

a time into Mexico, which then return to Colombia with 20 to 30 million dollars of U.S. currency.

FEINSTEIN LEGISLATION ON MEXICAN TRUCKING COMPANIES AND NAFTA

On December 18, 1995, the Secretary of Transportation indefinitely postponed the approval of applications from Mexican trucking companies seeking cross-border access to points in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California.

The legislation I have introduced would require three things occur before pending applications can be approved:

(1) The Secretary of Transportation must certify to Congress that Mexican carriers are in compliance with U.S. size, weight, insurance and hazardous materials requirements;

(2) The President must certify to Congress that Mexico is taking sufficient steps to combat international narcotics trafficking pursuant to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2291k(b)); and,

(3) The Congress approves the application by passing a prescribed joint resolution.

SENATOR FEINSTEIN'S MEXICO LOAN GUARANTEE LEGISLATION

1. Unless the President of the U.S. certifies Mexico's progress on drug enforcement issues, Mexico should not receive the benefits of the loan guarantees. The certification addresses the following:

(1) Complies with all outstanding requests for extradition by the United States.

(2) Enacts and implements effective "money laundering" laws.

(3) Takes action to prevent Mexico's drug profiteers from taking advantage of plans to "privatize" formerly public assets, such as banks.

(4) Enacts effective laws to inspect and license trucks, cars and aircraft, as well as their owners and operators to assist drug crime enforcement.

(5) Enacts effective laws to control the import of major pre-cursor chemicals for methamphetamines and other narcotics.

(6) Takes specific action to effect the arrests of Mexican drug cartel leaders or other individuals involved in organized crime.

(7) Adopts a comprehensive program for drug enforcement and assists U.S. law enforcement to take effective action.

(8) Implements a plan and takes specific action dedicated to detecting and halting the large scale air transportation of narcotics.

(9) Take specific action to prosecute graft and corruption among civilian government and military officials that assist drug production/smuggling.

(10) Allows for asset forfeiture of property derived through fraud in connection with the loans or any illegal activity, such as drug trafficking.

2. Legislation would prohibit further disbursements from the Treasury Department's Exchange Stabilization Fund (ESF).

3. Legislation would require repayment of any short-term swaps within 90 days and prohibit any new medium-term swaps entirely.

4. Legislation would prohibit the exercise of the six month renewal option.

□ 2145

THE VALUE OF A BALANCED BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. METCALF). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. TIAHRT] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, clearly we are having a very difficult time achieving a balanced budget. After taking the brunt of opinion from the liberal media, this Congress has been wondering why the President has vetoed so many reforms.

As a freshman, I ran on the principle of sound fiscal policy and a balanced budget, and as a part-time college instructor at Kansas Newman College, I taught the value of a balanced budget in economics classes. It was confirmed by the chairman of the Federal Reserve, Alan Greenspan: A balanced budget means a stronger economy. It means more jobs. It means more money in the pockets of working people.

But the President is staunch in defending the status quo, in defending big government and preventing Congress from right-sizing the Federal Government, which must happen if we ever hope to balance the budget. Instead, he is protecting big government waste.

For example, there is Clinton's Secretary of Energy, who is a congenital flier. Secretary O'Leary traveled more than 100 trips, 16 overseas. She has leased Madonna's luxury jet, taking some of those trips. The Government Accounting Office audited two of the overseas trips. They cost \$1.7 million and there are \$255,000 of expenses that are unaccounted for.

When you consider Travelgate, where the White House fired Billy Dale and seven other employees and drag Mr. Dale through the court system for 2 years over \$18,000, it seems inconsistent that we would allow Secretary O'Leary to go without accounting for that quarter of a million dollars.

And then there is Clinton's Secretary of Commerce, out-of-town Brown. His travel budget is 150 percent of his predecessor's, Robert Mosbacher. As reported in the Washington Times, an audit by a Department inspector general said, and I quote:

In Mr. Brown's case, the auditors found the Secretary seems to have been habitually accompanied by a slew of private-sector deadbeats masquerading as consultants who collectively still owe the government, that is, the taxpayers, \$360,000 for unpaid advances.

Going on, it says,

One wonders whether any of them were the same Democratic Party fat cats who routinely accompanied Mr. Brown around the world, grabbing their slice of the pie to which they no doubt felt entitled by virtue of their huge donations to the Democratic National Committee before, during and after Mr. Brown's tenure as chairman of the Democratic Party.

That article goes on to talk about how the Inspector General uncovered unpaid charges on government credit cards. Three hundred Commerce Department employees were delinquent on their payments on government credit cards. Six hundred people, some of them not even government employees, who have government credit cards, were using the government credit cards at automatic teller machines, ATM's, to get cash.

Can you imagine what it is like for taxpayers like David Walker, who

works the second shift at the Boeing Company? How long does he have to stand at his machine to pay enough taxes to cover the cash that has been withdrawn at the Commerce Department?

Those dollars were very much wasted. How long are we going to put up with this? I think we have put up with it for too long. I hope that the President will stop defending this tremendous waste, stop condoning this tremendous waste, stop defending and condoning the status quo, balance the budget. Our families do not deserve this type of treatment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

TRIBUTE TO KWEISI MFUME

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Ms. PELOSI] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, earlier this evening I heard it announced that our colleague, Representative KWEISI MFUME, was submitting his resignation to the Congress of the United States. Tonight he cast his last vote, a vote which followed hundreds of votes in support of people across this country. I was pleased to serve in the Congress with him but especially on the Banking Committee a number of years ago when we both came to the House of Representatives. On that committee Congressman MFUME was a champion for affordable housing, for low-income housing, for consumer credit for all Americans and for access to loans for people who wanted to gain equity in business but who had been banned from doing so, also for those who wanted to buy homes but who had been red-lined in the past.

Congressman MFUME served very well in the Chair that you occupy now, Mr. Speaker. He knew how to keep order in the House. He did so with great dignity. But he also knew how to raise a ruckus in the name of social justice. We will all miss him greatly here. I feel as a Californian, I rise to speak about Congressman MFUME, and he is a representative, as you know, from Baltimore, MD, because I, too, am a native of Baltimore. My father Thomas D'Alesandro served as a Member of Congress for parts of Mr. MFUME's district that he now represents. So I was sorry not to be part of the Maryland delegation's tribute yesterday to Congressman MFUME but my committee assignments prevented me from doing that. Nonetheless, I am proud to have been a colleague of Mr. MFUME's.

I wish him and the NAACP much success under this new, fresh leadership and know that every Member of this