

coming under mounting legal challenges and is currently defending against two separate lawsuits seeking public release of export licensing information subject to the confidentiality provisions of section 12(c) of the EAA.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this very timely measure that will provide the authorities our regulators need to deter companies and individuals from exporting dual-use goods and technologies to countries and uses of concern and to protect the confidentiality of the export control process.

HONORING THE WESLEY HOUSING
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

HON. TOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2000

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Representative THOMAS DAVIS, I rise today to recognize the Wesley Housing Development Corporation on 25 years of service.

We are all aware of the national problem that is especially acute in Washington and other metropolitan areas. The booming economy has severely tightened the rental market, putting low and moderate rental properties out of reach for scores of our citizens.

True to its mission, Wesley Housing has pioneered affordable housing solutions that have stabilized and strengthened families, neighborhoods and entire communities throughout Northern Virginia.

Additionally, through its efforts to empower these residents, it has formed partnerships with area institutions of higher learning to assist residents in acquiring the necessary skills and training central to competing in this new age of information and technology.

Many of our colleagues here in Congress have espoused the notion of bridging the digital divide.

Mr. Speaker, it is through community efforts as demonstrated by the Wesley Housing Development Corporation that we are able to achieve this reality.

During 25 years of service, it has remained true to one general theme which has been vital to its success, everyone counts.

Over these years, it has served over 7,000 residents including the elderly, physically disabled persons, those living with HIV and AIDS, and those representing a broad spectrum of ethnic backgrounds.

Mr. Speaker, we take great pride in commending the Wesley Housing Development Corporation on a job well done during its 25 years of service.

Thanks to the men and women of this Corporation who have answered the call of duty for our most neediest citizens, our outlook for tomorrow is much brighter.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 4577, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BRIAN BAIRD

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, school-based health centers provide a valuable service for the youth of America. Students across this country rely on their parents for critical advice, judgement and emotional support. However, for the small percentage of children who are not fortunate enough to have an involved parent, school-based health centers become vital for the welfare of those kids and the community they serve.

We have to admit to ourselves that some parents do not live up to their responsibility. Far too many children today are the product of neglect, bad parenting, and broken homes. Therefore, many local communities have decided to play a positive role in the lives of these students by offering them an opportunity to seek help from school-based health centers.

Mr. COBURN's motion prohibits any federal funding for emergency contraception provided to elementary and secondary school-based health clinics. Contrary to our shared national goal of reducing unintended pregnancies, this motion tries to confuse abortion with preventative contraception. Emergency contraception can be used after having unprotected sex or if a method of birth control fails and a woman does not want to become pregnant. This procedure, which has been deemed safe and effective by the Food and Drug Administration, prevents pregnancy. It does not abort pregnancy.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to note one thing for the record. I do not advocate the federal government funding these programs at the elementary school level. But because this motion overreaches and includes secondary schools as well, I can not support the Coburn amendment in its current form.

Local school-based health centers were established by community representatives, parents, youth and family organizations to address the needs within their community. These centers provide a confidential, safe place for teens to receive health-care services and related counseling. Although pregnancy is a serious matter which should be dealt with in a family environment, I feel school-based health clinics offer a necessary option to prevent unwanted pregnancies.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO JOHN L. STEER FOR HIS PATRIOTISM AND HEROIC SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to pay special tribute to a

true American patriot, Mr. John L. Steer. John served his country with great distinction while protecting the values and ideals of democracy. A decorated war hero for his gallant service and duty in the Vietnam War, John Steer courageously fought and nearly gave his life for his country as a paratrooper with the 173rd Airborne Infantry Division of the United States Army.

During many encounters with the enemy, John was wounded, but continued to fight and assist his fallen comrades. In one of the most remembered battles, Hill 875 at Dak To, John was shot several times and most of the men in his battalion were killed. However, John survived that terrible time period and was decorated for his service in the conflict. In total, John was awarded two Purple Hearts, the Silver Star for gallantry in action, the Bronze Star, and the Army Commendation Medal. John's actions truly keep with the highest traditions of military service.

Mr. Speaker, life after Vietnam brought many things to many individuals. For John Steer, it brought a calling to God and continued service to veterans across our nation. Today, as a Christian evangelist and minister, John Steer speaks to groups across the nation about his experiences and how to make the most out of life. As the founder of Living Word Christian Ministries, John and his wife, Donna, were recognized by President George Bush at the 682nd Presidential Point of Life for operating Fort Steer—a refuge for addicted and traumatized veterans.

John Steer is also a nationally known artist, author, songwriter, speaker, and recording star. He has written several books about his service in Vietnam and has recorded fourteen country-style gospel and patriotic albums. He performed in front of more than 50,000 people at the dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. In 1999, John won three awards by the North American Country Music Association International, including Male Vocalist of the Year for traditional gospel music and Patriotic Song of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, the men and women who serve in the United States armed forces unselfishly put their lives on the line to protect the banner of freedom that we enjoy as Americans. Veterans, like John Steer, prove that sacrifice is difficult, but continuing with life is truly rewarding for oneself and those one touches. It is often said that America prospers due to the unselfish acts of her sons and daughters. John's dedicated service in Vietnam and his current efforts as a minister, author, and artist are a glowing example of how proud all Americans should be of our veterans. I would urge my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to John L. Steer—a true American hero.

HONORING MIKE WILSON OF
NILES, OHIO

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2000

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to congratulate Mike Wilson of Niles, Ohio for being chosen as this year's "Gary Komarow Memorial Executive Officer Of The Year Award" winner. Mike is a valuable part of our

community and I would like to extend my congratulations and thanks to him for all of his hard work. The following news article describes the award:

SAVANNAH, GA—Mike Wilson, executive officer of the Mahoning Valley Home Builders Association, received the "Gary Komarow Memorial Executive Officer Of The Year Award" at the national HBA conference in Savannah, GA.

The Niles resident was selected out of 700 local, state, and province HBA organizational executive officers in the United States and Canada.

The award recognizes the actions, commitments, and practices that have assisted the advancement of the nominee's association, industry and community.

UNIFORM TESTING FOR NEWBORNS

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2000

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, it's a distinct pleasure for me to join today with Congressman PALLONE in introducing legislation to help achieve full screening of newborns for health disorders.

Mothers are familiar with the "heel and prick" test, but few know how many diseases the hospital is testing. Many hospitals test for 2 or 3, the March of Dimes recommends 8 disorders as a core group for uniform screening, but the technology exists to screen for more than 30 life-altering conditions. There is no reason not to have full and uniform screening for the four million infants born nationwide every year. Right now, it's a piecemeal approach, with different states testing at different levels.

Backed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the same drops of blood can provide full screening for disorders at the cost of about \$25 a baby.

This issue was first brought to my attention a couple months ago by a Mother from Somerset County in the area I represent. She points to specific families such as the New Mexico couple that had two infants die from VLCAD that weren't tested for the disorder; a Texas couple whose son has brain damage from GA1, not on the tested list; or my constituent's grandson who could have been brain damaged or dead because MCAD is not tested uniformly. Against the measure of these illnesses and the impact on infants and families, surely we can devote the \$25 to full testing.

Our bill would establish a grant system to be administered by the Department of Health and Human Services to help states and localities implement full testing.

To me, one of the great overlooked issues in the health care debate is the 11 million children in our Nation with no health care insurance. No child should suffer because of a lack of health care, and no child and family should suffer because we don't commit to doing the full testing we can to head off debilitating diseases. Let's pass this legislation and make sure that newborns get the full screening they need and deserve.

FHA SHUTDOWN PREVENTION ACT

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2000

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation designed to prevent future shutdowns of FHA specialty lending programs. The "FHA Shutdown Prevention Act" provides standby legal authority for HUD to keep FHA loan programs under the so-called GI/SRI Funds operating in the event they run out of required credit subsidy.

GI/SRI programs are all FHA loans, except the core single family MMIF loans. In late July of 2000, HUD was forced to shut down a number of specialty FHA loan programs, included in the GRI/SI account. These include the reverse mortgage program, condominium loans, Title 1 property improvement loans, and various multi-family loans.

The cause of the shutdown was that HUD had run out of credit subsidy required under law to keep making these loans, and Congress had failed to pass emergency legislation needed to provide additional credit subsidy. Though many of us have been calling on Congress to act to restore lending authority for these programs, the difficulty of finding a suitable spending bill to attach this to is easier said than done. In fact, just yesterday, the Senate rejected the Treasury-Postal appropriations bill, which had contained the necessary credit subsidy to restart these programs.

These developments and yesterday's failure all illustrate that the current system is not working. The answer is that we should give HUD the standby legal authority to continue these programs, even when they run out of credit subsidy. This will not undercut the Credit Reform Act; appropriators will still have to appropriate the necessary credit subsidy each year (or if not, will still be scored as having appropriated such amount). But this bill merely provides a backstop in case our projections are inaccurate.

The irrationality of the current system is underscored by the fact that the combined FHA GI-SRI funds actually make a net profit for the government. For FY 2001, FHA is projected to have 6 GI/SRI Fund loan programs which are projected to generate a positive credit subsidy—that is, they are projected to generate a cumulative loss of \$101 million. For FY 2001, FHA is projected to have 16 GI/SRI Fund loan programs which are projected to generate a negative credit subsidy—that is, they are projected to generate a cumulative profit of \$122 million.

Thus, the 22 FHA GI/SRI Fund loan programs are projected to make a net profit of \$21 million. In spite of this, the six programs projected to run a loss would be unable to continue at any point that they run out of credit subsidy—even if the combined fund continues to run a profit. This does not make sense. My legislation recognizes this reality, in effect allowing profit-making loan programs to pay for money-losing programs in the event there is a shortfall.

I urge the appropriations committee to adopt this approach for the next fiscal year. When it comes to unnecessary shutdowns of FHA loan programs, we should make certain we never find ourselves in this position again.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "FHA Shutdown Prevention Act".

SEC. 2. USE OF NEGATIVE CREDIT SUBSIDY FROM GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK INSURANCE FUND PROGRAMS.

(a) GENERAL INSURANCE FUND.—Section 519 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1735c) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as subsections (f) and (g), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection:

“(e) USE OF NEGATIVE CREDIT SUBSIDY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any program for insuring mortgages or loans which are obligations of the General Insurance Fund that is determined for any fiscal year, for purposes of title V of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), to have costs (as defined in such title) of a negative amount, subject to paragraph (2), the amount of such negative credit subsidy shall be considered to be new budget authority provided in advance in an appropriations Act for such fiscal year and shall be available for covering the costs of making insurance commitments under any program for insurance for mortgages or loans under which such insurance is an obligation of the General Insurance Fund or the Special Risk Insurance Fund.

“(2) APPLICABILITY.—Paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to a fiscal year only if and beginning at such time that, during such fiscal year, all amounts of budget authority appropriated for such fiscal year to cover the costs of programs for insuring mortgages or loans which are obligations of the General Insurance Fund or the Special Risk Insurance Fund have been used to enter into commitments for such insurance.”.

(b) SPECIAL RISK INSURANCE FUND.—Section 238 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-3) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

“(c) USE OF NEGATIVE CREDIT SUBSIDY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any program for insuring mortgages or loans which are obligations of the Special Risk Insurance Fund that is determined for any fiscal year, for purposes of title V of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), to have costs (as defined in such title) of a negative amount, subject to paragraph (2), the amount of such negative credit subsidy shall be considered to be new budget authority provided in advance in an appropriations Act for such fiscal year and shall be available for covering the costs of making insurance commitments under any program for insurance for mortgages or loans under which such insurance is an obligation of the General Insurance Fund or the Special Risk Insurance Fund.

“(2) APPLICABILITY.—Paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to a fiscal year only if and beginning at such time that, during such fiscal year, all amounts of budget authority appropriated for such fiscal year to cover the costs of programs for insuring mortgages or loans which are obligations of the General Insurance Fund or the Special Risk Insurance Fund have been used to enter into commitments for such insurance.”.