

trade agreement with our Central American neighbors. After a number of years and some tense months, that vision has come a reality.

American farmers, manufacturers, businesses and consumers will now reap the benefits of duty-free access to the growing market of DR-CAFTA. For 20 years, these countries have benefitted from duty-free imports into the United States under the Caribbean Basin Initiative. Today, thanks to the leadership of Representative BRADY, the United States will receive this same benefit.

Representative BRADY has become a fervent advocate of free trade as a member of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade. KEVIN has made strengthening trade between the United States and our global trading partners one of his top legislative priorities. As the world continues moving towards globalization, it is imperative that we support trade policy which protects American interests. I am proud to join my friend in this effort.

Mr. Speaker, a number of individuals played an important role in the passage of DR-CAFTA. However, my friend, Representative KEVIN BRADY went above and beyond to secure this historic agreement.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO INCLUDE MACADAMIA NUTS IN THE MANDATORY COUNTRY-OF-ORIGIN LABELING PROGRAM

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to include macadamia nuts in the mandatory country-of-origin labeling program established in the 2002 Farm Bill. The provisions for macadamia nuts would be similar to those for peanuts whereby roasted and flavored nuts in cans or other packaging would be labeled, but not nuts that are used for candy or as ingredients in other foods.

Hawaii produces the highest quality macadamia nuts in the world. The premium macadamia nut product—and the one where the quality, of the nut is most apparent—is the roasted and flavored nuts in cans or other packaging. Using lower quality nuts for these types of products when the packaging implies a Hawaii origin damages Hawaii macadamia growers in two ways: by decreasing demand for Hawaiian nuts (and therefore prices), and by damaging the reputation of Hawaiian macadamia nuts.

Country-of-origin labeling will give my Hawaii growers a well-deserved competitive advantage based on the quality of their product. Hawaii was the pioneer in developing a national and international market for macadamia nuts and many producers in other countries trade upon Hawaii's reputation to market their nuts.

The long-term viability of Hawaii's agriculture is tied to our ability to distinguish our high-quality products from those produced in other countries. And the cachet of Hawaii origin is also a market advantage. I have no doubt in the superiority of Hawaiian papayas, pineapples, mangoes, bananas, and macadamia nuts. Country-of-origin labeling will make it easier for consumers to distinguish among different origins and will result in a market advantage for Hawaii farmers.

For all of these reasons, my bill is fully supported by the Hawaiian macadamia nut industry.

Currently, the mandatory country-of-origin labeling law applies to farm-raised and wild fish and shellfish; ground and muscle cuts of beef, lamb, and pork; fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables; and peanuts. Country-of-origin labeling for fish and shellfish began on September 30, 2004; labeling for fresh produce, meats, and peanuts is currently mandated to begin on September 30, 2006.

I ask for my colleagues' support for adding macadamia nuts to the country-of-origin labeling law so that my macadamia nut farmers can enjoy the same marketing benefits as growers of American peanuts.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MARY M. BOGGS

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to remember the life of Mary M. Boggs of Seaford, Delaware. Born 82 years ago to loving parents Linden E. Boggs, Sr., and Addie Phillips Marvel, Mary would go on to have a tremendous influence on not only the Seaford community, but also all of Delaware.

Upon graduation from Beacom Business College, Mary would embark on a distinguished career as the administrative service officer for the Department of Justice. After retiring, Mary would continue her service to the community with the Board of Directors for the Seaford Historical Society and as a member of the Acorn Club and VFW Post #4961 Auxiliary.

While very active in the community, Mary's impact was felt most by the local, county, and State branches of the Republican Party. The consummate volunteer, Mary was always willing to help and expected nothing more than a "thank you" in return. Her involvement with the party began in 1944 and she would eventually serve as the president of the Seaford Republican Women's Club and the Delaware Federation of Republican Women. Additionally, Mary was a devoted member of the Senior Citizen's Task Force for the National Federation of Republican Women.

On a personal note, Mary was instrumental in helping me throughout my political career, including my campaigns for Lieutenant Governor, Governor, and the United States House of Representatives. Many of us counted on Mary, and I can truly say she never let us down.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, all who knew Mary were lucky to have been graced by her presence. While I know she will be greatly missed by her family and friends, Mary Boggs will always be remembered for the work she has done throughout the State of Delaware and for the Republican Party.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, July 27, 2005, I had to travel to my congressional district to attend the Boy Scout Jamboree at Ft. A.P. Hill and the memorial service for the four fallen Boy Scout leaders who died there on Monday, July 25, 2005. Unfortunately the program was cancelled because of severe weather which also hindered my return.

Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on the previous question on H. Res. 385. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on the adoption of the resolution H. Res. 385. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on the adoption of the resolution H. Res. 386. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on final passage of H.R. 3045. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on adoption of H. Res. 308.

REMARKS ON THE HEPATITIS AWARENESS WEEK CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and report on last week's "Aim for the B" Congressional Briefing held on July 21st. Chronic Hepatitis B is a serious health concern that is finally receiving much needed attention. Almost 350 million people worldwide have been infected with the hepatitis B virus, with 75 percent of those infected living in Asia. In the United States, approximately 1.25 million people are chronically infected with this life-threatening disease. Asian Pacific Americans have the highest rate of chronic hepatitis B infection of all ethnic groups.

Chronic hepatitis B is extremely dangerous because it can lead to cirrhosis of the liver, liver failure and liver cancer. The hepatitis B virus is transmitted through blood and body fluids, unprotected sex, childbirth and unsterilized needles. Unfortunately, many of those who become infected with the disease do not recognize symptoms until after they have developed significant liver damage.

The "Aim for the B" campaign was launched during the week of May 9th of this year through the passage of House and Senate resolutions. I want to applaud my colleagues who supported this resolution for their understanding of the need to focus additional attention and increase awareness of this disease nationwide. Last week's Congressional briefing delved further into the issues of hepatitis B, including the efforts of the Federal Government to combat the spread of hepatitis B and treat those already affected with this disease.

The briefing featured many well-known researchers and advocates in the field. I was pleased to have the opportunity to sit on the panel with Dr. John Ward, the Division of Viral Hepatitis Director at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Dr. Jay

Hoofnagle, Director of the Liver Disease Research Branch at the National Institutes of Health. Their insight into the advances being made by the CDC and NIH painted a picture of a disease that is "on the run," but not yet eradicated. Attendees were also able to hear a personal testimonial from a hepatitis B patient, as well as advocacy efforts being undertaken by the Hepatitis B Foundation, American Liver Foundation, and the Hepatitis Foundation International.

We know that there is hope. We know that there are vaccines and treatments available that were not available 25 years ago. We know that with treatment, patients have a better shot at beating this disease and preventing its progression to liver disease. We also know that there is much work that needs to be done. We need to increase public education about hepatitis B, help infected patients and their physicians identify and manage this disease, raise awareness of the consequences of untreated chronic hepatitis B, and help increase the length and quality of life for those diagnosed with this life-threatening disease. We need to improve state-by-state tracking of trends, incidences and prevalence of chronic hepatitis B. Finally, we need to prioritize this disease as a major health issue in the United States, and to provide national agencies such as the CDC and NIH with the funding they need to increase research and education for chronic hepatitis B.

In closing, I would like to thank the organizers of last week's Congressional briefing for keeping this issue in the forefront of the medical discussion. And I especially want to thank the attendees of the briefing for showing the commitment to beating this disease through education and awareness. This is a call to action that I hope will produce the ultimate result of eradication.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
MCGILL MANUFACTURING COMPANY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to announce that the McGill Manufacturing Company will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary on Friday, August 5, 2005, during an Open House and luncheon at the McGill Manufacturing Plant in Valparaiso, Indiana.

James H. McGill founded the Crescent Company in Chicago, Illinois. In 1905, he moved his company to Valparaiso, Indiana where it continued as the Crescent Company until December 1, 1910, when the name was changed to McGill Manufacturing. The first products produced by the company were for the electrical industry, and included wire guards for lamps, cord spools, socket handles, coloring fluid for incandescent light bulbs, Chatterton compound, and other specialty products.

The McGill Metal Company was then formed, and among other products, they developed a line of bronze retainers for ball bearings that were sold to the Strom Bearing Company in Chicago, Illinois. In 1924, a number of ex-Strom employees moved to

Valparaiso, Indiana and interested James McGill in producing bearings using the aluminum bronze retainers formerly sold through the Strom Company. The initial production was under the trademark of "Shubert," but in late 1926 all bearings were marked with the McGill name.

Hardwork and dedication led McGill to become a nationally-recognized leading source of precision bearings. After their incorporation, McGill expanded and built additional plants in Indiana, Texas, and Taiwan. In 1990, McGill was sold to Emerson and McGill/EPT in Valparaiso is the headquarters of the Emerson Power Transmission Division.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending McGill Manufacturing/EPT for their outstanding contributions. The proud history of this outstanding company deserves to be honored by Congress. This company has contributed to the growth and development of the economy of the First Congressional District, and I am very proud to honor them in Washington, DC.

CFTC'S EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee and a conferee on the energy bill, I want to make it clear that sections 316 and 1281 of the conference report dealing with Natural Gas and Electricity Market Transparency are quite important. Those provisions clearly affirm the long established legal foundation of the Commodity Exchange Act, specifically the exclusive jurisdiction of the CFTC over exchanges and trading of futures in this country. I applaud the work of the conferees in producing sections 316 and 1281, which directs the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, CFTC, to complete a memorandum of understanding regarding information sharing between the commissions within 180 days of enactment, without affecting the exclusive jurisdiction of the CFTC with respect to markets under its jurisdiction.

The Conferees recognized that domestic energy markets involve activity in both the physical energy markets and in futures markets, and that the FERC and the CFTC have important oversight duties in these markets, respectively. In order to ensure effective and efficient oversight of these markets, the Conferees expect the FERC and the CFTC to use the memorandum of understanding as an opportunity to memorialize the good information sharing relationship that has developed between the two agencies over the past several years. The Conferees expect this agreement to accomplish 3 important goals: (1) avoid regulatory duplication of information reporting; (2) ensure appropriate protection of proprietary business information, including business transactions or market positions of any person and trade secrets or names of customer; and (3) acknowledge the respective jurisdictions of both agencies in order to avoid any jurisdictional overlap. Moreover, the Committee expects the memorandum of understanding to

insure that in creating an effective and efficient means for FERC to secure legitimately needed market trading information in the possession of the CFTC, FERC does not attempt to secure such information directly from CFTC-regulated futures exchanges. This would be contrary to the CFTC's exclusive jurisdiction over those futures exchanges and inconsistent with the longstanding process followed by all other Federal and State authorities. Sections 316 and 1281 do not give—and no other provisions of the NGA and FPA give—FERC such authority. Rather, these sections specifically intend for FERC to get such information but only through submitting its requests to CFTC.

I would further note that FERC will be subject to same restrictions on the use of such futures and options trading data information as the CFTC. Section 8(e) of the Commodity Exchange Act places restrictions on the public disclosure of futures and options trading data, as well as other sensitive CFTC information. If the CFTC provides futures and options trading data, or other materials identified in section 8, to FERC then FERC will be subject to the same restrictions as the CFTC, or any other Federal or State Agency which receives such information.

It is my understanding that the CFTC has a long history of sharing futures and options trading data as well as other confidential materials from their investigations with FERC and other Federal and State agencies who have a legitimate need for such information. Federal and State agencies not only recognize the exclusive jurisdiction of the CFTC but they also agree that they are subject to the section 8 restrictions on public disclosure of the information they receive. For these reasons it is my view that the MOD between the CFTC and FERC will merely formalize well established practices in tills area.

BEST PRACTICES IN THE HEDGE
FUND INDUSTRY

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, the hedge fund industry plays a critical and special role in our capital markets and is enormously important to helping institutional investors diversify their investment portfolios and meet their future funding needs.

While the numbers fluctuate some, there are believed to be close to 8,000 hedge funds that manage approximately \$1 trillion in assets. Connecticut's Fourth Congressional District, which I'm very proud to represent, is the home to several hundred of the most successful hedge funds.

Over the past few years, the industry has received increasing attention from the media, Congress and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). I happen to believe that strong oversight of our financial markets is critical to our nation's economic well-being, but recognize that with sophisticated and knowledgeable investors, hedge funds do not require the same level of scrutiny as is paid to the mutual fund industry. Nevertheless, it seems to me that more transparency and better government and regulator understanding of