

On the TRI rule, however, the Clinton administration did not. No accommodation, such as a threshold for reporting to cover only those sectors of the industry that arguably merited coverage, was made for the small businesses in the affected industries.

Mr. President, it is well known that federal regulations have historically imposed a disproportionate burden on small business. Last year, we enacted the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act—better known to small businesses as the Red Tape Reduction Act—to provide tools to ensure that small businesses get a fair shake in agency rulemakings and enforcement actions. As the author of the Red Tape Reduction Act and Chairman of the Committee on Small Business, I am committed to ensuring that small businesses have the opportunity to use the tools provided by Congress, including access to and effective representation by SBA. The SBA and its Office of Advocacy has an important advocacy role to play on behalf of the hard-working men and women whose entrepreneurial spirit makes the small business sector so vibrant. In addition to providing information and assistance, the SBA must rededicate itself to being an effective voice for small business.

The material follows:

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS,
Washington, DC, April 16, 1997.

Hon. AIDA ALVAREZ,
Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration,
Washington, DC.

DEAR ADMINISTRATOR ALVAREZ: Questions have been raised regarding the activities of the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy. As the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Small Business, we would agree that any credible allegations of improper conduct should be looked into. We are equally convinced, however, that being a determined advocate for the concerns of small businesses is not improper conduct by the Chief Counsel of Advocacy or his employees. The statutory role of SBA as the voice for small business within the executive branch, a role that has been enhanced after last year's passage of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act, must not be compromised.

As the Administrator of SBA, you are keenly aware that the Office of Advocacy is expected to work with and on behalf of small business and their representatives as an essential part of its statutory mission. The effectiveness of SBA on behalf of our nation's small entrepreneurs and employers depends on communication with individual small businesses, their trade associations and other representatives. We trust that as SBA Administrator you will reject any attempt to chill proactive advocacy for small businesses by the Chief Counsel and others at SBA. To do otherwise would send a clear and alarming signal to small businesses, and would call into question the ability of SBA to carry out the critical responsibilities given to it under SBREFA and other laws.

We hope you share our commitment to ensuring that the unique concerns and interests of small businesses are given appropriate consideration by executive branch agencies. We look forward to learning what efforts you will take to support the important role historically played by the SBA and

its Office of Advocacy as an effective voice for small business.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER S. BOND,
Chairman.

U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, DC, April 29, 1997.

Hon. CHRISTOPHER S. BOND,
Chairman, Committee on Small Business, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BOND: Thank you for your and Senator Kerry's supportive letter of April 16, 1997, to SBA Administrator Alvarez. In view of your strong conviction in the role of the SBA as a voice for small business, I believe you should be aware of the results of a recent investigation conducted by my office.

Subsequent to receipt of a complaint about possible improper activity by SBA's Office of Advocacy in connection with proposed expansion of the Toxic Release Inventory, my Investigations Division conducted a thorough inquiry into the allegations. We found that the Office of Advocacy acted properly and ethically. Moreover, as you pointed out, SBA is statutorily-mandated to support and speak up for the interests of small business. During the matter in question, the Office of Advocacy was carrying out its mission in support of small business. To do otherwise would be contrary to its mandated responsibilities.

Again, thank you for the vote of confidence, and, rest assured, my office would not hesitate to take action if SBA activities were improper. Should you, or your staff, have any questions, please contact Assistant Inspector General for Investigations Steve Marica at (202) 205-6220 and refer to Office of Inspector General file number 07-0497-03.

Sincerely,

JAMES F. HOUBLER,
Inspector General.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE J. COLLINS

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to George J. Collins, a resident of Springfield, VA, who died March 23, 1997. Mr. Collins had a distinguished career of public service at the Government Printing Office [GPO]. At the time of his death, Mr. Collins was manager of the GPO's Quality Control and Technical Department, with responsibility for the development of product standards and quality attributes, testing, and inspection, as well as the supply of inks, adhesives, and other materials used in Government printing.

A native of Springfield, OH, Mr. Collins served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He received his bachelor of arts degree from Wittenberg College and pursued additional studies at the University of Cincinnati, Pennsylvania State University, North Dakota State College, the National Cash Register [NCR] Co., and with international correspondence schools. He earned certification in a variety of technical specialties, including high polymers, paint technology, water and waste treatment, industrial chemistry, and statistical methods.

Before entering Government service, Mr. Collins worked at NCR as senior research chemist in charge of their polymer group. Earlier experiences included service as a research chemist with the Commonwealth Engineering

Co. of Ohio, the Chadaloid Corp., and New Wrinkle, Inc. He also worked for the city of Springfield, OH, and the Oliver Corp. as a laboratory technician.

Mr. Collins began his career at the GPO in 1963 as supervisory chemist in the ink and reprography division of the Quality Control and Technical Department. He was promoted to deputy manager of the department in December 1974 and to manager in 1982. During his service with the GPO, Mr. Collins contributed to the development of plastic printing rollers, automated bank checks, and U.S. mail processing based on tagged inks. He chaired the inter-agency task group that developed the Federal Information Processing [FIPS] Standard for optical character recognition [OCR] form design, which proved to be the most popular FIPS standard ever published.

Mr. Collins initiated the GPO's environmental testing and control program. He established the organization that promulgated the GPO's Quality Assurance Through Attributes [QATAP] Program. The QATAP Program was a singular achievement that resulted in the use of quantifiable attributes for measuring quality in Government printing, and it is central to the GPO's program of procuring more than 75 percent of all printing annually from the private sector.

Mr. Collins served on the Joint Committee on Printing's Advisory Council on Paper Specifications, which establishes standards for the acquisition of printing and writing papers for Government use, including recycled paper. In 1994 he assisted the enactment of legislation requiring that all Federal lithographic printing be performed utilizing vegetable oil-based inks. Today, the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and other congressional information products are produced on recycled paper with vegetable-based inks, products that Mr. Collins was instrumental in helping to introduce for Government use. He also worked on increasing the use of permanent papers for the production of records with enduring educational and research value.

Mr. Collins was a member of numerous professional and industry groups, and he represented the GPO on several advisory boards and committees. He was affiliated with the Franklin Technical Society of Washington, DC, the National Association of Litho Clubs [NALC], the Technical Association of the Graphic Arts [TAGA], the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry [TAPPI], the American Chemical Society [ACS], Toastmasters International, and the Committee for Graphic Arts Technologies and Standards [CGATS]. He was the recipient of various awards for his professional activities, including the Award of Excellence from the Printing Institute of America's Executive Development Institute, and several GPO awards.

Mr. Collins was a devoted husband to his wife Eleanor, father to 5 daughters, and grandfather to 14 grandchildren.

Throughout his career, Mr. Collins exemplified skill in his profession and dedication to public service, and his contributions have made Government printing more cost-effective, efficient, and environmentally sound. I join with the employees of the Government Printing Office in expressing my sincere condolences to Mr. Collins' wife Eleanor and his family.●

APPOINTMENTS BY THE VICE PRESIDENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 United States Code 276h-276k, as amended, appoints the Senator from Utah [Mr. HATCH], the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SHELBY], and the Senator from Arizona [Mr. MCCAIN] as members of the Senate Delegation to the Mexico-United States Inter-parliamentary Group meeting to be held in Santa Fe, NM, May 16-18, 1997.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1997

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today it stand in adjournment until the hour of 10 a.m., on Friday, May 16. I further ask unanimous consent that on Friday, immediately following the prayer, the routine requests through the morning hour be granted, and the Senate then begin a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each with the following exceptions: Senator COCHRAN 15 minutes, Senator ASHCROFT or his designee from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., Senator DASCHLE or his designee for 60 minutes, Senator COVERDELL for 10 minutes, Senator FEINSTEIN for 10 minutes, Senator SNOWE for 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, for the information for all Senators, tomorrow there will be a period of morning business to allow a number of Senators time to speak. Therefore, no rollcall votes will be conducted during Friday's session of the Senate.

On Monday, we hope to begin consideration of the first concurrent budget resolution by possibly beginning debate. If any votes are ordered on the resolution, votes would be postponed to occur not before 5 p.m. on Monday.

In addition, early next week the Senate could return to the consideration of H.R. 1122, the partial-birth abortion bill, or S. 4, the Family Friendly Workplace Act. As always, Senators will be notified as soon as any agreements are reached.

KIDS III

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I have spoken many times in recent

months on my concerns for the growing threat to our kids from drug use. All of our early warning systems are sounding the alarm. All our major national reviews of drug trends indicate the emerging pattern. What they show is that month by month, day by day, minute by minute, drug use among our young people is on the rise. They also make clear that attitudes among young people about the dangers of drugs are changing—for the worse. More and more kids, some as young as 10 and 11, are seeing drug use as OK, as no big deal.

Let's stop for a minute and reflect on just what these facts mean. For those of us who remember how the last drug epidemic in this country got started, the present trend is truly disturbing. Think for a moment on what happened and how it happened. In the late 1970's and early 1980's, we saw the streets of our inner cities become battlegrounds. We saw many of our communities, our schools our public and private spaces overwhelmed with violence, addiction, and abuse. We saw families destroyed and individual lives shattered. The problem became so serious that the public demanded action. The Congress responded with comprehensive drug legislation in 1986 and 1988. We supported massive increases in public funding to fight back. We still do. To the tune of some \$16 billion annually at the Federal level alone.

That problem, the one we spend all this money on, began with our kids. It began because we as a country allowed people to sell us on the idea that drugs were OK. We bought the idea that individuals could use dangerous drugs responsibly.

The consequence was the drug epidemic of the 1970's and 1980's. An epidemic whose long-term effects we are still coping with. Let's remind ourselves who the principal audience was that was listening to all the talk about responsible drug use. It was kids. It was the baby boom generation in their teens who heard the message and took it to heart. It was a generation of young people who bought the message. It did not take them long to translate the idea that they could use drugs responsibly into the notion that they had a responsibility to use drugs.

As a result, today, a large percentage of baby boomers have tried drugs. Many of those are today's drug addicts and dealers. Many of them are today's parents who feel disarmed in talking to their own kids about drug use.

Today, we are on the verge of making the same mistake again. After years of progress in reducing drug use among kids, it is this very population that is at risk. Once again, we are seeing the glorification of drug use. Increasingly the music our kids are listening to conveys a drugs-are-okay message. The normalization of drug use is creeping back into movies, advertising, and TV. And who do you think is listening? The answer is in the numbers.

Teenage drug use is now in its fifth year of increases. And the age of onset

of use is dropping. Our last epidemic started with 16 and 17 year olds. Today's "at-risk" population, the age of onset, is 12 and 13 year olds.

One of the major reasons for this is that we have lost our message. We have in recent years been inconsistent. And, we are seeing a more sophisticated effort by some to once again promote the idea that drug use is okay. And they are targeting our young people.

Nothing brings this home better than an item in the Washington Post on 27 April.

The Sunday's Outlook section had a piece by a young woman in a New York City high school. She wrote about a recent drug lecture in her health science class. The article, entitled "Lessons You Didn't Mean to Teach Us," is arresting. I invite all my colleagues to read the piece. I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion or of my remarks.

The Article official without objection, it is so ordered.

(See Exhibit.)

Mr. GRASSLEY. The article is based on a letter this young woman wrote to her teacher. She felt compelled to write following a lecture to her class by what was billed as a former drug addict. As she says, she expected to hear about the dangers of drug use. What she and the class got, however, was very different.

In this case, a very clean-cut looking young man, identified as a former addict, spoke. While the teacher was present, the speaker evidently did talk about the problems of his personal drug use. Once the teacher left the room, though, the message changed. Instead of an anti-message, the lecture became a mini-course on drugs, drug use, and how to make a killing selling drugs. Among the things the speaker passed on was a recipe for a stronger form of cocaine. The speaker extolled the virtues of being stoned. He "raved" about the incredible amounts of money to be made peddling drugs. He left the class with the advice that since no one could drug test for alcohol, that it was okay to drink.

The teacher in this particular class, based on negative feedback, has decided not to leave classes alone with future guest speakers. Unfortunately, as the young woman who wrote about this incident notes, the damage is done.

Mr. President, if you, or any of my colleagues, have not yet read this letter, I encourage you to do so. The story that it tells is very poignant, and very disturbing. We know that there is a growing acceptance of drug use among our children. We can see the reports and the story they tell. But what we don't always appreciate is why.

As this letter makes clear, the drugs-are-okay message is back. I would hope that this lecture by this individual was an accident and a one-time occurrence. But I am concerned that it is representative of a growing effort to influence the young. His talk apparently