efforts, Nick is deeply involved as a member of the Board of Governors of the Hackensack

University Medical Center, an outstanding hospital that serves the needs of thousands of New Jersey residents. Nick is also a distinguished member of the Steering Committee for Felician College in Lodi, New Jersey and a dedicated member of the St. Ciro Society.

Mr. Speaker, given all that Nick Cangiolosi has accomplished in his life, it comes as no surprise that he is to be honored on October 2, 1998, by the Bergen County Chapter of Boys' Towns of Italy. At this event, the Right Reverend Monsignor J. Patrick Carroll-Abbing, who is the founder of Boys' Town, will present Nick with his organization's prestigious Humanitarian Award. This honor rightly serve to recognizes Nick's selfless efforts on behalf of needy people throughout the world.

I would like to join Boys' Towns saluting Nick and the goodness and kindness he represents. The world is a better place because of the efforts of to Boy's Towns chapters around the world and the work of individuals like Nick Cangiolosi. He is, simply put, an inspiration to the people of the Ninth Congressional District in New Jersey and to our Nation.

NUCLEAR THREATS

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 28, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I recently received correspondence from Ms. Jennie B. Smith, of Ft. Collins, CO, in response to an article by Mr. Joseph C. Anselmo ("Defector Details Plan to Plant Nukes in U.S.") in Aviation Week & Space Technology on August 17, 1998. The referenced article details testimony by a former Russian intelligence agent concerning plans by the Soviet military to smuggle portable nuclear devices into the U.S. for use in the event of an all-out nuclear war. I hereby submit Ms. Smith's comments for the RECORD.

While we at Citizens for a Strong America (CFA) cannot further substantiate or dispute the claims made by the high ranking Russian defector who spoke before the House panel, we would urge Congress to not minimize the possible truth in his claims. We agree with his warning that Russia "remains a serious threat to U.S. national security because of its proliferation of weapons for profit to nations such as Iran and Libya." However, we add that the breakup of the Soviet Union creates insecurity with their existing ICBMs in the hands of Russian states, unrest and near collapse of the Russian government, not to mention that Start II treaties are yet to be signed. Arms control has never deterred proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Neither is it prudent on our part to ignore Alexander Lebed's own concerns of "scores" of unaccounted for Russian nuclear suitcases as merely an accounting system flaw, as Thomas Cochran suggests. While he reports that even the U.S. has had accounting problems with its own nuclear weapons, we would place more confidence in our accounting measures than Russia's. There are far too numerous accounts of the loose and dangerous lack of control within Russian military of their nuclear weapons and equipment. Clearly not an apple-to-apple comparison, and worrisome for the type of naiveté that keeps us undefended.

As a peaceful nation, we as Americans struggle with the possibility of the unthinkable, however, the threat of terrorism on our