

To overcome this difficulty, my bill allows the investor to invest after the initial creation of the partnership, but limits this exemption to areas where a regional center has been designated.

These regional centers as referred to in PL 102-395 Section 610, have an active role in the approval of these visas to protect against fraud. These regional centers promote economic growth, including increased export sales, improved regional activity, job creation, and increase domestic capital investment.

I am hopeful that during the conference negotiations of FY99 Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary appropriations, this important amendment will be considered as a matter of fairness.

OPPOSITION TO THE PROVISION IN THE DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL RELATED TO SATELLITE CONTROLS UNDER THE U.S. MUNITIONS LIST

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon, I voted NO on the Fiscal Year 1999 Defense Authorization Bill for a number of reasons, the most pressing is the policy included in the bill under Section 1513, that concerns American satellite and rocket cooperation with communist China.

After months of personal investigations, as Chairman of the House Science Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, I disclosed on the House floor evidence indicating that some U.S. aerospace companies had helped China upgrade its rocket system. In a cooperative effort to launch American satellites, technology and knowledge has been transferred that improved China's ability to land a nuclear weapon in the United States, including those with multiple warheads.

Since making this charge on the floor of the House, a Select Committee has been appointed to thoroughly investigate the issue. Under Congressman CHRIS COX's leadership, that committee is now underway. From what I understand, it has verified much of what I originally charged. This legislation, Section 1513, however, is letting those who betrayed America off the hook by giving them six months to complete their projects and to apply for new export licenses during that period—until March 1999—that would be excluded from national security control under the United States Munitions List.

Do we hold U.S. security that lightly that we are willing to give one of the most ruthless communist regimes on this planet the technology to further develop weapons systems that could incinerate our country?

IN CELEBRATION OF THE THIRTY YEARS OF MINISTRY OF THE CENTER OF HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH AND DR. ERNESTINE CLEVELAND REEMS, PASTOR AND FOUNDER

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join in the commemoration of the 30th Year Celebration of the Center of Hope Community Church in the East Oakland community and the Bay area. This event will be held the week of September 27 to October 3, 1998.

Under the leadership of Dr. Ernestine Cleveland Reems Pastor and Founder, the Centers of Hope have made rehabilitation and restoration of their neighborhood the center of their pastoral mission. While many concentrate on the deterioration of human lives, Center of Hope is a "Beacon of Hope" focusing on fostering urban renewal and reform. Its accomplishments, over the last 30 years in community development, are successful testaments to community partnership with Oakland's civic and corporate leadership to build a better Oakland.

The success it has achieved in its various programs has led to an 85% reduction in crime in the area. The Church founded the Hope School of Excellence, a preschool to 8th grade curricula in 1978, and many of the School's graduates have gone on to Morehouse, Howard, Spellman and the University of California. In 1985, the Food and Clothing Bank was organized to serve hot, nourishing meals and distribute clothing to the East Oakland community on a weekly basis. Single parents and/or low income households are the targets of Project REDY (Reems Enrichment Development for Youth) established in 1986, which provides development and enrichment for their children.

The Center of Hope Community Church has provided housing to the most vulnerable members of the community. E.E. Cleveland Manor, erected in 1990, is a 54-unit housing complex for senior and disabled residents. Opened in 1992, the Matilda Cleveland Transitional Housing Program is a full service housing facility for homeless single women and their children. E.C. Reems Gardens is a 150-unit affordable housing complex finished in 1998. Alvingroom Court was renamed E.C. Reems Courts in honor of its Pastor and Founder, Dr. Ernestine Cleveland Reems.

Dr. Reems was born to Elmer Elijah and Matilda Cleveland in Oklamulgee, Oklahoma and, at the age of nine, the family moved to Richmond, California. She attended Richmond High School and Patton Bible College in Oakland. Dr. Reems, faith and education to the ministry were forged when she contracted tuberculosis at age thirteen and determined that the call of God to preach the Gospel was her life's salvation.

She received her spiritual foundation in the World of God through her father, Bishop E.E. Cleveland, a national evangelist. Dr. Reems with her brother, Elmer Cleveland Jr., traveled to every major city in this country. Pastor Ernestine Reems has set the pace for women in the ministry when she founded the Center of Hope with four members in 1968. Today, the

membership exceeds 1,500. In 1973, the United States Army sent for Pastor Reems and her crusade to minister to the soldiers in West Germany for which she was honored as a Five-Star General. However, greater satisfaction came from teaching and preaching the gospel which won many soldiers to Christ.

Accolades have been bestowed upon Dr. Reems: Outstanding Service in Religion, Top 100 Black Business & Professional Women in America, Outstanding Community Service Award, State of California Legislature Women of the Year Award, Christian Image Lifetime Achievement Award, to name a few. Her highest honor was conferred upon her on February 14, 1998 as a Doctor of Divinity.

Dr. Ernestine C. Reems, as a pastor and teacher continues, to be a full-time Evangelist with the support of her husband, Paul Reems and their two sons, Brandon and Brian Ernest Reems. New heights of achievements are in the horizon for Pastor Reems and the Center of Hope Community Church and I wish them another 30 years of successful ministry.

CELEBRATING THE 27TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF MEXICAN AMERICANS

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, on October 1, the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans will be celebrating their achievements over the past 27 years. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to AAMA for its leadership and dedication to our community and would like to extend my congratulations.

Founded in 1970 in Houston, Texas, AAMA is the largest Hispanic nonprofit service provider in Texas. This community organization was founded to advance the needs of Hispanic families that are coping and struggling to beat back the grip of poverty, poor health and family planning, and low educational attainment. Today, AAMA provides services in Houston and across South Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to briefly discuss some of these services.

The George I. Sanchez Charter High School was founded in 1973 to provide at-risk Hispanic youth with an alternative educational environment. Today, the school is the largest Texas charter school, serving 389 low-income, at-risk students. The class of 1997 graduated 95 students, with one-third advancing into higher education. I was proud to host Secretary of Education Richard Riley on his visit to see one of the most successful charter schools in the nation.

The AAMA Adelante Family Education Program provides English-as-a-second language classes, GED classes, citizenship training classes, and native literacy classes to immigrants and other adults who are working toward an education that will improve their marketability in the U.S. workforce.

In addition to these education services, AAMA also operates many social service programs, including three gang intervention programs, two HIV and AIDS counseling programs and several drug and alcohol abuse programs throughout Texas. With these programs in place, it is easy to see why AAMA is the largest social service provider in Texas.