

whose overseas markets have been adversely affected by these same economic downturns. This is no less a crisis, and, equally, deserves swift and sure action by the Congress. As this Congress begins the serious business of examining the international financial crisis, and formulating the appropriate U.S. response, the measures called for in this resolution are simple logic. After hearing the words of managers and workers in the U.S. steel industry, I believe that this resolution might also accomplish another worthy goal: restoring the confidence in our international trade agenda.

Let us be realistic. This international steel crisis did not occur overnight. In fact, the crisis is in part a result of decades-long government-sponsored illegal subsidies by our trading partners that this nation has not aggressively sought to correct. These subsidies have kept too many steel producers around the world eagerly fostering overcapacity because of unfair competitive advantages. Now, not only are the steel producers in Asia, Russia, and other parts of the world suffering, but so are American steel workers, who have played fair, and trusted our trade enforcement mechanisms.

As called for in the resolution being submitted today, we must move forward with the full and timely enforcement of our trade laws. We must do that before any serious thought is given to the adoption of trade measures to liberalize trade with additional nations not currently on the books. Existing trade agreements must be enforced and the long-term implications of these agreements must be understood. I hope that the responsible government trade officials share my concern.

I understand that the United States Trade Representative, Charlene Barshefsky, met with steel industry representatives in early September and, while I was unable to attend that meeting, I am advised that in her press release the Ambassador reaffirmed the Administration's "commitment to strong U.S. trade laws designed to prevent injury to U.S. industry and workers from unfair trade practices and from import surges, and to the expeditious and effective enforcement of these laws." I was pleased to learn of these encouraging words from the Ambassador, and I hope that she will be successful in carrying out this agenda.

In this regard, I believe that this Congress should assist USTR in moving this agenda forward. Let us help the Ambassador by stating clearly to our trading partners the Congress' stance on this matter. I am confident that Ambassador Barshefsky intends to negotiate the deal of all deals. In good faith, she intends to negotiate a global free trade paradise where all can compete on a level and transparent playing field.

Unfortunately, I have heard that very intent voiced many times by U.S. and foreign negotiators—and so have

the U.S. steel workers. They heard it in 1974, during the Tokyo Round of the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade (GATT). That agreement cost this country hundreds of thousands of steel jobs. Many listeners may remember the result that deal had on Allentown. Well, I also remember Clarksburg, Wheeling, and Weirton, West Virginia, all losers in that trade agreement.

The U.S. steel industry has stuck it out, and U.S. steel producers did what the new 1974 trade rules said to do: restructure and modernize, and become the most efficient producers of steel in the world. The deal struck in that agreement was that the industry was to accomplish this restructuring and modernization and, then, the government would ensure that there would be a level global playing field on which to compete.

However, today, over 20 years later, the U.S. steel industry continues to face unfair trade practices from every corner of the world. In the global free trade garden of paradise, apparently, some players keep eating off the forbidden subsidy tree, because the so-called paradise is a pretty shabby place for U.S. workers.

In closing, I want to address the Constitutional component of supporting this resolution. This debate is a good place for Congress to reflect the myths and the realities of our current trade policies. It is time that the Congress takes seriously its constitutional role in the regulation of foreign commerce. The Constitution vests the Congress with the power "to regulate commerce with foreign nations." It is the task of Congress to understand the benefits and risks of global trade, but to promote only trade policies that are fair to all Americans, whether they be steel or auto workers, farmers, or bankers.

I urge my colleagues to support the important steel resolution offered by Senator SPECTER. Regulation of foreign commerce is the Constitutional responsibility of Congress. It will assist the USTR in negotiating firm agreements. It will help restore the confidence of American workers in U.S. trade policy. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

INTERNET TAX FREEDOM ACT

HUTCHINSON AMENDMENT NO. 3671

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. HUTCHINSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (S. 442) to establish a national policy against State and local government interference with interstate commerce on the Internet or interactive computer services, and to exercise Congressional jurisdiction over interstate commerce by establishing a moratorium on the imposition of exactions that would interfere

with the free flow of commerce via the Internet, and for other purposes; as follows:

In section 102(a)(1), strike "16" and insert "18".

In section 102(b)(1), add at the end the following:

(D) Two representatives from among individuals who are the heads of business entities that do not engage in electronic commerce, of whom—

(i) one shall be appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate; and

(ii) one shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

In section 102(g)(2)—

(1) strike "and" at the end of subparagraph (D);

(2) strike the period at the end of subparagraph (E) and insert "; and"; and

(3) add at the end the following:

(F) an examination of the effects of taxation of transactions using the Internet, and of the absence of taxation of such transactions, on businesses that do not engage in electronic commerce.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Thursday, October 1, 1998, at 10:30 a.m. in room SR-301 Russell Senate Office Building, to receive testimony on Capitol security issues. It is the chairman's intention that the committee vote to conduct this meeting in closed session.

For further information concerning this meeting, please contact Ed Edens at the Rules Committee on 4-6678.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL RIDERS CONTAINED IN THE FY 99 INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS LEGISLATION

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to support the Senior Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) in his efforts to describe some of the provisions of concern that were attached to the Interior Appropriations legislation, the fate of which is now uncertain. I hope that all the provisions that will harm the environment, impede the enforcement of environmental law, or weaken federal environmental policy, will be removed from this legislation if it either returns to the floor or is incorporated in a broader appropriations bill.

This is not the first time that I have supported the Senior Senator from Montana in his efforts to address environmentally harmful legislative riders in appropriations legislation. In September 1995, I joined in his efforts to mitigate the effects of riders in the FY 96 VA-HUD appropriations legislation regarding the operations of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Once again, I applaud his leadership in championing the protection of the environment.

Mr. President, for more than two decades, we have seen a remarkable bipartisan consensus on protecting the environment. As a consequence of this broad agreement, today we breathe cleaner air, drink cleaner water, and enjoy spectacular public lands.

Unfortunately, again during this Congress, we have faced numerous proposals to modify the environmental protections upon which American families depend. We have seen bills that would undermine the Wilderness Act and the management of our public lands, block implementation of the Endangered Species Act, rollback wetlands standards and weaken enforcement of clean water laws, and slow down or stop cleanup of hazardous waste sites. Congressional consideration of these proposals has been divisive, time-consuming, and ultimately unproductive.

Mr. President, I believe we have a responsibility to the American people to protect the quality of our public lands and resources. That responsibility of stewardship requires that I oppose legislative efforts to include proposals in routine spending bills that weaken environmental laws or prevent potentially beneficial environmental regulations from being promulgated by the federal agencies that carry out federal law.

In addition to my substantive concerns, Mr. President, I also share with the Senator from Montana a procedural concern about these riders. The people of Wisconsin have been calling my office in the last few weeks to express their grave concern that when riders are placed in spending bills major decisions regarding environmental protection are being made without the benefit of an up or down vote. Wisconsinites have very strong views that Congress has a responsibility to discuss and publicly debate matters effecting the environment. Thus, the Senior Senator from Montana is making an important procedural point for the Senate. We should be on record with regard to our position on this matter of open government and environmental stewardship.

Though I have substantive concerns about all of the riders that the Senior Senator from Montana has detailed, and others, I wanted to share my concerns by highlighting in detail a few riders contained in the Interior Appropriations legislation.

I am concerned about the language on forest road decommissioning that is contained in Title II of the Interior bill. This language prohibits the use of funds to decommission National Forest System roads until the Regional Forester certifies that all "unauthorized" roads are decommissioned or reconstructed. Mr. President, this mandate simply does not recognize that maintaining existing roads is a priority both in Wisconsin's national forests

and throughout Forest Service Region 9. Our existing road system in the Nicolet and Chequamegon National Forests not only serves those who visit our forests, but also serves our local communities. Forest Service roads are important routes between communities in the northern part of my state. I also travel them when I attend Listening Sessions and other events in northern Wisconsin. I am concerned that if our forests have to spend time documenting all unauthorized roads this fiscal year, such as snowmobile crossings and other rights of way, we will neither get to accomplish any needed decommissioning, nor any much needed maintenance.

I also oppose the rider regarding logging in Tongass National Forest contained in the Interior bill. While Wisconsin's national forests have struggled to bring their timber sales above cost, I am concerned that this rider requires that the Forest Service offer for sale, and allow the logging of, ninety percent of the timber volume proposed by the Tongass Land Management Plan, a plan which is currently under appeal to the Secretary of Agriculture. Moreover, this rider contains a dangerous, precedent-setting provision that makes this requirement legally enforceable. I strongly believe that taxpayers should be getting a better return for the sale of timber from public lands, and I am concerned about increasing cut volumes when we still need to address below cost issues on the Tongass.

These are a few of my concerns, Mr. President. I believe that the Senate should act to strip these riders from the bill and send clean Interior funding provisions to the President for his signature. I encourage my colleagues to take the advice of the Senior Senator from Montana, and act to fund the programs we must fund without taking environmental policy actions that the public opposes.●

ACTIVATION OF THE MONTANA GUARD CAVALRY TROOP, THE BLACKHORSE UNIT

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I stand here today to recognize the beginning of a new era for the Montana Army National Guard. Activation of the Montana Guard Cavalry Troop, also known as the Blackhorse unit, will commence on October 3, 1998. This will be an integrated cavalry troop that is part of a regiment whose distinguished history dates back to the turn of the century.

The Blackhorse is currently one of only three armored cavalry regiments in the United States Army. The mission of this regiment is to train Army units for the next possible war and does so by challenging those units in real life scenarios to meet the test of active warfare. The Blackhorse unit is considered the most highly trained unit in the United States Army. The Montana Army National Guard is both honored and privileged to join the Blackhorse unit as an equal partner.

The Montana Army National Guard must be prepared to meet the challenges of what the future may hold. Now affiliated with the Blackhorse unit, the men and the women of Montana who serve to protect our nation, will be ready.●

CONGRATULATIONS TO SENATOR ROTH

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise to take just a minute of the Senate's time to let my colleagues know of an honor that Senator ROTH received from the Delaware Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

In a gala event last night in Wilmington, Delaware, Senator ROTH was honored for his achievements as a legislator and for his outstanding contributions to Delaware and to the nation. This was the Multiple Sclerosis Society's first-ever Dinner of Champions, and it is quite an honor for Senator ROTH to be one of the first two individuals recognized by the organization.

The other individual recognized last evening was Richard Christopher, the President of Patterson-Schwartz Real Estate. He and his company have been sponsors of and participants in the Bike-to-the-Bay fundraising event. The DuPont Company also received an award for its decade-long support of the popular Read-a-thon program. Senator ROTH was in excellent company last night.

And, fortunately, he was able to be there and accept the award in person. That is, Mr. President, one of the advantages of representing a State that is close to Washington. Senator ROTH could both vote here in the Senate and still get back to Wilmington in time to receive the award. I know that was important to him.

I thank my colleagues for allowing me to take this brief time. And, I congratulate Senator ROTH on his award.●

SECURITY AT GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT

● Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have come to the floor to clarify an issue regarding the security at the two uranium enrichment facilities. Section 310 of the conference report which deals with the allocation between the Department and the private corporation leasing the gaseous diffusion plants of the cost of arming and providing arrest authority to security police officers at the plants. I want to make it very clear that this section does not affect the current responsibility of the Department to pay for security for the Department's highly enriched uranium activities.

Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to thank the officials with the Department of Energy and the officials from the newly privatized United States Enrichment Corporation who sat down with my office and negotiated in good faith a solution to this difficult