

national and security interests in maintaining strong economic links with the Caribbean region.

Secretary Christopher's announcement advances a bipartisan proposal currently before the Congress that will correct the unintended adverse effects of Nafta on the Caribbean Basin. The prospect of enhanced U.S.-Caribbean trade links enjoys wide-spread support, and has been endorsed by many Caribbean heads of government and countless business and community leaders, both in the U.S. and in the Caribbean.

As currently envisioned, the proposal will insure that Caribbean and Mexican exports enjoy equal access to the U.S. market during the next 10 years. During this transitional period of "Nafta parity," Caribbean countries will be required to take reciprocal steps to expand market access for U.S. products, strengthen investment guarantees, expand worker's rights, and improve intellectual property protection. By the end of the 10-year period, the U.S. will have strengthened its commercial relationship with the Caribbean region while the CBI countries will be in a better position to join a hemispheric-wide free Trade Area of the Americas.

The benefits of Nafta parity would be felt strongly over the next few years in both the Caribbean and in the U.S. Presently, the U.S.-Caribbean commercial relationship supports more than 260,000 jobs in the U.S. and countless more throughout the Caribbean. The Caribbean Basin is now the 10th-largest export market for the U.S. and one of the few regions in the world where U.S. exporters maintain trade surpluses. Nafta parity will build on this framework as elevated trade levels generate thousands of new jobs each year in the U.S. and the Caribbean.

The benefits to U.S. industry for this program are clear as well. Nafta parity will enhance international competitiveness of the U.S. textile and apparel industry by building on the productive relationship already enjoyed by U.S. and Caribbean firms. Since Caribbean garment exports rely upon U.S. components and labor for as much as 70% of their value-added, and expansion of the Caribbean garment industry directly benefits U.S. firms and workers. Many Caribbean governments already operate programs that successfully fight illegal textile transshipment from East and South Asian countries, so Nafta parity will strengthen a framework that protects the domestic industry from quota violations. Finally, as Caribbean governments take steps to strengthen intellectual property and investment protections—as Jamaica has already done—many other U.S. industries will gain.

This trading relationship means that overall economic growth and development in the Caribbean Basin can directly translate into expanded export opportunities for the U.S. Roughly 60 cents of each dollar the region earns from exports to the U.S. market is spent in the U.S. buying American-made consumer goods, food products, raw materials and capital equipment.

In this context, Nafta parity has emerged as a cost-effective economic and foreign policy instrument to promote regional development. Increased trade activity will provide many additional commercial opportunities, which are so crucial for healthy economic growth in cities and rural areas throughout the U.S. Stronger trade links will inevitably lead to better cooperation in other areas, such as narcotics interdiction, anticorruption activities, and efforts to fight terrorism and international crime. Moreover, as Caribbean economies prosper, they will become less dependent on U.S. foreign aid at a time when foreign assistance is getting close scrutiny. In many ways, therefore, Nafta parity represents a tangible "trade,

not aid" approach, which has taken on new importance in light of the U.S. budget debate.

Numerous studies have shown that strong regional economic links are crucial not only in creating economic opportunities throughout the U.S. and the Caribbean Basin but also in supporting stable and mutually beneficial security relationships. Congress should advance U.S. national security interests in the region by moving quickly to enact Nafta parity.

SALUTE TO J. DOUGLAS BALCOMB
AND HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO RE-
NEWABLE ENERGY

HON. DAN SCHAEFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 29, 1996

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, this morning the Department of Energy awarded the John Ericsson Award in Renewable Energy to Dr. J. Douglas Balcomb of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, CO.

A pioneer in the field of solar energy research for 17 years, Dr. Balcomb received his Ph.D. in nuclear engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1961. One of his earliest notable offerings was the solar load ratio technique for qualifying the energy performance of passive and active components and mixed systems. This accomplishment gave the solar energy design community a direct, verifiable method of evaluating solar features—a method that is now used worldwide and has led to the development of many passive-design tools. The American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineer's design manual, *Passive Solar Heating Analysis*, is an outgrowth of the method.

Dr. Balcomb's involvement in design has led to a collaboration with the Passive Solar Industries Council and the National Association of Home Builders. The collaboration has produced *Builderguide*, a user-friendly computer-based spreadsheet that calculates locale-specific energy performance and comfort. Dr. Balcomb is now adjusting his basic methodology for residential design to small commercial buildings, thus making the technology widely available in the private sector.

Dr. Balcomb has published over 100 technical papers and lectured in 26 countries on effective passive design and is a past chairman of the American Solar Energy Society.

I congratulate Dr. J. Douglas Balcomb as he receives the prestigious John Ericsson Award in Renewable Energy today for his important work in helping to secure our country's energy future.

IMMIGRATION IN THE NATIONAL
INTEREST ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2202) to amend

the Immigration and Nationality Act to improve deterrence of illegal immigration to the United States by increasing border patrol and investigative personnel, by increasing penalties for alien smuggling and for document fraud, by reforming exclusion and deportation law and procedures, by improving the verification system for eligibility for employment, and through other measures, to reform the legal immigration system and facilitate legal entries into the United States, and for other purposes:

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this pro-family, pro-immigration amendment.

The issues of legal and illegal immigration are not, and should not, be linked to one another. It is unfortunate that the anger, frustration, and misinformation over illegal immigration has been used to target hard-working, law-abiding, legal immigrants. Focusing our efforts on reducing illegal immigration is a responsible and proper undertaking. Slashing legal immigration, however, as H.R. 2202 does, is like fighting crime by imprisoning the innocent. While the Chrysler-Berman-Brownback amendment does not eliminate all the evils contained in this bill, it does strike some of the most blatantly xenophobic and anti-family provisions of the legislation.

The legislation, as you know, would reduce legal immigration by 40 percent over 5 years. Whole categories of legal immigration would be eliminated and excessive restrictions would be placed on the sponsors of legal immigrants. Under the bill, parents of U.S. citizens would no longer be able to migrate to the United States unless they are covered by health insurance and long-term health care policies, a requirement that is clearly beyond the means of many Americans. It is unconscionable that only the wealthy will be able to bring their parents into this country.

In addition, the bill guarantees that families of legal immigrants will forever remain divided. The unmarried adult sons and daughters of U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents are all but prohibited from joining their parents. Should brothers and sisters of U.S. citizens be able to migrate to the United States and live with one another? Not according to the sponsors of the legislation; under H.R. 2202, this category of immigration is completely eliminated. I ask the supporters of these provisions: Is America not big enough for the parents, children, and siblings of its citizens?

Mr. Chairman, though it has been said several times before, it must be said again. We are a Nation of immigrants. Ours is a proud, though not unblemished, history of providing hope and opportunity to people from all nations who are willing to work hard and abide by our laws. This bill turns that history on its head and does so by striking at one of our most cherished institutions—the nuclear family.

Legal immigrants have provided the United States with a rich return on its investment. Legal immigrants and foreign-born citizens work hard and contribute to the economy well beyond the cost of services that they consume. It is estimated that 77 percent of the foreign-born population is gainfully employed, compared to 74 percent of native-born Americans. In addition, immigrants generate \$285 billion in income and pay more than \$70 billion in taxes annually—\$25 billion more than they receive in benefits. Legal immigrants and naturalized citizens also contribute immeasurably