

New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. WELLSTONE), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFFEE), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. FORD), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2205, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the Lewis & Clark Expedition, and for other purposes.

S. 2222

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2222, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the financial limitation on rehabilitation services under part B of the Medicare Program.

S. 2235

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFFEE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2235, a bill to amend part Q of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to encourage the use of school resource officers.

S. 2263

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2263, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the expansion, intensification, and coordination of the activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism.

S. 2366

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. WELLSTONE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2366, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that housing assistance provided under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 shall be treated for purposes of the low-income housing credit in the same manner as comparable assistance.

S. 2432

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2432, a bill to support programs of grants to States to address the assistive technology needs of individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 2476

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. WELLSTONE), and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. ROTH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2476, a bill for the relief of Wei Jengsheng.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 56

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) were added as cosponsors of Senate Joint Resolution 56, a joint resolution expressing the sense of Congress in support of the existing Federal legal process for determining the safety and efficacy of drugs, including marijuana and other Schedule I drugs, for medicinal use.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 83

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFFEE), and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of Senate Concurrent Resolution 83, a concurrent resolution remembering the life of George Washington and his contributions to the Nation.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 84

At the request of Mr. KEMPTHORNE, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 84, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of Costa Rica should take steps to protect the lives of property owners in Costa Rica, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 257

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. GRAMS), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 257, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that October 15, 1998, should be designated as "National Inhalant Abuse Awareness Day."

SENATE RESOLUTION 260

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND), the Senator from Washington (Mr. GORTON), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE), and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 260, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that October 11, 1998, should be designated as "National Children's Day."

SENATE RESOLUTION 274

At the request of Mr. FORD, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 274, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate that the Louisville Festival of Faiths should be commended and should serve as model for similar festivals in other communities throughout the United States.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 121—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES TO RESPOND TO THE INCREASE IN STEEL IMPORTS

Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. FORD, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. HATCH, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. BYRD, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. COATS, and Mr. LEVIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. CON. RES. 121

Whereas the current financial crises in Asia, the independent States of the former Soviet Union (as defined in section 3 of the FREEDOM Support Act), Russia, and other areas of the world, involve significant depreciation in the currencies of several key steel-producing and steel-consuming countries, along with a collapse in the domestic demand for steel in the countries;

Whereas the crises have generated and will continue to generate increases in United States imports of steel, both from the countries whose currencies have been depreciated and from other Asian steel-producing countries that are no longer able to export steel to the countries that are experiencing an economic crisis;

Whereas United States imports of finished steel mill products from Asian steel-producing countries, such as the People's Republic of China, Japan, Korea, India, Taiwan, Indonesia, Thailand, and Malaysia, increased by 79 percent in the first 5 months of 1998;

Whereas year-to-date imports of steel from Russia now exceed the record import levels of 1997, and steel imports from Russia and the Ukraine now approach 2,500,000 net tons;

Whereas foreign government trade restrictions and private restraints of trade distort international trade and investment patterns and result in burdens on United States commerce, including absorption of a disproportionate share of steel diverted from other countries;

Whereas the European Union, for example, despite also being a major economy, in 1997 imported only one-tenth as much finished steel products from Asian steel-producing countries as the United States did and has restricted imports of steel from the independent states of the former Soviet Union and Russia;

Whereas the United States is simultaneously facing a substantial increase in steel imports from the independent states of the former Soviet Union and Russia, caused in part by the closure of Asian markets to steel imports; and

Whereas there is a well recognized need for improvement in the enforcement of the United States trade laws to provide an effective response to situations of such increased imports: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress calls upon the President to—

(1) pursue enhanced enforcement of the United States trade laws with respect to the increase in steel imports into the United States, using all remedies available under United States laws including imposition of offsetting duties, quantitative restrictions, and other appropriate remedial measures;

(2) pursue with all methods at the President's disposal to achieve a more equitable sharing of the burden of accepting imports of finished steel products from Asia and the

independent states of the former Soviet Union;

(3) establish a task force within the executive branch that has responsibility for closely monitoring imports of steel into the United States; and

(4) report to Congress not later than January 5, 1999, with a comprehensive plan for responding to the increase in steel imports, including ways of limiting the deleterious effects on employment, prices, and investment in the United States steel industry.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition today to offer a bipartisan Senate concurrent resolution addressing the current steel import crisis, which has been brought about due to the Asian and Russian financial crisis.

On Thursday, September 10, 1998, as chairman of the Senate Steel Caucus, I joined Congressman REGULA in convening a joint meeting of the Senate and House Steel Caucus with executives from a number of the nation's largest steel manufacturers and members of the United Steelworkers of America to learn more about the current influx of imported steel into the United States. At that meeting, I expressed my profound concern regarding the impact of our steel companies and steelworkers of the current financial crisis in Asia and Russia, which have generated surges in U.S. imports of Asian and Russian steel.

According to the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI), the past three months have been the highest monthly import volumes in U.S. history and, with Asia and Russia in economic crisis and with other major industrial nations not accepting their fair share of the adjustment burden, U.S. steel companies and employees are being damaged by this injurious unfair trade.

As Hank Barnette, Chief Executive Officer of Bethlehem Steel, wrote in an August 6, 1998 op-ed in the Washington Times, the United States has become the dumping ground for foreign steel. He noted that Russia has become the world's number one steel exporting nation and that China is now the world's number one steel-producing nation, which enormous subsidies to foreign steel producers have continued. As one example, Mr. Barnette cited the Commerce Department's recent revelation that Russia, one of the world's least efficient producers, was selling steel plate in the United States at more than 50 percent, or \$110 per ton, below the constructed cost to make plate steel, which ultimately costs our steel companies in lost sales and results in fewer jobs for American workers.

Specifically, in the first half of 1998, total U.S. steel imports were 18.2 million net tons, which is a 12.4 percent increase over 1997's record level of 16.2 million tons for the same period. For the month of June 1998, total U.S. imports of steel mill products totaled over 3.7 million net tons, which is up 39.2 percent from June, 1997 level of 2.6 million net tons. In June 1998, U.S. imports of finished steel imports were a

record 3 million net tons, a 41.6 percent increase over the June 1997 2.1 million net tons.

Also in the first half of 1998, compared to the same period in 1997, steel imports from Japan are up 114 percent, steel imports from Korea are up 90 percent, and imports from Indonesia are up 309 percent. Most significantly, the U.S. steel industry currently employs 163,000 people down from 500,000 people in the 1980's. This situation is untenable for the American steelworkers, steel manufacturers, their customers, and the American people in general.

I believe that the growing coalition of steel manufacturers, and Congress must work together to remedy this import crisis before it is too late and the U.S. steel industry is forced to endure an excruciatingly painful economic downturn. We have many of the tools we need at our disposal to protect our steel industry from unfair and illegally dumped steel, and we must act now. At the caucus meeting, I noted my intention to once again seek enactment of my longstanding proposal to establish a private legal right of action for aggrieved steel companies and steelworkers where they can prove harm caused by illegal dumping of foreign goods.

This resolution calls on the President to take all necessary measures to respond to the surge of steel imports resulting from the Asian and Russian financial crisis. Specifically, the attached resolution calls on the President to: pursue enhanced enforcement of the U.S. trade laws, pursue all tools available to ensure that other nations accept a more equitable sharing of these steel imports; establish a task force to closely monitor U.S. imports of steel, and, report to Congress by January 5, 1999, on a comprehensive plan to respond to this surge of steel imports.

The U.S. steel industry has become a world class industry with a very high-quality product. This has been achieved at a great cost: \$50 billion in new investment to restructure and modernize; 40 million tons of capacity taken out of the industry; and a work force dramatically downsized from 500,000 to 170,000. This resolution is essential to respond promptly to the current steel import crisis and prevent the loss of thousands of high-paying jobs in the steel industry. For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting adoption of this resolution.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I am pleased to be a cosponsor of the Senate Concurrent Resolution offered by the Senator from Pennsylvania, Senator SPECTER. In brief, the resolution calls for action by the U.S. government on several fronts to address the steel import crisis. More importantly, it reassures the U.S. steel industry, and steel workers, that the United States Congress is concerned about the state of the steel industry and is committed to ensuring that a fair trade policy prevails.

The aim of this resolution is straightforward: to respond to the im-

port crisis affecting the domestic steel industry. In this regard, the Senate Concurrent Resolution calls for enforcement of U.S. trade laws, equitable sharing of steel import surpluses, the establishment of a task force to monitor U.S. imports of steel, and a report from the President with a plan to respond to the surge of steel imports.

Senator SPECTER's resolution is a companion to H. Con Res. 328. The resolution is supported by the leadership of the Senate Steel Caucus and it is endorsed by the domestic steel industry.

For those not familiar with the steel import crisis, as the markets have struggled in Asia, Russia, and other regions of the world, and the purchasing power evaporates within these countries' borders, foreign steel producers are diverting record levels of steel products from stalling economies into the United States. Desperate to find hard currency, our trading partners are flooding the U.S. market with imported steel that is creating a glut that is placing thousands of U.S. steel jobs at risk. This is a looming crisis that could have a domino effect, which may jeopardize the security of families across the nation and the communities in which they live.

Regrettably, the impact of current trade and capital flow throughout the so-called modern global economy is becoming a familiar story. The effects of far-flung economic trouble not only play havoc with the U.S. steel industry, but also ripple through the auto industry, the farming industry, and a host of other domestic industries.

Live and let live? Is that the appropriate U.S. reaction to this crisis?

Through the International Monetary Fund, the United States reacts to the crises of our trading partners overseas with generous participation in bailout programs. We have risen to the occasion many times to help other nations facing grave economic dilemmas. But, can we afford to continue to help if our trading partners thank us by attempting to export their way out of their crises at the expense of the U.S. economy?

I would like to share one sentiment expressed to me about this situation in a letter by Mr. Jim Bowen, President of the West Virginia AFL-CIO: "Working Americans have always generously helped out those in need, but they can't be expected to do so by sacrificing their jobs and their families' security." And hear the words of Mr. Stephen Parks, a manager with Ameristeel in St. Albans, West Virginia: "We are cost-competitive with the best in the world. But we cannot compete fairly with foreign economies driven by the impetus to export their own unemployment through subsidization or which export solely for the purpose of acquiring tradeable currency at any cost."

Many of my colleagues have recently urged action on behalf of the nation's farmers. I certainly sympathize with the problems facing American farmers

whose overseas markets have been adversely affected by these same economic downturns. This is no less a crisis, and, equally, deserves swift and sure action by the Congress. As this Congress begins the serious business of examining the international financial crisis, and formulating the appropriate U.S. response, the measures called for in this resolution are simple logic. After hearing the words of managers and workers in the U.S. steel industry, I believe that this resolution might also accomplish another worthy goal: restoring the confidence in our international trade agenda.

Let us be realistic. This international steel crisis did not occur overnight. In fact, the crisis is in part a result of decades-long government-sponsored illegal subsidies by our trading partners that this nation has not aggressively sought to correct. These subsidies have kept too many steel producers around the world eagerly fostering overcapacity because of unfair competitive advantages. Now, not only are the steel producers in Asia, Russia, and other parts of the world suffering, but so are American steel workers, who have played fair, and trusted our trade enforcement mechanisms.

As called for in the resolution being submitted today, we must move forward with the full and timely enforcement of our trade laws. We must do that before any serious thought is given to the adoption of trade measures to liberalize trade with additional nations not currently on the books. Existing trade agreements must be enforced and the long-term implications of these agreements must be understood. I hope that the responsible government trade officials share my concern.

I understand that the United States Trade Representative, Charlene Barshefsky, met with steel industry representatives in early September and, while I was unable to attend that meeting, I am advised that in her press release the Ambassador reaffirmed the Administration's "commitment to strong U.S. trade laws designed to prevent injury to U.S. industry and workers from unfair trade practices and from import surges, and to the expeditious and effective enforcement of these laws." I was pleased to learn of these encouraging words from the Ambassador, and I hope that she will be successful in carrying out this agenda.

In this regard, I believe that this Congress should assist USTR in moving this agenda forward. Let us help the Ambassador by stating clearly to our trading partners the Congress' stance on this matter. I am confident that Ambassador Barshefsky intends to negotiate the deal of all deals. In good faith, she intends to negotiate a global free trade paradise where all can compete on a level and transparent playing field.

Unfortunately, I have heard that very intent voiced many times by U.S. and foreign negotiators—and so have

the U.S. steel workers. They heard it in 1974, during the Tokyo Round of the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade (GATT). That agreement cost this country hundreds of thousands of steel jobs. Many listeners may remember the result that deal had on Allentown. Well, I also remember Clarksburg, Wheeling, and Weirton, West Virginia, all losers in that trade agreement.

The U.S. steel industry has stuck it out, and U.S. steel producers did what the new 1974 trade rules said to do: restructure and modernize, and become the most efficient producers of steel in the world. The deal struck in that agreement was that the industry was to accomplish this restructuring and modernization and, then, the government would ensure that there would be a level global playing field on which to compete.

However, today, over 20 years later, the U.S. steel industry continues to face unfair trade practices from every corner of the world. In the global free trade garden of paradise, apparently, some players keep eating off the forbidden subsidy tree, because the so-called paradise is a pretty shabby place for U.S. workers.

In closing, I want to address the Constitutional component of supporting this resolution. This debate is a good place for Congress to reflect the myths and the realities of our current trade policies. It is time that the Congress takes seriously its constitutional role in the regulation of foreign commerce. The Constitution vests the Congress with the power "to regulate commerce with foreign nations." It is the task of Congress to understand the benefits and risks of global trade, but to promote only trade policies that are fair to all Americans, whether they be steel or auto workers, farmers, or bankers.

I urge my colleagues to support the important steel resolution offered by Senator SPECTER. Regulation of foreign commerce is the Constitutional responsibility of Congress. It will assist the USTR in negotiating firm agreements. It will help restore the confidence of American workers in U.S. trade policy. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

INTERNET TAX FREEDOM ACT

HUTCHINSON AMENDMENT NO. 3671

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. HUTCHINSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (S. 442) to establish a national policy against State and local government interference with interstate commerce on the Internet or interactive computer services, and to exercise Congressional jurisdiction over interstate commerce by establishing a moratorium on the imposition of exactions that would interfere

with the free flow of commerce via the Internet, and for other purposes; as follows:

In section 102(a)(1), strike "16" and insert "18".

In section 102(b)(1), add at the end the following:

(D) Two representatives from among individuals who are the heads of business entities that do not engage in electronic commerce, of whom—

(i) one shall be appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate; and

(ii) one shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

In section 102(g)(2)—

(1) strike "and" at the end of subparagraph (D);

(2) strike the period at the end of subparagraph (E) and insert "; and"; and

(3) add at the end the following:

(F) an examination of the effects of taxation of transactions using the Internet, and of the absence of taxation of such transactions, on businesses that do not engage in electronic commerce.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Thursday, October 1, 1998, at 10:30 a.m. in room SR-301 Russell Senate Office Building, to receive testimony on Capitol security issues. It is the chairman's intention that the committee vote to conduct this meeting in closed session.

For further information concerning this meeting, please contact Ed Edens at the Rules Committee on 4-6678.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL RIDERS CONTAINED IN THE FY 99 INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS LEGISLATION

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to support the Senior Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) in his efforts to describe some of the provisions of concern that were attached to the Interior Appropriations legislation, the fate of which is now uncertain. I hope that all the provisions that will harm the environment, impede the enforcement of environmental law, or weaken federal environmental policy, will be removed from this legislation if it either returns to the floor or is incorporated in a broader appropriations bill.

This is not the first time that I have supported the Senior Senator from Montana in his efforts to address environmentally harmful legislative riders in appropriations legislation. In September 1995, I joined in his efforts to mitigate the effects of riders in the FY 96 VA-HUD appropriations legislation regarding the operations of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.