

2. Encourages research on alternative methods of administration to decrease the harmful effects related to smoking; and

3. Urges the Administration and Congress to move expeditiously to make cannabis available as a legal medicine where shown to be safe and effective and to immediately allow access to therapeutic cannabis through the Investigational New Drug Program.

WORLD HAS A CHOICE: FAMILY PLANNING OR CHAOS

HON. CHARLES WILSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 1995

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, as the ranking minority member of the Appropriations Committee on Foreign Operations I wanted to bring to everyone's attention once again an issue which we cannot ignore and which figured prominently in floor debate yesterday.

We cannot keep putting money toward economic assistance in developing countries without first addressing the population problem through family planning funding. Continuing to turn our backs on this issue and relying solely on development aid is like pouring water in a leaky bucket.

The Houston Chronicle recently ran an op-ed piece that address these concerns very well. I submit it now, for your consideration.

[From the Houston Chronicle, Dec. 11, 1995]

WORLD HAS A CHOICE: FAMILY PLANNING OR CHAOS

(By Werner Fornos)

As the year draws to a close, the consequences of rapid population growth in a world that already has more than 5.7 billion—79 percent of them living in the world's poorest countries and regions—are being brought into sharp focus.

Some 600,000 square miles of forest have been cut in the last 10 years, much of it attributable to the need for more living space and firewood, still the main source of cooking and heating fuel in the developing world.

Twenty-six billion tons of topsoil have been lost.

Regional fresh water supplies are dangerously low. Rivers are drying up and many lakes are at their lowest levels in history.

All 17 of the world's major fisheries are being exploited at or beyond their capacity.

Eighty-eight nations have been classified by the United Nations World Food Program as low-income, food-deficit countries, unable to grow or buy enough food to accommodate their inhabitants.

There are nearly 960 million illiterates in the world today, but 130 million children—including 90 million girls—are denied access to primary schooling.

About half a million women die every year of pregnancy-related causes.

All this in a world growing by nearly 100 million people a year.

Meanwhile, a myopic majority in the U.S. House of Representatives, overlooking these facts regarding the interrelationship between overpopulation, poverty, maternal and child mortality and environmental degradation, continues to confuse—either by design or denial—family planning with abortion.

The House has voted twice this year to deny funding to the United Nations Population Fund, the largest provider of multilat-

eral population assistance to poor countries, so long as it continues to support voluntary family planning programs in the People's Republic of China. The rationale behind these votes is rooted in allegations that the Chinese national population program relies on coercive abortion, though not a dime of U.N. assistance to China has ever been found to finance abortion, forced or voluntary, there or anywhere else.

Ironically, the net effect of withdrawing U.S. assistance to the fund (the 1996 contribution request for that agency is \$35 million) does little to penalize China. But it does needlessly punish women and children in the world's poorest countries that seek agency support and who are placed in harms way as potential victims of pregnancies that occur too soon, too frequently and too closely spaced.

In fact, there are an estimated 350 million couples in the world who do not have access to a full range of family planning services, and it has been conservatively estimated that 120 million of these couples would use these services if they were available.

But the irony does not stop there. The U.N. Population Fund's assistance to China and 140 other countries is primarily in the areas of establishing and strengthening the delivery of conventional modern family planning information, education and services. Under its mandate, the fund cannot be involved in the delivery of abortion services.

It should be remembered that China with 1.2 billion people, is the most populous country in the world. By the year 2030, the population of China is expected to consume an amount of grain equivalent to the entire world grain production of 1994.

The U.S. Senate, contending there is a sufficient safeguard in the existing prohibition against the U.N. agency using any funds in China that have been contributed by the United States, has rejected both efforts of the House of Representatives to cut off the contribution to the Population Fund.

The Senate apparently understands what the House cannot seem to grasp: Family planning is the first line of defense against abortion.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR DEBATE AND CONSIDERATION OF THREE MEASURES RELATING TO U.S. TROOP DEPLOYMENTS IN BOSNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM BROWNBACK

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 1995

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. Speaker, I continue to oppose President Clinton's plan to deploy 20,000 United States troops to Bosnia. While I want to end the genocide that has plagued the Balkan Peninsula for the last 4 years, the administration's plan for achieving peace in Bosnia is severely flawed, and, I fear, destined to fail.

We would not be debating whether the United States should send troops to Bosnia if Presidents Bush and Clinton had not supported the misguided international arms embargo imposed upon Bosnia. If we had lifted the arms embargo several years ago and imposed a no-fly-zone over Bosnia, the out-numbered Bosnian Serb forces would never

have achieved military superiority over the Bosnian Government troops.

Instead, we prevented the Bosnian Government forces from defending themselves while Serbia armed the Bosnian Serbs. This policy led to more than 200,000 deaths and created more than 2 million refugees.

Having suffered the consequences of one bad policy decision, we now face another. However, this time, we are risking not only more Bosnian lives, but American lives as well.

The greatest flaw in the administration's current strategy is that peace has not yet been achieved. There will be no peace as long as there are 4,000 or more foreign Moslem fighters in Bosnia. There will be no peace as long as the Bosnia Croats refuse to fully cooperate with the International War Crimes Tribunal. In addition, there will be no peace as long as rank-and-file Bosnian Serbs continue to oppose the peace plan.

All sides in this conflict have a considerable amount of work to do before peace can be achieved. Until all of the parties demonstrate their commitment to ending the bloodshed, long-term peace will not be possible, regardless of the number of troops that are used to separate the warring parties.

As long as there is no meaningful peace, United States troops deployed in Bosnia will serve as convenient targets for rogue units frustrated by their inability to attack their real enemy. Even though, as Commander in Chief, the President has the constitutional authority to commit United State soldiers to Bosnia, I cannot support a plan that does not minimize the risks to, and maximize the security of, our troops, especially a deployment that is not vital to our national security interest.

I fully support every man and woman who has volunteered to serve in our armed services. I have the greatest admiration for these men and women, and they enjoy my unequivocal support, whether they are here or abroad. By deciding to deploy our troops in Bosnia under the current plan for a mission that is not vital to our national security interests, the President has not properly minimized the risks in military duty, and has jeopardized the credibility that our political leaders enjoy with our Armed Forces.

TRIBUTE TO MARCIN GORA

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a young and talented individual from my home State of Michigan, Marcin Gora of Shelby Township. Marcin recently traveled to Lyon, France, where he competed in the International Vocational Training Competitions [IVTC] as part of Team USA.

Team USA was fielded by the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America [VICA]—a national organization of students in public high schools