

Here was a man as complex in his thinking, as he was simple in his focus on bettering the lives of so many. He ably balanced political acumen with the ability to traverse and bridge party and ideological lines, bringing a voice to the voiceless, hope to the hopeless, and instilling a fighting spirit in those who felt lifeless and forgotten.

Arthur Teele was a skilled and brilliant strategist, who knew not only the pulse but felt the heart beat of his constituency; moreover, he moved deftly and with passion through all political and social ranks, regardless of political affiliations, to bring to many communities much needed services. As head of the U.S. Urban Mass Transportation Administration, he built bridges of influence that brought transportation, jobs, and much needed services to depressed minority communities and the urban core. He stood tall and strong as a champion of enterprise, and as an advocate for changing the social, economic, and political fabric of communities across Florida, and indeed the Nation.

Arthur Teele, was the consummate man against the odds, taking on the fight for social and economic parity. He made us feel we were important and necessary partners in the fight to make this region, this State, and this Nation honor its promises to all citizens.

His legacy may well be written from varying viewpoints, yet I remind you that in all things, the good that men and women do, will in the eyes of those who really care, outlive and outshine all the other utterances.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6, ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the conference report on H.R. 6, the omnibus energy bill. H.R. 6 is an important step toward increasing our Nation's energy independence by investing in energy efficiency and alternative energy sources.

As a member of the House Renewable Energy Caucus, I support measures in H.R. 6 to encourage and increase the use of renewable and alternative energy sources. H.R. 6 includes important tax incentives for energy efficiency programs and renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar production. This measure also includes a tax credit of up to \$3,400 for certain hybrid cars and trucks. As a cochair of the House Biofuels Caucus, I also support raising the renewable fuels standard to 7.5 billion gallons by 2012, which is more than triple the current amount.

Over the past several Congresses, there have been several issues that have continually blocked congressional passage of comprehensive energy legislation, and I commend the conference committee on eliminating these controversial provisions from this final conference report. H.R. 6 does not include a provision providing for drilling in the Alaskan National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), which had been part of past energy legislation. This pristine 1.5 million acre coastal plain is often referred to as "America's Serengeti" because of the presence of caribou, polar bears, grizzly

bears, wolves, migratory birds, and many other species living in a nearly undisturbed state. While some consider this area to be one of the most promising U.S. onshore oil and gas prospects, studies indicate that this area could only provide 6 month's supply of oil, 10 years from now, and consequently have no significant effect on our nation's dependence on foreign oil.

Past versions of the energy legislation have also contained a safe-harbor provision for producers of MTBE and other fuel oxygenates from product liability claims. Under previous energy bills, states and cities would have been prevented from bringing against potential offenders "defective product" lawsuits, which some cities have employed to recapture the cost of MTBE cleanups. The U.S. Conference of Mayors has stated that the cost of cleanup could run more than \$29 billion. If our states and localities were forced to pay these costs, the real costs would be borne by taxpayers. I commend the conference committee for eliminating this costly provision, and not making taxpayers responsible for the actions of a few MTBE producers.

While I voted for H.R. 6, there are several provisions that concern me. The conference agreement fails to adequately address climate change by not including even the modest proposal adopted by the Senate. This provision, authored by Senator CHUCK HAGEL, would use tax credits to encourage, but not require, industry reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, including carbon dioxide. Furthermore, the conference agreement also requires an inventory of oil and natural gas resources in offshore areas, including areas now closed to drilling. I am concerned about this provision, because it could lead to opening these environmentally sensitive areas to offshore drilling. In addition, I am also disappointed that the final conference report did not include a "renewable portfolio standard" that would have required utilities to get 10 percent of their electricity from alternative energy sources, such as wind and solar power, by 2020.

While this is not a perfect bill, I believe it is an important first step in creating a comprehensive energy policy that invests in energy efficiency and alternative energy sources. We owe it to our children and grandchildren to develop and implement energy policies, which will decrease our dependence of foreign oil and that protect consumers, communities, and environmentally sensitive areas.

CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS FOR CARIBBEAN IMMIGRANTS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit to the RECORD an article from the July 26, New York Carib News in support of citizen rights for Caribbean immigrants. Caribbean migrants have worked in the country for centuries. The Caribbean is the source of the U.S.'s earliest and largest Black immigrant group and the primary source of growth of the Black population in the U.S. The region has exported more of its people than any other region of the world since the abolition of slavery in 1834. The fact that there are close to 50

major Caribbean carnivals throughout North America attests to the permanence of the Caribbean immigration experience.

Caribbean music, such as soca, calypso, reggae, and now reggaeton, is having a profound impact on U.S. popular culture. Other Caribbean cultural expressions, like food, dance and art, are becoming established in mainstream America. The prominence of first- and second-generation Caribbean figures in U.S. labor and grassroots politics for many decades also testifies to the long tradition and established presence of the Caribbean population.

Today many Caribbean workers can be found in the hospital, construction, service and hotel industries, but there is also a growing professional sector. Estimates of the Caribbean population in the U.S. range upwards from 2.6 million, depending on how one defines the Caribbean.

While the largest Caribbean immigrant sources to the U.S. are from Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Haiti, U.S.-citizen migrants also come from Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Many of the undocumented immigrants from the Caribbean islands have been living, working and making vital contributions to our country for many years. In New York it is almost impossible to walk down the streets of Harlem or Brooklyn without hearing a Caribbean accent or coming across a Jamaican eatery.

The members of the Caribbean community are hard working, pay into our social security system and have U.S.-born children who do not know a home other than the United States.

In the great state of New York alone, undocumented workers pay more than \$1 billion in taxes a year.

I believe that members of the Caribbean community who have had a long working record and qualify for U.S. naturalized citizenship should apply. The United States is historically a nation of immigrants. Our ancestors all had the possibility to fulfill their American Dream and I think that the same opportunity should be given to hard working newcomers who came to this country from the Caribbean.

I introduce in the RECORD the article from the July 26 NYCarib.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CITIZENS—WE MUST HEAR IT OVER AND OVER

It may have not been a fresh bit of advice and it certainly wasn't an observation by an elected official that we hadn't heard before.

Still, when U.S. Representative Gregory Meeks, a democrat of New York City said it, his point resonated with a lot of us.

Yes, they should become citizens, it makes a lot of sense, said the member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Queens when asked about Caribbean immigrants becoming citizens of the United States.

"Too many people from the Caribbean are eligible for citizenship but they fail to step forward," he complained.

Perhaps, he needs to repeat it again and again so that more people in and out of his Sixth Congressional District and across the country would act.

People from the Caribbean, who have made the United States their home have every good reason to become naturalized American citizens. One is that it opens opportunities, such as jobs, scholarships and the like that are often reserved for citizens.

Another, it protects them from capricious actions by immigration authorities who would like to do nothing more than to "send