

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT DR. TOM F. LUTHY, JR.

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a long and exceptional career in education is nearing an end. Dr. Tom F. Luthy, Jr., of Lebanon, Missouri, is retiring after more than 40 years of service to Lebanon Public Schools.

Tom began his teaching career as an 18-year-old college student in 1958 at the Blackfoot School. After that, he taught grades five through eight for two years at the two-room Bolles School before teaching for two years at the Lebanon High School. After a year of teaching at the newly built Glendale High School in Springfield, Tom returned to Lebanon as the school's first-ever department chair in charge of the social studies program. He continued to teach history for 15 more years at the high school.

When the high school moved to its present location in 1976, Tom stayed as the assistant principal of Lebanon Junior High. Two years later, he became the principal and spent the next 17 years guiding the lives of the young people who attended his school. After that, he became the Lebanon R-111 Schools assistant superintendent for personnel and instruction. As an assistant superintendent for the past eight years, Tom has hired more teachers than are currently on the entire district staff. He also guided the district through its highly successful review under the Missouri School Improvement Plan in 1998.

Tom has had a great impact on education in the Lebanon area. Early in his career, he created the American Heritage program at the high school. He also was involved in the formation of the C-5 school and was instrumental in naming that school after Joel E. Barber, who was president of the school board at the Blackfoot School where he began his career. After retirement, Tom will still impact education by continuing his work with the statewide Goals 2000 project, which is developing a new physical education model for Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, Tom Luthy's passion for excellence in education has made a difference in the lives of students and teachers. I know all Members of Congress will join me in paying tribute to his outstanding service to the Lebanon education community.

HONORING THE LAKE ERIE NATURE AND SCIENCE CENTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I celebrate the Golden anniversary of the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center. For 50 years, this asset of Greater Cleveland has provided the community with invaluable educational opportunities, wildlife resources, and a natural preservation of a beautiful environment.

Among the many accomplishments the Center is responsible for are wildlife rehabilitation,

education for youth and teens, wildlife gardens, a preserved nature facility, and a planetarium. By providing the community with these assets the Center continues to encourage a living connection between people, science, and wildlife in order to create a better commitment to the welfare of our natural world.

As the Center has grown throughout the years, the community it serves has benefitted greatly from its existence. Thousands of children have been exposed to the world of science through observing living displays and participating in hands-on experiences. Today, the museum has become a tool for the old and young, as families utilize its programs all year round.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in thanking and honoring the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center for the 50 years of contribution it has made to science and wildlife and for the 50 years it has been a service to its community.

TENNESSEE SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 720

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD a copy of Tennessee Senate Joint Resolution 720 which urges the U.S. Congress to vote against Permanent Normal Trade Relations. The Joint Resolution was introduced by the late Senator Pete Springer and Senator Roscoe Dixon.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 720

A Resolution to urge Congress to vote against any proposal to grant permanent normal trade relations status to the People's Republic of China and to urge the President and Congress to oppose China's membership in the World Trade Organization.

Whereas, the People's Republic of China has taken steps to become a member of the World Trade Organization, a position that would give China recognition and status as an equal, legitimate partner with other countries in world trade; and

Whereas, since 1992, China has entered into four bilateral trade agreements with the United States in which China has agreed to give U.S. businesses better access to its markets and not to discriminate against U.S. products; and

Whereas, China has violated the provisions of each of these agreements including the 1992 Memoranda of Understanding on Prison Labor and Market Access, the 1994 Bilateral Agreement on Textiles, and the 1996 Bilateral Agreement on Intellectual Property Rights; and

Whereas, China's record on human rights is poor; those who attempt to engage in legitimate political opposition are often imprisoned or harassed, and those holding political views that differ from those of the regime or profess religious views are oppressed; and

Whereas, China ignores the rights of its workers and imprisons those who seek to improve labor conditions in the country; and

Whereas, China's enormous military establishment and its injudicious use of threats and provocation make it a threat in the eyes of its neighbors; and

Whereas, advocates of China's membership in the World Trade Organization promote the view that China's vast potential market would be further opened to trade; the more

likely scenario is that China's exports of cheap textiles, pirated technology and other products produced by grossly underpaid labor will flood our markets at the expense of American wages, jobs and trade balance; and

Whereas, the record of the People's Republic of China in human rights and in failing to live up to trade agreements should not be validated by supporting its admission into the World Trade Organization; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate of the one hundred first general assembly of the State of Tennessee, the House of Representatives concurring, That the General Assembly respectfully requests that Congress vote against any proposal to grant permanent normal trade relations status to the The People's Republic of China, which is a precursor to the granting of World Trade Organization membership, and take all other actions within their power to deny membership in the World Trade Organization to the People's Republic of China. Be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Honorable William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States; to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States; and to each member of the Tennessee Congressional Delegation.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY CELEBRATES THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EDEN INSTITUTE

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Eden Institute's 25th Anniversary. Over the last quarter of a century, the Eden Institute has made tremendous contributions to our community through its commitment to meeting the needs of individuals with autism.

Eden is a New Jersey-based nonprofit organization founded in 1975 to address the needs of the autistic community. Eden brought both parents and professionals together to assist in the development of a family-oriented, multi-faceted program driven by a well trained, dedicated and nurturing staff. Eden was founded on the commitment to provide a cost-effective, community-based alternative to institutionalization and to offering training that would meet the changing needs of children and adults with autism.

Autism is a lifelong developmental disability that severely affects social behavior, communication and one's ability to learn, is the result of a neurological disorder that interferes with the functioning of the brain. Autism affects 15 of every 10,000 births and typically appears during the first three years of development.

Some of the services offered by Eden include the Eden Institute, a year-round educational program for children ages 3-21; Eden A.C.R.E.s, nine community-based group homes and three supported living apartments for adults; an employment center; year-round retreat opportunities, an early intervention program for infants and toddlers, and many, many more.

Although much has changed over the years, Eden's mission is the same—to provide a

comprehensive continuum of services designed to enable children and adults with autism to lead fulfilling, productive and independent lives.

And they have been extremely successful. Through the work of Eden, parents are now able to more effectively engage their children at home; they have assisted hundreds of children and adults with autism to interact with their communities to the best of their abilities; and Eden has worked very hard to promote community awareness of the challenges associated with autism.

The Eden Institute is a great asset to both Central New Jersey and our nation. I urge all my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Eden's dedication to assisting citizens with autism achieve their full potential.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2559,
AGRICULTURAL RISK PROTECTION
ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1504, as amended was included in the Conference Report accompanying H.R. 2559, the Agriculture Risk Protection Act of 2000 as title IV of this Act. As introduced, H.R. 1504 was referred primarily to the House Committee on Agriculture, and in addition, to the Committees on Judiciary, Resources, and Ways and Means for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker. To expedite consideration of H.R. 1504, and to allow it to be included in this conference report, the following letters were exchanged between the Committee on Agriculture and the other committees of jurisdiction waiving further consideration of the bill.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, May 23, 2000.

Hon. BILL ARCHER,
*Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Longworth House Office Building, Wash-
ington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing with regard to H.R. 1504, a bill that was primarily referred to the Committee on Agriculture and additionally to the Committee on Ways and Means. This bill modernizes and enhances the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture relating to plant protection and quarantine.

Please find the enclosed copy of H.R. 1504, as amended, along with a side-by-side comparison showing current law. In order to allow the timely consideration by the entire House of Representatives during the remaining period in the 106th Congress, I am requesting that you waive your Committee's referral of H.R. 1504.

I understand that such an action is not intended to waive your Committee's jurisdiction over this subject matter or any similar legislation now or in the future and look forward to working with you on matters of shared interest.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

LARRY COMBEST,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, May 25, 2000.

Hon. LARRY COMBEST,
*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, House of
Representatives, Longworth Building,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN COMBEST: I am writing concerning the Conference Report to H.R. 2559 (Report), the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 1999, which includes an amendment to H.R. 1504, the Plant Protection Act, offered by Mr. Canady. Section 413 of the Report contains an item of jurisdictional interest to the Committee on Ways and Means. This Act is intended to consolidate existing laws relating to plant safety.

Specifically, section 413 of the Report, "Notification and Holding Requirements Upon Arrival," would require the Secretary of the Treasury to notify promptly the Secretary of Agriculture of the arrival of any plant, plant product, biological control organism, plant pest, or noxious weed at a port of entry. This provision also requires the Secretary of the Treasury to hold those products until they are inspected and authorized for entry into or transit movement through the United States, or otherwise released by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Current section 156 of title 7 of the United States Code requires the Secretary of the Treasury to notify the Secretary of Agriculture of the arrival of any nursery stock at a port of entry. Section 413 repeals current section 156, and instead, requires such notification for all of the above referenced products, including nursery stock. The statutory requirement that the Secretary of the Treasury hold such shipments until released by the Secretary of Agriculture and the authority for the Secretary of Treasury to release a shipment from the port of entry without necessarily requiring an inspection are new. The U.S. Customs Service already follows similar procedures, and it is our understanding that section 413 does not change current law, with respect to such imports, but only enhances enforcement of the current laws relating to those imports.

Normally, the Committee on Ways and Means would meet to consider such legislation. In order to expedite consideration of H.R. 2559, I will not object to the inclusion of section 413 of the amendment, and, for this reason, it will not be necessary for the Committee on Ways and Means to meet to consider the legislation.

However, this action is being done with the understanding that it will not prejudice the jurisdictional prerogatives of the Committee on Ways and Means on these provisions or any other similar legislation and will not be considered as precedent for consideration of matters of jurisdictional interest to my Committee in the future.

Finally, I would ask that you include a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter in the Record. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in this matter. With best personal regards,

Sincerely,

BILL ARCHER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, May 23, 2000.

Hon. HENRY HYDE,
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Ray-
burn House Office Building, Washington,
DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing with regard to H.R. 1504, a bill that was primarily referred to the Committee on Agriculture and additionally to the Committee on the Judiciary. This bill modernizes and enhances

the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture relating to plant protection and quarantine.

Please find the enclosed copy of H.R. 1504, as amended, along with a side-by-side comparison showing current law. In order to allow the timely consideration by the entire House of Representatives during the remaining period in the 106th Congress, I am requesting that you waive your Committee's referral of H.R. 1504.

I understand that such an action is not intended to waive your Committee's jurisdiction over this subject matter or any similar legislation now or in the future and look forward to working with you on matters of shared interest.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

LARRY COMBEST,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, May 24, 2000.

Hon. LARRY COMBEST,
*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, Long-
worth House Office Building, Washington,
DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing with regard to H.R. 1504, "The Plant Protection Act", which was referred to your committee and to this committee for such matters within our respective Rule X jurisdictions.

Since the bill was referred to this committee, there is no question that there are provisions of the bill which fall within our jurisdiction. It is my understanding that due to the exigencies of time, and the leadership's desire to process this legislation in the near future you are requesting this committee waive its consideration of the bill.

Pursuant to your request, I am willing to waive this committee's further consideration of the bill, recognizing that this will not affect our subject matter jurisdiction over this matter, and that I will insist on Members of our committee being named conferees should this bill go to conference.

Sincerely,

HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, May 23, 2000.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
*Chairman, Committee on Resources, Longworth
House Office Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing with regard to H.R. 1504, a bill that was primarily referred to the Committee on Agriculture and additionally to the Committee on Resources. This bill modernizes and enhances the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture relating to plant protection and quarantine.

Please find the enclosed copy of H.R. 1504, as amended, along with a side-by-side comparison showing current law. In order to allow the timely consideration by the entire House of Representatives during the remaining period in the 106th Congress, I am requesting that you waive your Committee's referral of H.R. 1504.

I understand that such an action is not intended to waive your Committee's jurisdiction over this subject matter or any similar legislation now or in the future and look forward to working with you on matters of shared interest.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

LARRY COMBEST,
Chairman.