

HAZE REGULATIONS IN EASTERN
COLORADO**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as you know, state and local officials often bear the brunt of decisions made here in Washington. They contend with the real-life consequences of unrealistic attempts to force national, one-size-fits-all standards on problems that vary from state to state.

A case in point is the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed rules concerning haze regulations. These proposed rules fail to take sufficient account of the unique conditions and challenges faced by local officials. What may be applicable to northern Arkansas, is not necessarily the right solution for eastern Colorado. By failing to recognize these unique situations, the EPA's regulations become one more obstacle for local officials, and do little to mitigate the problem they intended to solve.

I rise today to inform the House of a Joint Resolution recently adopted by the Colorado Legislature, and I believe this House would be well served to heed their advice. I submit for the RECORD the text of this Resolution:

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 98-003

CONCERNING A RECOMMENDATION THAT THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS ADOPT A LEGISLATIVE RULE REVIEW PROCESS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

Whereas, On July 31, 1997, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking concerning regional haze regulations (the Notice); and

Whereas, In the Notice, the EPA cites as legislative authority for the proposed regulations a federal statute directing the EPA to ensure "reasonable progress" toward the attainment of improved visibility in class I areas; and

Whereas, Under this rubric of "reasonable progress", the EPA seeks to impose a rigid scheme of steadily increasing requirements nationwide, without exception and without consideration for the very real differences among the various states and regions affected; and

Whereas, The EPA has estimated that implementation of this program will cost approximately 2.9 billion dollars, of which 2.07 billion dollars will come from states in the West that already have the cleanest air in the nation; and

Whereas, Of such visible pollution as there may be that affects class I areas in the Western states, a significant portion comes from beyond their borders or originates on lands controlled by federal agencies; and

Whereas, For these reasons, the proposed regulations are grossly unfair and irrational; and

Whereas, We believe that by promulgating these regulations the EPA has far exceeded its congressional mandate to ensure "reasonable progress" in this area; and

Whereas, This is only one example of the increasingly common situation in which the EPA oversteps its delegated authority by promulgating regulations that are economically burdensome, scientifically dubious, counterproductive, and contrary to reasonable interpretations of Congressional intent; and

Whereas, Such abuses could be prevented or reduced if there were an institutional process by which Congress would have the final say about whether its directives were being faithfully carried out; and

Whereas, Colorado has had such a process in place for many years, to the great benefit of the state and its citizens; and

Whereas, Under this process, all rules newly adopted or amended by administrative agencies automatically expire within one year unless reviewed, for the limited purpose of determining whether they are within the scope of the agencies legislatively granted authority, and affirmatively extended in an omnibus bill passed by the legislature each year for that purpose; and

Whereas, We believe that the application of such a process to EPA regulations at the national level would keep the agency accountable to Congress, improve the image of the EPA and Congress in the eyes of the American public, avoid overreaching regulations such as the pending Regional Haze Regulations, and benefit both the national economy and the natural environment; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-first General Assembly of the State of Colorado, The House of Representatives concurring herein: That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, hereby request the Congress of the United States to adopt statutes analogous to sections 24-4-103(8)(d) and 25-7-133, Colorado Revised Statutes, providing for automatic legislative review of all regulations newly adopted or amended by the EPA for the purpose of determining whether they are within the scope of the EPA's legislatively delegated authority and whether they accomplish their policy objectives in a cost-effective manner and further providing for the automatic expiration, within a time certain, of all such regulations not affirmatively extended by act of Congress.

Be it further resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to each member of Colorado's Congressional delegation and the administrator of the EPA.

COMMENDING THE MOUNT LEBANON
HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL
TEAM AND MOUNT LEBANON, PA**HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Mount Lebanon High School Blue Devils who won the 1998 Pennsylvania AAA Varsity Baseball Championship. Last Thursday, June 11, they defeated Coatesville High School by the score of 9-6 at Riverside Stadium in Harrisburg. Mount Lebanon, which is located in Pennsylvania's 18th Congressional District, came back from a four-run deficit after four innings to win the first baseball championship in school history.

The Blue Devils, who were 21-4 overall with a conference record of 13-1, defeated a tough Coatesville team who posted a season record of 22-4 to clinch the PIAA state title. This victory exemplifies the quality high school athletic programs in Pennsylvania's 18th District.

Blue Devils' coach Ed McCloskey, elementary school health and physical education teacher, recently retired. The gold medals presented to his team were a timely retirement present.

Once again, I would like to congratulate the players, the coaching staff, the supportive student body and families, and also the Mount Lebanon Community. I take pride in the accomplishments of the team and appreciate the opportunity to brag amongst my colleagues on

Capitol Hill. Keep up the good work and I hope to hear of many future successes.

TRIBUTE TO NAVY SECRETARY
JOHN DALTON**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, last week, we learned about the upcoming resignation of Navy Secretary John Dalton.

I have known Secretary Dalton for many years, and consider him to be both a friend and among the finest Navy Secretaries our Nation has ever had. He understood Houston's long Naval and Maritime history.

Secretary Dalton has served his country with distinction and with honor. Although he was born and raised in Louisiana, we consider him a true Texan. He moved to Texas during the 1970's, and since then, has served as a Chairman and President in various associations in his business career.

He was nominated by President Clinton in 1993 and confirmed that same year to become the Secretary of the Navy. Under his guidance, the Navy has expanded opportunities for both women and minorities. Through his leadership, Secretary Dalton exemplified the Navy's Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment.

Secretary Dalton has had a long career of achievements as well as accomplishments. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy where he served as a Deputy Brigade Commander, a finalist in the Rhode Scholar competition as well as Lieutenant Commander during his years in the U.S. Naval Service.

In 1997, he was given the recognition of the prestigious International Security Leadership Award. This was in recognition of his leadership and promotion of American seapower and bipartisan maritime strategy.

Secretary Dalton has served with energy, conviction, and dedication at a challenging time for the Navy. In the midst of these challenges, John Dalton has ensured that the Navy remains a national priority.

Secretary Dalton has shown an unwavering commitment to our nation, and deserves our recognition and our appreciation.

ALEXANDR NIKITIN

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately the ironic phrase "no good deed goes unpunished" suits the case of Russian citizen Alexandr Nikitin. Most Russian officials will be the first to admit that the collapsed Soviet military-industrial complex left behind a deplorable environmental legacy which affects not only the Russian Federation but also Russia's neighbors. The best known example is Chernobyl, but environmental specialists could provide a much longer list of environmental "hot spots." Regrettably, certain elements of the Russian military and security service seem

determined to continue the Soviet practice of hiding the truth about environmental depredation.

Mr. Speaker, retired Russian naval officer Alexandr Nikitin has been charged with "revealing state secrets"—and if convicted, could receive the death sentence—for his work with the Norwegian environmental organization "Bellona" in exposing both the Soviet and Russian Navy's nuclear waste dumping around the White Sea and Kola Peninsular in northeast Russia. Nikitin and his supporters claim that all the material he secured for Bellona's report, "The Russian Northern Fleet: Sources of Radioactive Contamination," had already been published in open sources.

Originally charged in February 1996, he was held in detention until December 1996, when an international outcry was raised in his behalf. Still the investigation continues to drag on and on and on.

The problem, from the standpoint of the investigators and the security services, is that the Russian Federation has a constitution with provisions on civil liberties, which some in Russia take seriously, and there are now lawyers in Russia who actually know the law and defend their clients. At first, the investigators threatened to indict Nikitin on secret unpublished military instructions, but this was in conflict with Part 3, Art. 15 of the Constitution, "no regulatory legal act affecting the rights, liberties or duties of the human being and citizen may apply unless it has been published officially for general knowledge." Now after six attempted indictments, investigators have produced an indictment that the claim will pass constitutional muster.

The prominent Ukrainian writer Nicholai Gogol wrote a fictional story about a legal case that dragged on for years in Tsarist Russia. Nikitin must identify with a character from that story.

Through efforts of concerned human rights and environmental activists, the international community has begun to focus attention on the Nikitin case. *Amnesty International* has declared him as Russia's only political prisoner since the fall of the Soviet Union. The Prime Ministers of Norway and Canada have raised Nikitin's case with Prime Minister Chernomyrdin, and President Clinton has called for "just deliberations" in the case. A couple of weeks ago, former Soviet President Gorbachev stated that "there is nothing to [the Nikitin case], but that "democratic Russia still can't let go of its affection for catching spies."

Meanwhile, back on the streets of St. Petersburg, Alexandr Nikitin has been followed, believe it or not, by a group of "men in black." The tires on his car have been slashed, and his door locks filed with glue. Recently, one of his lawyers was accosted by unidentified thugs and told to "stay away from this." Another lawyer suggests, quite plausibly, that the security services realize their case is an embarrassment, and they want Nikitin to fear for his life and that of his family so that he will admit to the charges in exchange for amnesty.

Mr. Speaker, I believe sincerely that the American people and the Congress wish the Russian people well, and we wish to work together in areas such as the environment that will benefit both our peoples. But, the case of Alexandr Nikitin raises serious doubts about the Russian military and security services to find a reasonable balance between security and the public interest.

I recognize that the Russian Government and the people are working toward civilian control of the military and an established rule of law system. The resolution of the Nikitin case will be a significant indicator of progress in these areas.

HONORING VICKY MOLGARD

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Vicky Molgard who was recently named Elementary Art Educator of the Year by the Colorado Art Education Association. Ms. Molgard teaches art at Centennial, Big Thompson, and Monroe Elementary Schools. She has taught at the elementary, middle and high school levels for 17 years in the Thompson School District. In addition to her inspired work as a teacher, she is a practicing artist who serves as a role model for her young students.

Her lessons are often described as unique because she encourages her students to study and imitate the work of classic artists of all ages. She introduces her students to ideas which inspire them and she provides a creative outlet for their young minds. As a Member of Congress representing the Fourth District of Colorado where Ms. Molgard teaches, it is my honor and privilege to recognize her tremendous achievement and thank her for the time and dedication she shows to the children of the Thompson School District.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to recognize Ms. Molgard before the House for sharing her time and talents.

INTER-FAITH EFFORT TO BUILD PEACE IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. GILMAN Mr. Speaker, on May 21, 1998, along with several members of the Congress, we had the opportunity to participate in a historic visit to the Capitol of the leaders of the four major faiths of Bosnia and Herzegovina. I ask that my opening remarks at that meeting, along with those of Rabbi Arthur Schneier, be included in the RECORD. Rabbi Schneier is the President of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation which has won international recognition for its excellent work in promoting inter-faith reconciliation, tolerance and religious freedom around the world. The Appeal of Conscience Foundation has been extensively involved in working to rebuild peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

WELCOMING REMARKS BY REPRESENTATIVE BENJAMIN A. GILMAN MEETING WITH RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, MAY 21, 1998

It is a pleasure to welcome the leaders of the four major religions of Bosnia and Herzegovina. His Eminence Cardinal Vinko Pulic, Archbishop of Sarajevo, His Eminence Dr. Mustafa Cerić, leader of the Islamic

Community of Bosnia and Herzegovina, His Eminence Metropolitan Nikolaj Mrdja, Head of the Orthodox Church of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Dr. Jacob Finčić, President of the Jewish Community of Bosnia and Herzegovina are visiting the United States as part of an initiative by the Appeal of Conscience Foundation to promote reconciliation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Your efforts are to be applauded. The fact that you have together agreed to visit the United States to demonstrate your sincere interest in healing Bosnia is noteworthy and highly encouraging. As you may know, many in the Congress, myself included, were not very enthusiastic about the deployment of American troops as peacekeepers in Bosnia. We have been skeptical about whether the aim of the Dayton Peace Plan to reconstruct a multi-ethnic society in Bosnia and Herzegovina was achievable in a realistic period of time. We have been heartened, however over the past year that there have been new developments that show that the people of Bosnia do truly want to live in peace with one another, to reconstruct the devastated economy and resume normal lives.

During 1998 we will be looking very carefully at two issues: one being the return of refugees and particularly minority returns, and the second being the results of the elections scheduled for September. With regard to refugee returns, we expect there to be significant progress with large numbers of people returning to Bosnia, and, if they so choose, to their original homes. With regards to elections, we want to see continued progress on electing new leaders who advocate the aims of the Dayton Plan, and are not associated with the strident nationalist policies advocated by leaders during the war. Your visit is significant for us and we wish you success in all your efforts to promote our mutual objective of restoring peace and stability to all the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

REMARKS BY RABBI ARTHUR SCHNEIER, PRESIDENT, APPEAL OF CONSCIENCE FOUNDATION, TO THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Chairman Gilman and members of the House International Affairs Committee.

I appreciate the warm welcome you have given to the top religious leaders of the Catholic, Islamic, Serbian Orthodox and Jewish Communities of Bosnia and Herzegovina who are the guests of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation. I invited them to the United States so that for the first time together they would experience democratic institutions and pluralism in America.

Today's meeting in the United States Congress and with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright encourages them to help pursue peace, tolerance and reconciliation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In an effort to end the bloodshed in the former Yugoslavia in 1992, under the auspices of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation I brought together at a conference in Bern, Switzerland the top religious leaders of the Catholic, Islamic and Serbian Orthodox communities from the former Yugoslavia to take a united stand against the war. (Cardinal Puljić, who was then an Archbishop, is here with us today participated in the Bern conference). To further this objective the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I and I co-sponsored in 1994, the Peace and Tolerance Conference in Istanbul, where the Bosphorus Declaration was adopted; and in 1995 I brought together religious leaders for the Conflict Resolution Conference leading to the adoption of the Vienna Declaration, a prelude to the Dayton Peace Accord.

Today in Washington, DC, the capital of the free world, these religious leaders in a