

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IUU FISHING ACT

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2018

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Human Trafficking and IUU Fishing Act. I thank my colleagues, Congressman GRIJALVA (D-AZ) and Congresswomen RADEWAGEN (R-AS) and BONAMICI (D-OR), for their support as original cosponsors.

Increasingly, we are seeing foreign fishing fleets forcing vulnerable people—migrant workers taken or smuggled out of their home countries and coerced into taking illegal narcotics as stimulants—to fish around the clock without rest, out of fear for their very lives.

Human trafficking and forced labor in the global seafood industry is, very simply, a form of modern slavery.

The United Nations' International Labor Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and the International Organization for Migration all recognize human trafficking, forced labor, and related transnational organized crime in the seafood industry to be pressing global problems.

In June 2018, the U.S. State Department's Trafficking in Persons Report identified more than 40 countries with substantial human trafficking and forced labor across their seafood industries and supply chains.

This is especially true in southeast Asia and the south Pacific, where IUU fishing dominates much of the seafood industry.

Right now, trafficked persons who were forced into the IUU fishing industry remain marooned on sparse islands in the South China Sea, waiting to be rescued.

Seafood products harvested with slave labor are largely untraceable and could end up in our grocery store aisles, on the menu at our restaurants, or on our family dinner tables.

Last year, the United States imported some \$21.5 billion in seafood products from abroad.

Congress and the Executive Branch have a responsibility to ensure that the United States does not import any seafood associated with human trafficking, forced labor, or other human rights abuses.

To address this problem, our Human Trafficking and IUU Fishing Act would add the Secretary of Commerce (NOAA Fisheries) to the President's existing Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, chaired by the Secretary of State.

Human trafficking and illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing rank among the top global crimes.

These criminal activities generate billions in illicit profits each year for transnational criminal organizations and other groups responsible for human rights abuses.

Since 2016, U.S. Customs and Border Protection has detained 15 shipments of seafood processed illegally in mainland China by North Korean workers under forced labor.

With poor traceability and a lack of accountability in the global seafood supply chain, we simply do not know where our seafood products come from or the conditions under which they are harvested and processed.

We must ensure that American fishermen are never expected to compete against foreign seafood imports harvested with slave labor.

Our bipartisan bill builds upon the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-386), sponsored by Congressman SMITH (R-NJ) from New Jersey.

I urge all my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring the Human Trafficking and IUU Fishing Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2018

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present during roll call vote number 397, 398, and 399 on September 13, 2018, due to recent surgery. Had I been present, on roll call vote number 397, I would have voted NO; on roll call vote number 398, I would have voted YES; and on roll call vote number 399, I would have voted YES.

RECOGNIZING MIKE ANDREW LEPRINO

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2018

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mike Andrew Leprino. Mike passed away on August 30th, and leaves behind a legacy of hard work, generosity, and community service. He truly lived the American dream. His loss will be greatly felt in our community, as well as across Colorado, California, and the United States.

Mike was the son of Italian immigrants who came to the United States in 1914. Eventually settling in Colorado, the Leprino's opened a small Italian grocery store in 1950 where they sold a variety of cheeses, in the style of their native Italy. While chain grocery stores competition caused their small business to close, the Leprino's did not despair, instead they came up with a new way to thrive by entering the newly booming market of cheese for pizzas. Soon their new company, Leprino Foods, began to grow exponentially.

Mike was a pillar in the Denver community. A banker, developer and community servant. Some of the greatest treasures and neighborhoods in our state were built and funded by Mike. He gave back relentlessly to his state and country, something that he also instilled in each of his children.

Mr. Speaker, I can think of no better example of the American dream, than that of Mike,

and his parent's before him. They always remained optimists and Mike is someone who from humble beginnings built an enviable legacy in our state. We can all take a lesson in hard work, determination, and the entrepreneurial spirit from Mike Leprino. He is preceded in death by his wife Joan, son Michael, sister Ange Testa, and brother Lou. Mike is survived by his wife Suzy, daughters; Laurie Leprino, Nancy Leprino, and Mary Leprino. He is also survived by 6 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, sister Marie Videtto and brother Jim Leprino. Those of us who were fortunate enough to know Mike and his indomitable optimism and spirit will miss him.

RECOGNIZING THE BICENTENNIAL OF MARTINSBURG, INDIANA

HON. TREY HOLLINGSWORTH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2018

Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Bicentennial of Martinsburg, Indiana.

Martinsburg was founded in the wilderness of southern Indiana less than two years after the Hoosier State joined the union. Over the course of 200 years, the inevitable forces of time and nature have changed Martinsburg, but fortunately much remains the same.

Martinsburg is still a town that prides itself on being a friendly place to grow up and a good place to raise a family. It is still a town that knows that small-town values of decency, hospitality, and hard work are worth protecting.

It is a town that remembers and treasures its heritage. Members of the namesake Martin family still live, work, and worship here. In fact, since 1859, residents have been able to shop or just visit at Billy Martin's Store. Today, they boast that they are the oldest operating store to be passed down from father to son in the entire state of Indiana.

It is a town that understands that when disaster strikes, the only way to rebuild is to rebuild together. Many of the homes and storefronts look different today than in the old pictures because while the tornado may have destroyed homes, it did not destroy this community.

Martinsburg is not just part of the fabric of our Hoosier history, but also our American history. Each year, millions of visitors to the Smithsonian have the opportunity to see the orange school bus that carried rural children to school in Martinsburg during the 1930s and '40s.

Much has changed, but the spirit and values that have made this community great for two centuries have not. Martinsburg is truly a magnificent addition to Washington County and the state of Indiana. I am honored to represent this town and its people on the 200th anniversary of their founding. Here's to the next 200 years of friendship, fellowship, and community in Martinsburg, Indiana.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.